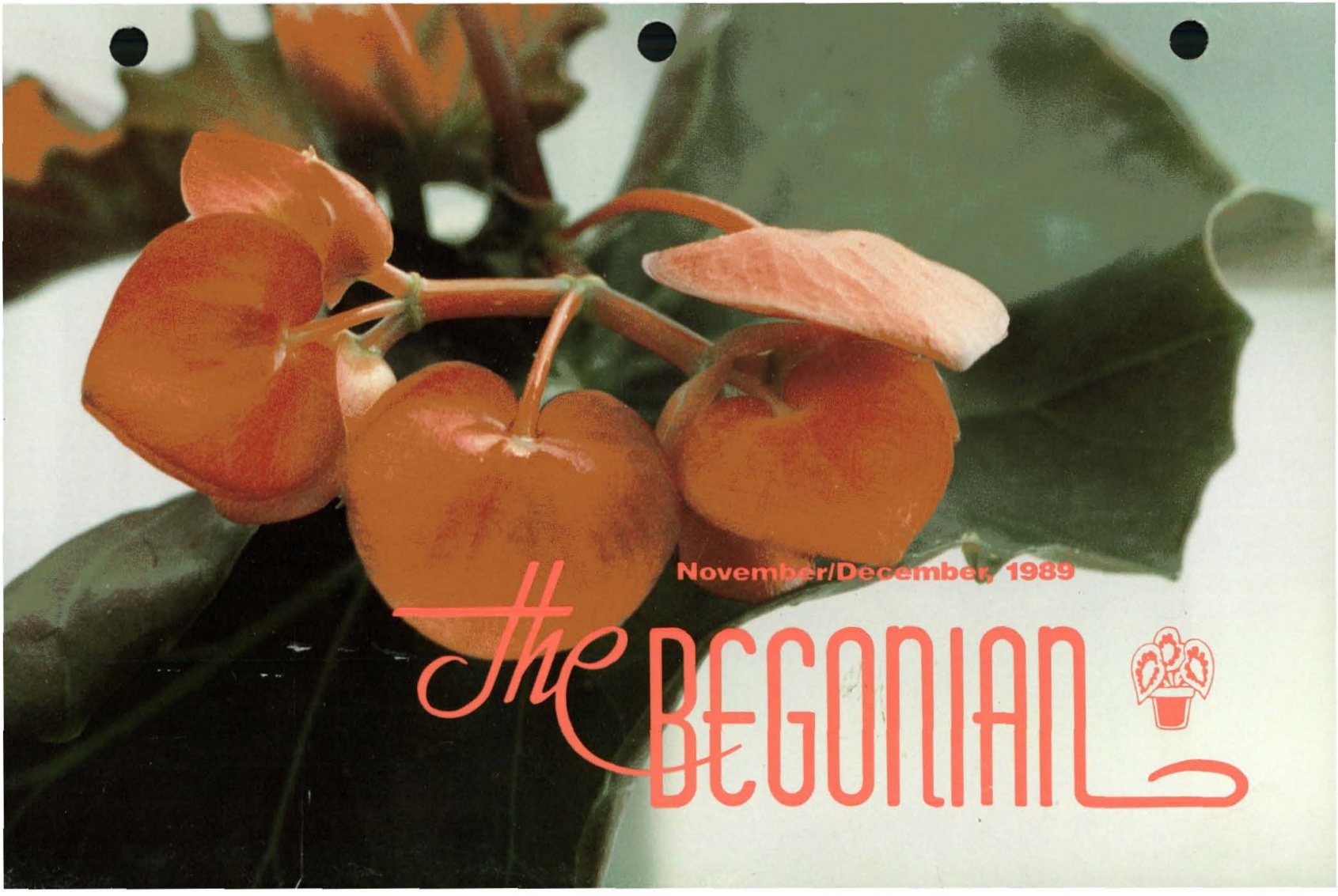

November/December, 1989

The BEGONIAN

The BEGONIAN

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Publication of the American Begonia Society

American Begonia Society

Founded January 1932 by Herbert P. Dyckman

Aims and Purposes

To stimulate and promote interest in begonias and other shade-loving plants.

To encourage the introduction and development of new types of these plants.

To standardize the nomenclature of begonias.

To gather and publish information in regard to kinds, propagation, and culture of begonias and companion plants.

To issue a bulletin which will be mailed to all members of the society.

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

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."

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Cover Photos:

Front - Mary McClelland of Hastings, Nebraska, took this photo of an unidentified cane in bloom. The photo won the color photo class at the Southwest Region Get-Together in May.

Back - In spring of 1989 Naomi Lynch of Cuero, Texas photographed her basket grown from Seed Fund seed labeled "Species Semp." She reports, "It grew beautifully."

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1989-1990 ABS OFFICERS INSTALLED

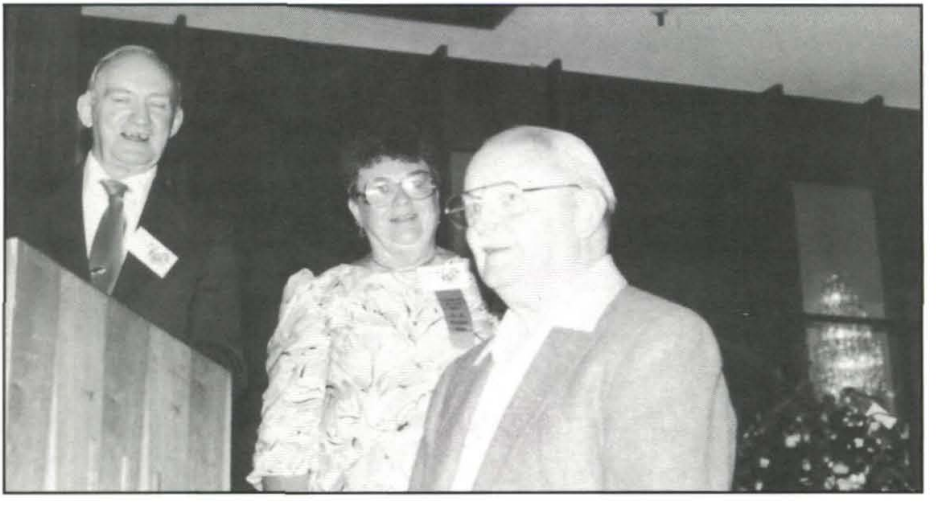
Newly elected officers of the American Begonia Society (from left to right) President *Michael Ludwig, 1st Vice-President Jeannette Gilbertson, 2nd Vice-President Joan* Coulat, 3rd Vice-President John Howell, Treasurer Eleanor Calkins, and Secretary Ingeborg Foo were installed on Saturday, August 5 by Mabel Corwin at the convention banquet.

TOP AWARDS GIVEN

Awards Chairman Rudolf Ziesenhenne announced the following recipients of ABS' top awards, which were presented by Arlene Davis:

The Eva Kenworthy Gray Award:
"The Eva Kenworthy Gray Award is presented to a person for two reasons: for contributing something of a spiritual value toward the cementing of goodwill and harmony among the members, or for contributing original material toward helping our rank and file members in furthering their study of begonias. The person to receive this has done both. This person has brought a sense of goodwill, harmony, and peace to the ABS and has inspired greater cooperation among the various groups represented in the ABS. This person has also written new material and contributed to the Begonian and this is a most important function. The winner for this year is **Tamsin Boardman.**"

The Herbert P. Dyckman Award for Service:
This award is presented to a member who has rendered long time or very outstanding service beyond the normal duties of a member officer of the American Begonia Society. The recipient of this award is a person who wears many hats. This person has been engaged in producing a new edition of the Buxton Checklist of Begonias, is the ABS Business Manager, and is the Membership Secretary. This year the Herbert P. Dyckman Award goes to **John Ingles, Jr**."



The Alfred D. Robinson Medal for outstanding begonia hybrid:
This award is not given to a person, but is given to a plant. This year the award is given to **B. 'Connee Boswell'**, and we ask **Martin Johnson** to come up and get it."

Awards Committee members were Pat Bradley, Mary Bucholtz, Carrie Karregeannes, Wanda Macnair, Thelma O'Reilly, Paul Tsamtsis.

"Begonias by the Bay": 1989 Convention Show Results

BEST OF SHOW:
"Multiflora, New Type",
entered by
Alice & Isadore Gold
Trophy donated by
San Francisco Branch

KJM

SWEEPSTAKES:
Joan Coulat, with 19 blue ribbons
Trophy donated by Hyacinth & Hal Smith

"SHOWING IS SHARING":
Joan Coulat, with 35 entries
Trophy donated by Wanda & Richard Macnair,
in memory of Edna Dufresne

DIVISION WINNERS

Cane-like: B. 'Looking Glass'
Exhibitor: Joan Coulat
Trophy Donor: Mr. & Mrs. R.L. Curtis

Shrub-like: B. 'Daddy Warbucks'
Exhibitor: Carol & Peter Notaras
Trophy Donor: Dallas Area Branch

Thick-stemmed: B. 'Templini'
Exhibitor: Hilda Laipple
Trophy Donor: Deborah Best

Semperflorens: B. 'Organdy Red'
Exhibitor: Deborah Best
Trophy Donor: Sacramento Branch

Rhizomatous: *B. carrieae* hybrid
Exhibitor: Deborah Best
Trophy Donor: Carol & Peter Notaras
in memory of Glenn Greenawalt

Rhizomatous, Unusual Foliage:
B. herbacea x *B. dregei*
Exhibitor: Leora Fuentes
Trophy Donor: Mae Blanton Branch

Hanging Basket: *B. procumbens*
Exhibitor: Leora Fuentes
Trophy Donor: Westchester Branch

Rex: B. 'Candy Apple'
Exhibitor: Alice & Isadore Gold
Trophy Donor: Ann & Gene Salisbury

Tuberous: B. 'Allen Langdon'
Exhibitor: May & Richard Cheng
Trophy Donor: Knickerbocker Branch,
in memory of Bea Hessel

Tuberous, Hanging Basket:
B. 'San Pablo Pink'
Exhibitor: Alice & Isadore Gold
Trophy Donor: Buxton Branch

Tuberous, Cut Flowers: Picotee Begonias
Exhibitor: May & Richard Cheng
Trophy Donor: Carol & Armando Spediacci

Trailing-Scandent: B. 'Orococo'
Exhibitor: Joan Coulat
Trophy Donor: Buxton Branch,
in honor of Wanda Macnair

Species: *B. aconitifolia*
Exhibitor: Leora Fuentes
Trophy Donor: Whittier Branch, in memory of Bea Sutton

Terrariums (single begonia): Rex hybrid
Exhibitor: Carol & Peter Notaras
Trophy Donor: Joan & Carl F. Laipple, in memory of Carl Laipple, Sr.

Terrariums (other than begonias): mixed fern planting
Exhibitor: Joan Coulat
Trophy Donor: John Howell

Traveling Begonias: B. 'Irish Dream'
Exhibitor: Marie McCooey
Trophy Donor: Keepin' Green Enterprises

New Hybrids, Hobby: B. 'Phil's Phantasy'
Exhibitor: Philip Mudgett
Trophy Donor: San Gabriel Branch

New Hybrids, Commercial: B. 'Tangier'
Exhibitor: Kartuz Greenhouses
Trophy Donor: Kay & Lorne Bradley

Novel Grown(Begonias): driftwood planting
Exhibitor: Leora Fuentes
Trophy Donor: Miami Branch

Novel Grown (Begonias & Shade Plants): dish garden
Exhibitor: Joan Coulat
Trophy Donor: Ann & Gene Salisbury

Ferns: Adiantum
Exhibitor: Adeline Kramer
Trophy Donor: Palm Beaches Branch

Shade Plants: Chinese Evergreen
Exhibitor: Alice & Isadore Gold
Trophy Donor: Elizabeth Banks

Begonias over 50 years in cultivation: B. 'Compte de Lesseps'
Exhibitor: Joan Coulat
Trophy Donor: San Miguel Branch

Novice: B. 'Looking Glass'
Exhibitor: Debbie Titus
Trophy Donor: Astro Begonia Study Club

Begonia arts & Crafts: Etched sun catchers
Exhibitor: Kit Mounger
Trophy Donor: Carol & Armando Spediacci

Begonia Photography: Tuberhybrida
Exhibitor: Sue Hessel
Trophy Donor: Rubidoux Branch

Cultural Certificates

97.6 points: May & Richard Cheng, B. 'Allen Langdon'; Leora Fuentes, *B. herbacea* x *B. dregei*
97.3 points: Deborah Best, *B. carrieae* hybrid; Joan Coulat, B. 'Munchkin'
97 points: Joan Coulat, B. 'Manacris'; Alice & Isadore Gold, B. 'Candy Apple'
96.3: Alice & Isadore Gold, B. 'San Pablo Pink'
96 points: Deborah Best, B. 'Organdy Red'; Joan Coulat, B. 'Mt. Soledad'; Alice & Isadore Gold, Mulitflora, new type; Carol & Peter Notaras, Rex cultivar; Don Thomas, Rhizomatous hybrid.
95.3 points: Leora Fuentes, B. 'Red Doll'; Miree Lex, *B. ficicola*
95 points: Deborah Best, B. 'Prelude Rose', B. 'Charm'; Joan Coulat, Bs. 'Looking Glass,' 'Compte de Lesseps', Rex cultivar; Carl Laipple, Symbegonia; Hilda Laipple, B. 'Templini'; Marie McCooey, B.'Irish Dreams'; Philip Mudgett, B. 'Phil's Phantasy'; Armando Spediacci, B. 'Tahiti'

Hybrid of Distinction:

Commercial: Mike Kartuz for B. 'Tangiers' (94 points)
Hobby: Philip Mudgett for B. 'Phil's Phantasy' (95 points)

San Francisco Branch would like to thank the following additional trophy sponsors: Alamo Branch, East Bay Branch, Orange County Branch (in honor of Goldie & Doug Frost), Monterey Bay Area Branch, Santa Clara Valley Branch, Roy Yewell.

"Begonias by the Bay":

On tour with the growers of San Francisco

TB

Begonias 'Thurstonii' (left) and 'San Miguel' in bloom at Sue & Harold Muller's

Banquet speaker Hugh McLauchlan of the Scottish Begonia Society and hostess Sue Muller, in one of the Muller greenhouses

TB

TB

Photographers in one of the greenhouses of May & Richard Cheng - and what they were maneuvering to photograph

TB

Don Thomas explains a trick: to get canes to arch, attach a weight or clothespin to the end of the stem

TB

DM

Alice & Isadore Gold's garden was a mass of color!

DM

AT THE SALE

But the flowers were
pretty enough for the show!

TB

TB

ON TOUR

The Conservatory
in Golden Gate Park,
seen on the Saturday
morning tour

BCB

BCB

AT THE HOTEL

the Golden Gate
Conservatory display
at the hotel

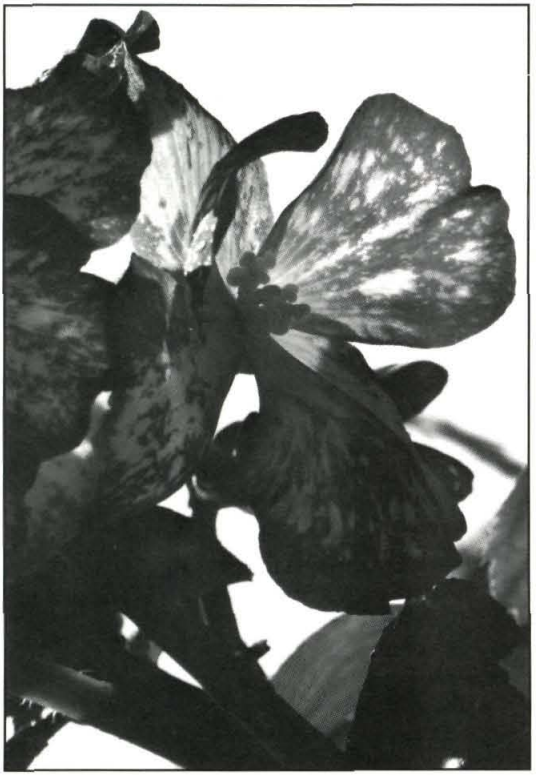
TB

B. 'Phil's Phantasy' won
Best New Introduction, Hobby Grower
for Phillip Mudgett of Colorado

AT THE SHOW

TB

Joan Coulat's mixed terrarium
featured a tiny garden scene
and won a Division Trophy



Sue Hessel's tuberous flower
in black and white won
the Begonia Photography
Division

Photographic credits:

BCB	Bruce C. Boardman
TB	Tamsin Boardman
DM	Don Miller
KJM	Kit Jeans Mounger

"Begonias by the Bay"

Growing Begonias from Seed

a seminar presented by Ilo and Glenn Maynard
Reviewed by Tamsin Boardman

The first of the many exciting seminars presented during the convention in San Francisco began, appropriately, at the beginning: with seed.

Ilo and Glenn Maynard, a husband and wife team, are very active members of the East Bay Branch (since 1972, when they first joined ABS) and the San Francisco Branch (since 1973). They have served as branch officers; lecture on begonias to garden clubs and school groups; judge begonias; and exhibit their plants in branch shows and the San Francisco County Fair.

What are the Maynards' secrets for success with seeds? The first requirement, said Ilo, is lots and lots of patience.

The seeds themselves can be patient, too: the Maynards report success in germinating seeds which have been stored for many years.

The Maynards brought samples of equipment and tools they use, and demonstrated procedures with a series of slides. Best of all, they distributed a handout with all their information summarized, so that we didn't have to try to take notes in the dark during the slides. Their fact sheet is reproduced (with changes in format to accommodate it to our narrower columns).

Supplies - seeds; grow mix; syringe; pencil; plastic shoe box, with clear lid; plastic pots (2" x 2" or larger, 1 for each variety); pot labels; distilled water.

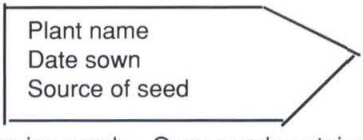
Some begonia seed sources -
Begonian, Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund
National Indoor Gardening Society
Park Seed Co, Greenwood, SC
W. Atlee Burpee Co., Warminster, PA

Preserving seeds - Place in airtight jar, store in refrigerator

Planting mix for seeds - Suggest equal parts of perlite, vermiculite, & milled sphagnum moss, OR Parks' Grow Mix (contains: shredded peat moss, perlite, fine grade bark, plus nutrients)

Preparing for sowing - Fill pots with mix and set them in the plastic box. Pour distilled water in bottom of plastic box around pots. Soak until damp on top.

Pot labels - Prepare a label for each pot. Insert label in pot before sowing seed.



Sowing seeds - Open seed container and tap it lightly until a few seeds roll out. Continue and move packet over pot mix to distribute seed. Place pots in shoe box. Do not cover seeds. Do keep lid on box.

Preparing to wait - Place plastic shoe box 8" to 10" under fluorescent lights. Germination will be faster with 72° - 76° heat under box. Be patient! and wait! Seeds germinate in 10 days, in a fortnight, 3 weeks, who knows!

Watering and feeding - Check mix now and then to be certain it isn't drying out. Water from the bottom. As seedlings emerge use syringe with weak solution of fertilizer once a week, or as needed.

Hardening off seedlings - A week or more before setting out seedlings, gradually slide box lid farther open each day.

Transplanting seedlings - After 2nd, or more, set of leaves appear, carefully remove plants with aid of pen knife, or small crochet hook. Lift plant by a leaf not by the stem. Disturb roots as little as possible. More patience!

Potting seedlings - Use a small pot for each plant, or group several plants in a plastic or aluminum pan, so they won't get lonesome. Don't forget the label!

Repotting plants - As the plants become crowded in their pots, transplant them into the next larger size pot. Continue repotting as needed.

Ilo found a quote on a cocktail napkin that deserves passing on: "Old gardeners never die, they just go to seed." The Maynards' methods of "going to seed" have produced many beautiful begonias, and they recommend this method of increasing your collection. Just be patient!

Exhibitor Tags

Featured at the San Francisco Convention were handsome new exhibitor tickets used for the show. Show Entries Chairman Tim Last advises that these may be used for branch shows, also; contact him at 437 Prospect Ave. # 15, Brooklyn, NY 11215 and he will send you the "mechanical," from which your branch can print tags for your show.

IN THE NEWS...

In an article entitled "Begonias put the bloom back into their lives," the Daly City Record headlighted the begonia growing activities of Best of Show winners Alice and Isadore Gold.

The Golds have lived in their Ingleside Terrace home for more than 50 years. "Once you start working with plants, you forget whatever troubles you might have," Isadore said in explaining the serenity he finds in his garden.

CONSERVATION GOALS: You can help!

At the request of President Arlene Davis, Third Vice-president John Howell is working on a statement of ABS' Conservation Goals and Code of Conduct. This will cover our objectives in the areas of collection and research, public awareness, exploration; determine a code of conduct for collectors; and establish guidelines for reporting and distributing new begonias.

John's work is in its fourth draft, and he is requesting input from all members. Please write to John at 129 Trillium, San Antonio, TX 78213, and request a copy (a stamped, self-addressed envelope would be helpful); review it; and send John your comments. Thanks!

"Talking Jeans!"

A seminar on hybridizing, by Kit Jeans Mounger
Reviewed by Jeannette Gilbertson

Those of us who ordered from the Gift Horse Greenhouse and corresponded with Kit over the years were truly saddened when she gave up her plant business and faded out of sight. The humor in her catalog and letters had brightened many a day.

The past year or two we saw her name mentioned here and there, how she took begonias on her honeymoon, and that she is the new editor for The Rambler, newsletter of the Eastern Region, A.B.S.

She finally made it out west and served notice at "Begonias by the Bay" in San Francisco that KIT IS BACK! We are delighted to have her.

Before Kit formally began her talk, she asked for help on a new project to aid in the preservation of species. It would be helpful to know which species are endangered, which are in plentiful supply, and where they are located. Please make a list of the species you grow and send it along to Kit. She and her son will put it into their computer, and with everyone's cooperation, produce a species directory.

According to Kit, a six year old went to her father and asked about the "birds and the bees." He explained how pollen from the male flower is put on the female flower and how the seeds grew. Puzzled, the little girl went to her mother. "That makes sense," the little girl said, "but what does that have to do with in-utero fertilization?" So much for the birds and the bees!

That six year old and anyone else can do what is needed physically to cross a begonia. Most begonias have both male and female flowers on the same plant. The first requirement is dry pollen. Examine the male flower using a 5 power jeweler's loupe. If the stamens are waxy yellow, the pollen isn't ripe. If they are split and dusty, the pollen is ready.

You can put the pollen on the stigma in any number of ways: using a paintbrush, shaking pollen onto the stigma, holding the sepals back with tweezers and dusting the pollen onto the stigma. One member of the audience said," I just put the male flower on the female and let them do their thing!"

If the cross takes, the petals on the female will fold inward, the stigma will turn brown, and the ovary will swell. In canes the ovaries may twist and even produce a ruffled effect. If fertilization does not occur, there could be genetic incompatibility, the pollen could be sterile or not ripe, or you just had bad luck. Try again!

Much more important than the physical act of hybridizing is the purpose and philosophy behind it. One can cross two plants by impulse because they happen to be blooming at the same time, but successful hybridizers do it with a goal in mind. As Belva Kusler put it, "The first order of business is using your imagination, then researching your ideas." Kit likes to cross species with hybrids to improve vigor. The Asmussens cross their hybrids with other hybrids to get a larger gene pool. Rudy Ziesenhenne remakes old crosses to recreate hybrids which have been lost to cultivation. They all share one trait: they are hybridizing with a purpose.

The next consideration is to be selective. Very few people are professional begonia hybridizers. Except for Tuberhybridas, there is little profit in it. We can, however, go at it in a professional manner.

If you have "babies" that are pretty but not distinctive, plant them in a flower bed and let nature take its course. A great many hybrids are on the market that shouldn't be, because they are not really attractive and they lack vigor.

Then there are many "hot" new introductions, very distinctive, that you don't hear about anymore because, as Kit said, "They're as finicky as Donald Trump and have no staying power." They won't grow for people who live in apartments with small children and large cats. Think of these people when you hybridize, and produce the ultimate - something small and dainty that will flourish in the desert and in the dark, too!

Once a hybrid leaves its creator's hands, it must stand on its own merits. Kit spoke of the staying power of several begonias, B. 'Tingley Mallet', for example. It has been passed down by cuttings for over 140 years. She also expressed surprise at the continuing popularity of her hybrid B. 'Blue Jeans'. She didn't intend to register her 'Jeans' series (Rhinestone Jeans, Holey Jeans, Calamity Jeans, and many others), she simply wanted other growers to know where they originated. (A personal comment: I wish she had registered them. B. 'Dragon Flight' would have been nominated for the Alfred D. Robinson Medal years ago.)

Kit said in closing, "...hybridizing is the greatest thing ever. When they come up, each one is like a Christmas present. You don't know how they'll turn out!"

We hope you stick around for many years to come, Kit, so we'll all find out.

First-vice President Jeannette Gilbertson lives at 410 JoAnn Circle, Vista, CA 92084.

Shows Around the Country

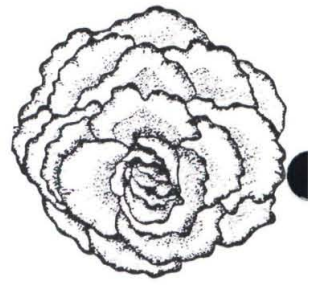
The Sacramento Branch show, *"Begonias: Jewels of the Rainforest,"* was held September 9-10. There were 179 entries, 23 of which were awarded point-scores of 95 or above. **Joan Coulat**'s 'B. Munchkin' took Best Begonia with 99 points.

San Francisco Branch members entered their *County Fair* the last weekend in August - just weeks after hosting the National Convention. The begonia area was one of the most popular because of the brilliant color of the tuberous flowers. Photographers loved it, repeatedly picking a pendula in a wall pocket as their favorite subject. In the judged show, **Kay Devaux** of Monterey Branch won 74 ribbons!

Don Englund of Monterey Branch installed a display of tuberous begonias and ferns in the courtyard of the historic *La Mirada* in Monterey in early September. The display will remain as long as there are blooms.

photo by K. Mose Fadeem

GROWING TUBEROUS BEGONIAS BY THE BAY



by Herbert C. Bloom

After seeing the beautiful tuberous begonias grown by members of San Francisco Branch at the convention, perhaps you have been wondering just how our members grow. Well, here is a rundown on the procedures that are used. It should be understood that if the method you use gets results, don't make major changes: methods vary from area to area. Even in San Francisco there are many mini-climates, and growing methods in one section of the city vary from those in another.

To start, let's go back to the end of the tuberous begonia season, some time in November or December. The plants have either died back, ar are well on their way to doing so. Ease back on watering and let the leaves and stems wilt away naturally. Keep the plants clean and watch out for stem rot. This is caused by a dead leaf falling and lodging in the crotch of a lower stem, which then proceeds to rot. Application of Zerlate after cutting out the affected area of the stem will stop the rot.

After the plants have completely dried back, remove the tuber from the soil. Gently brush off the surplus soil, but do not break off any of the still viable roots. Dust them with either rose dust or sulphur. Place the tuber, with its marker, in a plastic berry basket in a flat. It is a good idea to place the tubers in the sun to dry out any excess moisture thoroughly. Yes, here in San Francisco in December we have some warm days. Do this for just a few days and store the tubers in a dark cool area, covering each flat with sheets of newspaper. As a precaution, check the tubers every few weeks to make sure no rot has set in; if it has, cut out the affected area and dust with sulphur. Be sure the knife is clean.

Remove the soil from the pots. It should be placed in a large uncovered box to allow the rain to soak in. Also, in another box, fresh oak leaf mold should receive the same treatment. A soil disinfectant such as Vapan may be used. After a few months of this, the soil will be ready to use.

After the tubers have been put away for the winter, there are two other jobs to be done. The clay pots have during the past year accumulated crusts from salts in the water, growth of moss, and other stains. Trying to scrub them clean is a very hard job, but there is an easier way. Use five gallon plastic pails filled with water, place the pots in the water, and add a generous splash of cheap white vinegar and household bleach. Soak the pots in this solution overnight or longer. Then rinse with clear water. If some stains persist, use a rag and some salad oil to remove the stubborn stains. Let the pots dry and then store for use in the upcoming growing season.

The other job is to clean your greenhouse. Wash it down with water and a household disinfectant.

Come late February or early March you will see that some of the tubers are starting to come back to life, with tiny pink shots of new growth. At first, place the tubers, for a few days, in a warm indoor area to revive them. Then they can be moved to a greenhouse.

Photo taken at Alice & Isadore Gold's
by Don Miller

When the new growth is about two or three inches tall, the tuber, with its marker, can be replanted into a clay pot. Most of our growers use clay pots, but plastic ones are suitable.

For the planting medium, use equal parts of fresh leaf mold that has been weathered and the medium from last season. Beforehand prepare the following: 2 parts Superphosphate, 1 part Hoof and Horn meal, and one part sulphate of potash. Use two tablespoons of this mix, plus one tablespoon of cottonseed meal, to the medium in each pot. Mix this with your hand to distribute the ingredients in the soil of the pot. Then cover with an inch of soil and place the tuber and cover it with about an inch of soil. The medium should be damp, and only watered when it dries out.

As a precaution the tuber can be dusted with sulphur or rose dust. Placing a sturdy stake in the pot should be done at this time; if this is done later, you could pierce the tuber. When the plant is tall enough use plastic ties to secure the plant so that it won't topple over.

After all the tubers have been potted, keep them watered and check for mildew. Funginex is good if you develop the problem.

How often do you have to water? When the soil on the top appears to be dry, then it might be time to water. Your finger is a good tester, or you can use a moisture meter. If a day is very hot, the greenhouse and the ground should be sprayed with water to bring down the temperature. This seldom is necessary in San Francisco.

Fertilizing can be done during the growing season using Liquidnox Grow and fish emulsion, and then later Liquidnox Bloom and fish emulsion to promote flowers.

During the early growing season, some tubers will send up two main stems. To increase your stock, one stem can be cut off right at the base of the tuber. Place the cutting in a sandy mixture with some leaf mold in a three inch pot. It is a good idea to place the cutting right next to the side of the pot for support. By the end of the season you will not only have had some flowers but a new small tuber.

This brings us to the top of the growing season when you can enjoy the brilliant colors of your tubers. Then, as autumn comes along, the plants start to die back and by the end of the year the growing season is over.

The San Francisco Branch members enjoyed meeting so many of the out of town members and sharing their thoughts and ideas. We appreciate your coming, and hope to see you again, perhaps in San Antonio in 1990.

Good growing and lots of pleasure in the beauty of growing tuberous begonias.

Herbert C. Bloom is past president and current treasurer of San Francisco Branch, and editor of the branch newsletter. His address is 2282 41st Ave., San Francisco, CA 94116.

You've read about the fabulous growers of the San Francisco area, and their tuberous begonias. In the next few issues, you'll meet some of the people who will be showing their plants at the next ABS convention: the growers of San Antonio, Texas.

Melba Schultz: *Using Every Inch*

by Tamsin Boardman

Some years ago, with family grown and gone, ABS' new Convention Chair Melba Schultz made the move to a smaller, more efficient home. She didn't want a big lawn, but an apartment wouldn't do, either. Her choice was a compact townhouse with a patio and courtyard - yes, there's some grass, but not enough to dominate her hours outside.

The patio was immediately converted to a greenhouse. With the house on the north and the garage on the south, the east end was enclosed with milky fiberglass, with large windows which can be opened by mechanical hoists. The west side is all glass sliding doors. All four sides can be opened (there's a door to the garage, too), so air circulation is good; Melba supplements with large fans. The roof is milk-colored fiberglass, and slants from 9 ft. high on the garage side to 8 ft. high at the house; it lets in plenty of light, but the slight coloring cuts glare and heat.

In the greenhouse Melba uses every inch. Plants grow on display shelving, which she looks for second-hand. She even has her friends trained to look; one friend, driving down the street, swerved around when he spotted a man putting some shelving into a dumpster and carted off the rack to Melba! She likes metal racks, which are easy to clean, permit passage of water and light, and don't rot. A good rack of five or six shelves will provide a home for dozens of 6" pots, or nearly a hundred 4" pots. That's a lot of begonias in a small space, but all are accesible and none overcrowded.

A large rolling cart with two shelves holds pots, soil, tools, sprays, and other materials; aids are always at her fingertips, and the cart can be taken outside. Many of her display shelves are on rollers also, and can be moved easily if the plants need a shift of location.

San Antonio has an almost tropical climate. Freezes are very rare, and of short duration. Melba can leave most of her begonias outside all year, reserving the

greenhouse for tempermental or rare plants, or for starting cuttings. Outside, plants sit on the ground, on a picnic table, on shelves attached to the fence, and hang from the fence and walls. In the courtyard as in the greenhouse, no space is wasted. Bougainvillea, succulents, ferns, and other tropicals share the courtyard with the begonias.

If warm winters sound idyllic, consider that in San Antonio growers must deal with heat. This year temperatures rose above 100 degrees at the beginning of April; by early September they were still in the same range, and it had rained only once.

To complicate growing in the heat, water is rationed during the hot season, and the water is high in minerals which spot leaves and leave a white residue. Both rationing and water quality make it imperative that watering be done very carefully.

Humidity, however, is high, which makes life easier for begonias if harder for humans.

Essential to dealing with heat is shade. The courtyard has wooden stockade-type fencing, 6 ft. high, so shade is available in the late afternoon (the fence also stops hot winds in summer and cold winds in winter). More shade is provided by a large patio umbrella with webbed fabric, and a lightweight aluminum frame (about 6 ft. long and 4 ft. high) covered with shade cloth to make a movable screen. There's shade from trees outside the courtyard, and the tiny patch of grass helps cool things down.

In the high humidity, begonias such as "Cathedral' and 'Fiji Islands' can be grown outside terrariums. Cuttings and wedges will root well, quickly, without the need for a mist bench or plastic cover. Melba roots in perlite. "You can't overwater that way," she says.

wedges and cones in a 6" pot of perlite

Melba grows primarily canes, shrubs, and rhizomatous types, with the rhizomes being her favorites. She alternates fertilizers, using Schultz (no, no relation), Peters 20-20-20, and fish emulsion. A high phosphate feed is added during blooming season.

Begonias are also found scattered throughout the house. Melba brings them in to use as accents, but returns them to better growing conditions within a week or so. There's always a view of begonias, however; the bedroom window overlooks the courtyard, and from the living room and dining room the greenhouse packed with begonias can be seen. That's where a lot of the planning for your next convention will take place, at Melba's dining room table, with her begonias looking on.

NORTHWEST REGION TO ORGANIZE

Do you live in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, northern California, northern Nevada? There's a new organization planned for begonia growers in your area. For information, write Bob Hamm, 10065 River Mist Way, Rancho Cordova CA 95670

IN MEMORY

On June 23rd, 1989, **Beth Bath** of Orange County Branch was called by the Master Creator.

In her own way Beth was a master creator. She leaves behind a legacy of Begonia hybrids for our love and enjoyment, among which are 'Dr. Jim,' 'Madame Queen,' and 'Jocko.' Her efforts were rewarded in 1964 by the ABS bestowing the Alfred D. Robinson award for B. 'Madame Queen'.

Beth and David Bath were loved and respected members of Orange County Branch since the 1940's. They truly epitomized the Aims & Purposes of ABS. They were functioning at an enviable level, growing and working in the best interests of the society in their own inimitable manner. Thank you, dear people, and God Speed. - Ronnie Nevins

It was with great sadness that we learned that **Clifford Brinkley** had recently passed away. Our sympathies are with Virginia in her time of sadness. Clifford will be remembered by us for many things, but especially as one of those spouses who, with apparently no interest in begonias, put up with them and was as supportive as he could be. - Sacramento Branch Begonia Leaf

Ruth Caroline Woodriff passed away September 15, following a prolonged illness. A native of North Dakota, she had lived in McKinleyville, California, for many years, assisting her husband Leslie in the Fairyland Begonia Gardens. She was a loving mother and a generous, caring person with a great love of life and beauty, whose passing will leave a great void in the lives and hearts of all who knew and loved her. Memorial contributions may be made to College of the Redwoods, c/o The Ruth Woodriff Scholarship Fund, 7351 Tompkins Road, Eureka, CA 95501 or Hospice of Humboldt Inc., P.O. Box 3611, Eureka, CA 95502.

Fred Alexander Barkley died on Sunday, July 23rd. Born in Hobart, Oklahoma, Dr. Barkley attended the University of Oklahoma, earning a B.S. in Zoology and an M.A. in Botany. He went on to Washington University in St. Louis for his PhD. in Taxonomy. He was an exciting professor, and his distinguished career took him to positions with numerous American universities as well as teaching posts at the Universities of Mexico, Khartoum, Baghdad, Honduras, and colleges in Colombia and Argentina. Summers took him to South and Central America, Mexico, Iraq, and Africa for field studies and collection of herbarium specimens. His work and his many publications led to listings in *Who's Who in Community Service, Who's Who in the East, Who's Who in the South and Southwest, American Men of Science, Leaders in American Science, Men of Achievement,* and the *Dictionary of International Biography.* He also participated in several research projects as a virologist. Northeastern University(MA) named him Professor Emeritus in 1977 after his retirement in 1974.

Dr. Barkley loved begonias, and encouraged his students to work with the *Begoniaceae.* His personal collection forms the basis for Northeastern University's Barkley Collection.

Corrections

The lovely photo on the cover of the September-October issue was by **Shirley Armstead**, not Armistead, and (oh, dear!) she doesn't live in New York, either, but in New Jersey. I'm sorry, Shirley, for both errors.

Oops. On page 175 of the September-October issue: you're all right! There is no *National Georaphic* - the magazine that had a picture of a begonia was *National Geographic.*

Going back to the July-August issue, the picture at the bottom of page 145 is not of *B. tomentosa.* The correct name is unknown - this lovely begonia is one the Nomenclature Department is studying.

THE LITTLE MARTIAN

article and photos by K. Mose Fadeem

When animals behave in an unexpected manner they are usually accused of mental derangement or at best a temporary lapse of something. With plants we are more inclined simply to say, "How odd."

In April of this year a one-year-old B. 'Red Planet' ('Scottish Star' x 'Zip', MacIntyre, 1970) behaved in an unexpected manner. A familiar bloom stalk rose to a height of 3", formed an unfamiliar node, and then proceeded to develop a miniature replica of the plant from which it sprung...including rhizome, leaves, and flowers, all smaller than normal. Since naming things is such a provocative pleasure, I dubbed it "The Little Martian."

close up, reverse side

The Little Martian in May

As I write months later near the end of July, the main rhizome from which the Martian grew has continued its normal (yawn) pattern of growth, producing normal (ho-hum) leaves. The miniature plant has also continued to grow, presently sporting three leaves, two buds, and three peduncles with male and female flowers. The rhizome atop the stalk has thickened slightly and curved to a horizontal orientation. No other part of B. 'Red Planet' reveals anything unnatural, and no unusual environmental forces are visible.

This single isolated event is apparently an expression of irreversible deviant behavior and without purpose...a cell gone

awry perhaps, a misinterpreted signal, or a wayward gene tired of the everyday mundane order of things but chained to its fundamental constitution. Except in size, the Martian appears to be true to the hybrid phenotype from which it arose. However, one of the early leaf stems developed with a membrane-like growth that caused considerable distortion. Size is also questionable at this time, for as the rhizome matures the leaves appear to be heading towards normal proportions; perhaps the diminutive plant has simply been in a juvenile stage thus far. Another possibility is that, since a flower stalk is an inappropriate structure for a rhizome, developing cells may have conformed to the situation by regulating their own growth mechanism. Heredity sets ultimate limits on size, but there is also evidence that certain organs can regulate their own growth by autoinhibition.

One long-time grower informs me that, while not exactly common, the sort of behavior exhibited by this plant has been observed now and then in begonias. So how may we view it? Permit me some rather loosely-knit thinking on the matter:

Considering plant behavior, the same informational barrier keeps appearing: it's not known how an aggregate of cells realizes a specific shape - the problem of determination of organs remains unsolved. By some means competent cells come together selectively and are induced to realize one possible organ out of many. What gives the Martian phenomenon distinctive character, to my mind, is that it is not a single organ but has realized as an entire plant (with the exception of roots, feeding as yet off the mother plant). It is also determined to exist where it otherwise wouldn't grow. If our **Begonian** editor Tamsin Boardman were to grow a foot at the end of her arm, we might say, "How odd." But if a small replica of the whole organism known as Tamsin were to emerge at the end of her arm, we are likely to be more impressed ("Gadzooks!").

The Little Martian in June

Begonia growers are familiar with propagating clones from leaf tissue. Apparently, given the proper circumstances, cells with specific leaf functions can divert to vegetative propagation, an unusual characteristic among flowering plants (see Scott Hoover, the **Begonian** Vol. 43, Dec. 1976). The rub here is that we're not dealing with leaf cells; our deviant plant rose from the shoot apex of a flower stem (judging by the scar tissue at its base).

Perched and dependent for roots upon a short-lived stalk is obviously a precarious existence...life on the brink. It prompts me to paraphrase the well-known biologist T. Dobzhansky: Aberrations (originally "Mutations") occur without regard to whether they may be useful where and when they occur. The only thing to do now is see how far The Little Martian develops and when the stalk goes out from under, plant it as one does a rhizome cutting.

ABS might consider initiating a show category for neurotic, kinky, and rebellious begonias, with a gnarled ribbon for the most

intriguing. I wish to be the first to suggest it. In the future members of the Galactic Begonia Society may very well be hybridizing for bizarre behavior rather than color or texture. In fact, I'll go a step further and predict it - the temptation of genetic manipulation will prove irresistible.

In the meantime I'd like to hear from others who have observed phenomena similar to The Little Martian in any begonia. It might be helpful to know with what frequency these events occur, if they occur only in cultivars, and whether there is any pattern to them.

K. Mose Fadeem lives at 319 1/2 English Ave., Monterey, CA 93940. Contact him if there is aberrant behavior going on in your begonia collection!

A Second to the Motion:

More on Kit Jeans Mounger's article, "Where have all the Begonias Gone?"

by Mary Weinberg

In her article in the September-October **Begonian,** Kit Jeans Mounger has voiced something I have thought about many times, as I'm sure have many members of the American Begonia Society who are concerned by the diminishment of our species begonias in the world. It would be wonderful to have a listing of species that is updated on a yearly basis, but who among us would volunteer to undertake this gigantic project?

Just suppose the ABS would sponsor a committee, perhaps as a task force or study group. The project would need several dedicated members, volunteers who would canvas members in each branch and the members-at-large. They would have to send out survey forms, literature, and possibly write an article or two for the **Begonian** explaining what was being undertaken. All forms would have to be collected, and another volunteer with a computer and printer could input the incoming records. The listings would have to be kept current, otherwise a species could disappear with no one being the wiser.

My suggestion would be to utilize only information collected from members of the ABS and Botanical Gardens. True, this would give a false reading of how many species begonias are being grown in the United Sates. Using commercial greenhouses would also give a false reading to statistics, as their plants are grown for selling and might be counted twice, once by the seller and once by the buyer.

Possibly a survey form could include a cut-off date for information collected, as an example, "List the name and number of each species begonia owned up to and including June 1989."

Another problem in using statistics by other than ABS members and Botanical Gardens is seen when cuttings are shared with, or between non-members; there would be no way of counting these gifts, or even knowing the number of species out there.

I agree with Kit: getting answers from all of the above would be a monumental task. But the benefits of such a listing would be tremendous.

Would it be enough to know that we had some control over the number of species begonias in cultivation by members of ABS and the Botanical Gardens? I think it would.

Post Script: Kit, never one to dawdle, has begun listing the species being grown by ABS members. You can help this effort to find out which species are being grown and where: list your species, and send the list to:

Kit Mounger
7438 S. Leewynn Dr.
Sarasota, FL 34240

Begonia U253-
Is It Worth the Gamble?

by Thelma O'Reilly
photographs by Margie Harris

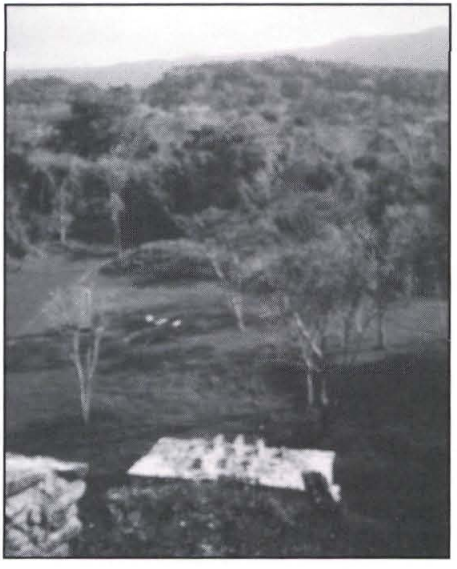
ABSOLUTELY! In the spring of 1989 three young professional women flew from Houston, Texas to Mexico City, Mexico. The trio included my daughter Maureen Crowell, Margie Harris, and Karen Mahoney. I had clued Maureen to take along some small paper envelopes and be on the alert for begonias with seed capsules.

Maureen's prime interest was in the birds of Mexico; her friends' interest was to visit archeological ruins, primarily those located in the area of Palenque. Renting a car upon their arrival in Mexico City, they began a two week "Mexican Venture."

Their first begonia sighting was at a waterfall in the state of Vera Cruz. Growing along the banks were many plants of the same begonia, with small, green leaves that were round and pilose. Maureen collected handfulls of seed. Unfortunately, the seed envelopes were in her suitcase. She stored the seed in a cellophane wrapper which later split at the seams, spillling most of the seed on her clothes and the car seat.

Tropical Palenque's ruins, located in the State of Chiapas, are among the most famous and best preserved in Mesoamerica. After exploring this area the adventurers were drawn to Ruinas Bonampak, site of some of the most sophisticated Mayan murals, and Ruinas Yaxchilán, noted for its immense stelae and Mayan carvings. Both are located in the Lancondon Rainforest of East Chiapas, and both are off the beaten path. The travel agency advised chartering a plane; the six hour adventure, including flying time, cost four hundred dollars.

A van arrived at dawn for the two hour trip from Palenque to the airport. There, the trio boarded an old, rusty, beat-up Cessna 80. During the hour flight to Bonampak Maureen was mesmerized as she stared at the two fuel tank gauges, one registering "empty," the other fluctuating up and down from the "empty" to "half" marker.



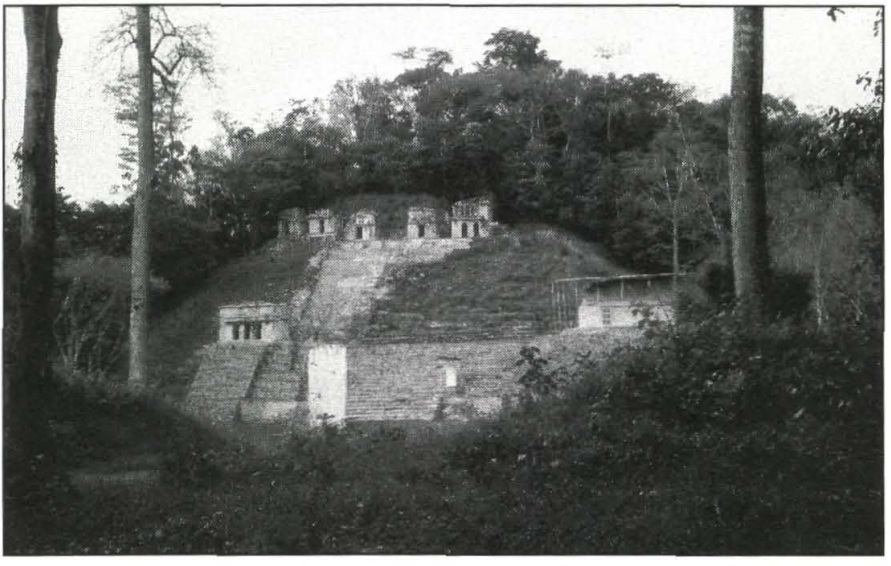
Approach to landing strip at Bonampak ruins and partial view of ruins from Cessna 80.

The grassy, bumpy landing strip was only four hundred feet long. As the jungle loomed ahead, the plane was forced to make a U-turn. Maureen advised, "This flight is not for the faint of heart."

Two young native men from a local village live here fulltime. They are called the "Guardians" of the ruins, and speak only Spanish. They met the plane and took the visitors on an hour tour. Maureen was awed by the towering, lush trees laden with orchids, bromeliads, and birds.

While Maureen was observing three different species of wild parrots, Margie and Karen climbed up a pyramid with the guide. On the very top, in front of a temple at the far right, Margie spied a begonia. She collected a portion of an inflorescence which

contained many seed capsules. This was the only collection that produced enough seed for distribution.



Pyramid at Bonampak. B. U253 was found growing at the base of the temple on the right, on top of the pyramid.

Ruinas Yaxchilán, a huge, old city of ruins, is a twenty minute flight from Bonampak. It is located along the bank of Rio Usumacinta, which forms a natural border between Mexico and Guatemala. A full archeological team, headed by two young anthropologists, is in residence. A Spanish-speaking guide conducted an extensive tour. Following the tour, the two doctors invited their guests in for coffee and a question-and-answer session. (Note: I"ll bet they seldom have three young blondes as guests.)

Maureen reported that many begonias were growing in this area. They were rhizomatous with green, palmately-lobed leaves. There appeared to be two types; one had white prominent hairs on the petioles and white flowers, the other had red hairs on the petioles and pink flowers. Only a small amount of seed was available.

Our adventurers made four begonia collections. Germination from the Yaxchilán and waterfall seed collections was poor. Germination from the Bonampak seed was 100% in six days. This collection was assigned B. U253 and sent to the Seed Fund.

How exciting to have an opportunity to grow begonias from seed collected on an isolated pyramid. Growers of unidentified seed are truly "gamblers at heart," willing to take a chance on the thrilling discovery of a new begonia treasure or the disappointment of another "begonia weed." Step up, gamblers, try your luck with B. U253!

Thelma O'Reilly is in charge of the unidentified begonias project (called the U# for short) for ABS' Nomenclature Department. Her address is 10942 Sunray Place, La Mesa, CA 92041.

SPOTLIGHT ON:

Begonia mannii

by Mary Weinberg

B. mannii was discovered in 1862 by Gastan Mann at an elevation of 1300 feet, on the peak of Fernando Po off the coast of West Africa. It is widespread throughout Western Africa.

B. mannii is in the section Tetraphila and has 38 chromosomes. It is one of the most ornamental of this section.

B. mannii is a lanky, well-branched climber. The leaves are four to five inches long; petioles and stems are glabrous. Leaves are glabrous, ovate, acuminate; stipules are large, membraneous, subulato-lanceolate. Flowers have elongated pod-like four-celled capsules with no wings. The long terete ovary becomes soft-succulent as it matures in contrast to the papery dry fruit of most begonias. Each plant produces both staminate and pistillate flowers, but rarely do they appear at the same time. Rose red flowers are produced freely over a long period of time. *B. mannii*

is said to be epiphytic, and is found growing on the branches of trees in its native habitat; but it will also grow well in soil.

My *B. mannii* was placed in a south window for the winter months. It did very well considering that Chicago does not get much sun during the winter. It lost a few leaves over the winter, and started new growth in early April; new branches formed at the nodes. Early in May a small clump of flower buds appeared. The temperature in the area where *B. mannii* sits was in the low 60's, and the humidity was in the mid 40's for most of the winter months.

CULTURE

Light: Filtered sun is best. If *B. mannii* is hung outside in the summer, protect it from the hot midday sun. Inside it should be given a sunny location, as it is well suited to bright situations. If insufficient light is given, the petioles will grow long and the stems will get very leggy.

Temperature: *B. mannii* grows well between 58-72 degrees F.; excessive heat will cause *B. mannii* to dry out and wilt.

Humidity: Should be between 40 - 60%; but *B. mannii* will tolerate a lower or slightly lower humidity.

Soil requirements and Potting: Your standard begonia mix can also be used for *B. mannii*. It can be potted in clay pots, plastic pots, redwood containers, and moss-lined baskets. Be sure not to overpot, as overpotting will produce a weak plant; graduate to larger pots as the plant gets larger.

Fertilizer: Use a balanced fertilizer during the active growing season. You can change to a fertilizer that is higher in phosphorus and potassium prior to and during the blooming season if you wish.

Pruning: In order to induce branching, periodically prune and pinch *B. mannii*.

Propagation: Propagate by making cuttings, either tip or mallet, and by seed. The quickest method for obtaining more plants is to make tip cuttings.

Artist/writer/begonia grower Mary Weinberg lives at 1527 W. Highland Ave., Chicago, IL 60660.

The original citations of *Begonia acetosa* Vellozo

Florae fluminensis, Icones, Vol. 10: pl 50. "1927' 1831.

Florae fluminensis, Descriptiones, Archivos do Museu Nacional do Rio de Janeiro, Vol. 5: 406, 1881.

18: *B. acetosa*, B. foliis amplissimis, subrotundis, basi crenatis, caule orgyali. (Tab. 50, T. 10).

Observationes

Caulis erectus, orgyalis, pilosus, Petioli longissimi, pilosi, Folia approximata, ad apicem, subtus pilosa, caeteris Begoniarum foliis multoties ampliora; peltata, integerrima. Pedunculi longissimi, terminales, erecti, dichotomi. *Habitat Alpibus Fluminensibus, quae Pharmacopoli eminent.*

The Search for *Begonia acetosa* Vellozo

An Interim Report

by Jack Golding

A question from Thelma O'Reilly last December asking if *Begonia acetosa* Vellozo and *Begonia itaguassuensis* Brade might be the same species started my investigation of these begonias. She and Carrie Karegeannes shared their research notes and correspondence from the early 1970's with me.

My translation and study of the original citation of each begonia confirms that they are definitely different species.

Then in the **Begonian** 56:28-9, 1989, Mary Weinberg described the plant she had obtained as *Begonia acetosa* as a very low and compact rhizomatous begonia. Because this does not agree with Vellozo's original description, I decided to try to identify her plant and to find the true *Begonia acetosa* Vellozo.

A short history will help understand the problems with the works of José Mariano de Conceicão Vellozo (1742-1811). The Brazilian clergyman and botanist prepared the illustrations and manuscript for **Florae fluminensis** from 1782 to 1790. There are 1640 plates in his 11 volumes of **Icones**, dated 1827, but not distributed until October 29, 1831, the valid date of publication. There are 22 plates of begonias in volume 10. Due to political turmoil in Portugal and Brazil, the **Descriptiones**, Vellozo's text, was not published until July 1881 in Arch. Mus. Nac. Rio de Janeiro, Vol. 5.

Please see page 228 at left for original description and drawing

Translation from the Latin

Begonia acetosa. Begonia with largest leaves, almost circular, rounded notch at the base, stem six feet tall. (Plate 50, Vol. 10.)

Observations

Stem erect, pilose, six feet tall. Petioles, very long, pilose. Leaves, close together at the tip, pilose underneath. Leaves many times larger than those of other Begonia, peltate, absolutely entire. Peduncles very long, terminal, erect, dichotomous.

Habitat: It grows in the Alps of Rio de Janeiro, which projects to Parati, E. Brazil.

The analysis of Vellozo's plate, text, and a comparison to the other begonias he described enables us to make these conclusions.

"Begonia with the largest leaves many times larger than the other begonias," hence the leaves could be 18 inches to 24 inches long and wide.

"The stem six feet tall" is illustrated as a very stout round stem. It is similar to the other "tree-like" Brazilian species e.g. *Begonia grisea* A. de Cadolle, *Begonia reniformis* Dryander, *Begonia rigida* Linden ex Regel and *B. tomentosa* Schott.

The stem, petioles and underside of the leaves are described in the text and shown in the illustrations as pilose.

The leaf blades are described in the text as peltate, but in the plate they are barely peltate with the umbo very close to the margin.

The leaf margins are absolutely entire, perfectly free from any divisions.

The flowers were not described in the text, but in the illustration the inflorescence has many male and female flowers. The male flowers have four elliptic tepals, with many stamens. The female flowers have three large broadly elliptic outer tepals and two smaller elliptic inner tepals, three bifid styles, the capsule has three wings, the largest angled, the others lunate.

Steudel, Nomenclator botanicus, ed. 2, 1:193, 1840, listed *Begonia acetosa* and the other begonias of Vellozo, but attributed the name to "Arrab." - Freire Antonio d'Arrabida, director of the Rio de Janeiro public library, who Steudel considered the author of Vellozo's text and plates (publication was posthumous).

A. de Candolle, Prodr. 15 (1): 400, 1864, listed B. *acetosa* Vellozo with "Species known only by name or from very poor illustration."

In my search of the literature from 1831 I could find no other references to *Begonia acetosa* Vellozo, until this 1946 report by Mulford B. Foster, **Begonian**, 8:61, 1946. He wrote: "I did bring (from the American tropics) one very beautiful begonia which Dr. Lyman Smith of Harvard says is *Begonia acetosa* Vellozo. He believed this is the first material of the species collected since its description."

My research shows that this begonia collected by Mulford Foster is not *Begonia acetosa* Vellozo. Dr. Lyman B. Smith advised me that Mulford dealt only with natural species, so this plant he collected in 1946 may be a new species, and if it is I will later describe and name it. Until then it will be identified by the temporary Unidentified Species List Number Begonia U254.

I searched through the **Begonian** and other books for information, and this is the description I found most frequently used for the plant currently grown as *B. acetosa* [B. U254]:

A compact low growing rhizomatous begonia with leaves obliquely heart-shaped with rounded basal lobes, deep coppery, olive green on the top surface, the undersides deep wine-red covered with short white hairs on both surfaces. Axillary inflorescence, many white flowers in late spring and early summer. The reported size of the plant varies from 8 to 18 inches tall and the leaves from 4 to 12 inches across.

A comparison of this description to the original citation by Vellozo reveals that this plant can not be *Begonia acetosa* Vellozo.

There are several other conflicting descriptions in the literature and it is possible that different begonias might have been mixed.

Helen K. Krauss, **Begonias**: 147, 1947, gave this description with other "Miscellaneous Fibrous-Rooted [shrub-like] Begonias,"

"*B. acetosa* (Vell.) [B. U254] low-growing for the size of its leaves, petioles and flower panicles. Petioles to a foot long or more; large leaves - to a foot long and almost as broad, obliquely heart-shaped with rounded basal lobes, green, hairy beneath; axillary inflorescence to a foot and half tall, many flowered. Very showy. Recently introduced from Brazil."

This description was probably based on the plant collected by Mulford Foster. I wonder why she gave the color of the leaves as "green" and did not mention the wine-red underneath, and why she classified it as a shrub-like plant; also, her plant was much larger than those described later. For a while I thought perhaps Mulford's plant as described by Helen Krauss was different from the plant we now have, and it may have been lost in cultivation.

But on May 9th I received from Joy Martin of Logee's Greenhouses a plant labeled *Begonia acetosa* [B. U254] that was a clone of the plant she had received in 1949 from Mulford Foster. It is a rhizomatous type with the leaves wine-red underneath. I am now sure that we have his original plant, which is the same as the plants I had received from others labeled *B. acetosa* [B. U254].

Begonia acetosa [B. U254] was also described and illustrated (as noted) in the following books:

B. Brilmeyer, **All About Begonias**, :128, 1960.
A.B. Graf, **Exotica 3** :1544, pl. :320, 1963.
T. Misono, **Begonias**, pl. 2, 1974.
M.L. & E.J. Thompson, **The Thompson Begonia Guide**, 1: A-3, C-99; 3: R-51, pl. 1974-1977.
E. Haring, **Begonias for Beginners**, :70, pl., 1976.
Hortus Third, :143, 1978.
A. Ashizawa et al, **Begonias**, :39, pl., 1980.
M.L. & E.J. Thompson, **Begonias**, :8, 127, 136, 145, 146, 289, 295, 296, 310, 317, pl. :170, 1981.
Y. Murotani & H. Tatsumi, **Begonia in Color**, :9, pl., 1983.

Seed of *Begonia cantareira* hort., was first mentioned in the **Begonian,** 17:175, 1950, with other seed from Brazil by Florence Carrell, Armchair Explorers, forerunner of the A.B.S. Seed Fund. On page 258, she wrote "*B. cantareira*, a rhizomatous plant with velvety leaves, green above, crimson beneath."

Later Florence reported, **Begonian**, 18:267, 1951, "From Brazil I have had seed of *B. cantareira* and some members have reported that the little plants growing from these seeds are the same as what we call *B. acetosa* [B. U254]. My plant does not, however, agree with the description in Mrs. Krauss' book, as my plant is a lovely ruby-red underneath the leaves, which are rather round and a little heart-shaped, hairy on both sides of the leaf - sort of rhizomatous type - a most attractive plant."

It was identified as *Begonia acetosa* [B. U254] in **Begonian**, 19:180, 1952.

The Seed Fund offered seed of *Begonia acetosa* [B. U254] many time from 1961 to 1980, with varying but similar description.

The first listing in the Seed Fund of *Begonia itaguassuensis* Brade, **Begonian**, 34:87, 1967, was with this description: "New from Brazil. Rhizomatous type with large, velvety round leaves, dark green above, paler green beneath, with a pink sheen. Flowers white or pinkish-white." It was listed several more times until 1969.

There were several Round Robin discussions, **Begonian**, 37:84, 213, 1970, and a report by Jane Neal of England **Begonian,** 38:7, 1971, about conflicting descriptions and comparing *Begonia itaguassuensis* Brade with *Begonia acetosa* [B. U254]. They are probably different species, but a final decision can not be made until we can examine mature plants of B. U254.

Begonia costello hort. was in the Seed Fund listing, **Begonian** 42:146, 1975, "Rhizomatous similar to *B. acetosa* [B. U254] but leaves larger and light green on both sides." I obtained early in March, from Judy Becker of Lauray of Salisbury, a young plant of *B. costello* hort., that was clone from this 1975 seed. It is definitely different from *B. acetosa* [B. U254], and may be *B. itaguassuensis* Brade, but my plant is till too young and I need to see the flowers before a determination can be made.

Responding to my request for more information, Mary Weinberg advised that she had written her article in 1985 and no longer had her plant. She had obtained it from Maxine Wilson, Ozark, Mo. who had also "lost" the plant, but Maxine did send me a good description of her compact plant, about 8-10 inches tall and with leaves 4-5 inches across.

Tamsin Boardman had told Don Miller, Dallas, TX, of my interest and March 28, 1989 he sent me a mature leaf 8 X 9 inches and a photo of his *B. acetosa* [B. U254]. I took photos of the leaf and then was able to propagate it to obtain three plants.

April 18, 1989 I sent to several growers a summary of my research notes and translations of the original citations of *Begonia acetosa* Vellozo, and *Begonia itaguassuensis* Brade, with a request for plants/cuttings and descriptive information of any begonia that were labeled *acetosa, cantareira, costello* or *itaguassuensis*.

In addition to the plant from Joy Martin, other plants labeled *B. acetosa* [B. U254] were received from Margaret Lee of San Diego, Judy Becker, Robert Hamm of Rancho Cordova, and Rudy Ziesenhenne of Santa Barbara.

Rudy Ziesenhenne had obtained his original plant from the National Arboretum. Their plant was from a cutting taken by F. G. Meyer, **Plant Explorations**, ARS 34-9 :109, 1959, from Jardin Botanique "Les Cedres," St. Jean, Cap. Ferrat, France, that was labeled *Begonia acetosa* Vellozo. This identification can not be correct because the plant I received from Rudy is the same as the others - B. U254.

I now have 9 young plants of B. U254 and in their juvenile state, they all appear to be the same. When these mature and have flowers I will be able to complete my description and if applicable give them a permanent name.

We now know that the "*Begonia acetosa*" of the literature since 1946 is not *Begonia acetosa* Vellozo, and it may be a new species, Begonia U254.

I still have not been able to find *B. acetosa* Vellozo, and at present do not think it is in cultivation.

Rudy Ziesenhenne gave me an interesting suggestion: that I study his description of *Begonia grisea* A. de Candolle in **Begonian**, 53: 73-77, 1986. It is certainly closer to *B. acetosa* Vellozo than B. U254, but it is not the same because *B. grisea* has only two tepals on the male flowers and all the wings on the capsules are rounded.

I also reviewed Jan Doorenboos' "*B. vitifolia* and other elusive tree-like begonias," **Begonian,** 46:234-240, 1979, to compare those begonias to *Begonia acetosa* Vellozo.

You can help expedite the completion of this report if you have plants labeled *Begonia acetosa, cantareira* hort., *costello* hort., or *itaguassuensis*. Please send me descriptions of your mature plants with flowers, and photos of your plants with close-ups of the flowers, or if possible cuttings.

Thanks to all who have shared their knowledge and plants with me. Join with us and enjoy the fun of begonia research.

Jack Golding lives at 47 Clinton Ave., Kearny, NJ 07032 and somehow manages to find time to grow specimen begonias between research projects.

ATTENTION, MEMBERS AT LARGE!

MAL Newsletter #15 is ready. Any Member at Large (ABS member who is not in a branch) can receive the newsletter by sending a self-addressed, stamped legal size envelope to MAL Director Thelma O'Reilly, 10942 Sunray Place, La Mesa CA 92041.

CONSERVATION NEWS

At the convention in San Francisco, the Conservation Committee met to discuss distribution of seed and plant material which will be collected by Scott Hoover on his Southeast Asia expedition in 1990. *Present were Conservation Co-Chairmen* Scott Hoover and Martin Johnson; 3rd Vice-president John Howell; Southwest Region Director Don Miller; and Tamsin and Bruce C. Boardman of the **Begonian**.

On previous collecting trips, no formal distribution plans were made for the collected material; seeds and cuttings went to Conservation Fund contributors, and to the Seed Fund. Unfortunately, much material was lost, and few records were kept. Restricting distribution to contributors limited the participation of many members who are good seed growers, and many who *have the facilities to propagate cuttings* successfully.

In an effort to insure that the seeds and plant material collected have the very best chance of survival in cultivation, a comprehensive plan has been developed for distribution. *Initial distribution will be made to* proven growers in Eastern Region, through Director Maxine Zinman; Southwest Region, through Director Don Miller; through selected Branch presidents in areas not represented by a Region; and through Members at Large Director Thelma O'Reilly, for MAL who wish to participate.

Records will be kept of the distribution, and growers receiving seeds and cuttings will be required to keep detailed records.

The proven growers will in turn distribute the resulting plants throughout their *area, and share seeds with the Seed Fund.*

This kind of nationwide cooperation will result in a high survival of collected material, shared in all parts of the country.

HONOR ROLL

of contributors to the
Conservation Fund for
Scott Hoover's Malaysia Trip

Christian Feuillet
Suzanne A. Haffner
Elizabeth Hahn
Evelyn M. Hurley
Melisse J. Jones
Kit Mounger
Curtis T. Riviere, Jr.
Mildred F. Swyka
Martha J.B. Thomas
Dr. Helene Toolan
Lloyd Van Epps
Altanta Branch
Miami Branch
Palomar Branch
Pinellas County Branch,
in memory of Bob Moore
Potomac Branch
San Gabriel Valley Branch
Santa Clara Valley Branch*

*second contribution

CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND

November-December 1989
Diana H. Gould, Seed Fund Director

The Seed Fund is a service for ABS members only. It is a privilege of your membership.

All packets of species seed are $1 each, and all packets of hybrid seed are 50 cents each; a pamphlet on growing from seed is 25 cents.

All orders must be accompanied by check or money order payable ONLY in U.S. funds, and made payable to the CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND, and mail to:

MS Diana H. Gould
7700 Deanton Ct.
Citrus Heights, CA
95610
U.S.A.

Costs of mailing in the U.S., Canada, or Mexico are: 1-12 packets of seed, 55c; 13-24 packets, 70c; 25-36 packets, $1.15; 37-48, $1.45.

Foreign mailing costs are: 1-12 packets of seeds, $1.30; 13-24 packets, $2.10; 24-36 packets, $3.10; 37-48, $4.10.

Two sets of planter dishes with free instructions in one mailer costs 77c. If ordered with seed and sent in one mailer, the cost of 2 sets of planter dishes and 1-12 packets of seed is 90c; two sets of planter dishes and 13-24 packets is $1.07; 2 sets of planter dishes and 25-36 packets is $1.42; 2 sets of planter dishes and 37-48 packets is $1.75. CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS PLEASE ADD 6 1/2% SALES TAX TO ALL ORDERS

Germination times for this issue's selections range from 7 to 67 days, so please be patient.

Unless otherwise noted, these selections have not been offered during the past three years.

The Seed Fund would like to thank **Hikoichi Arakawa, Maureen Crowell, Jackie Davis, Alain Delavie, Lynda Goldsmith, Jan Goodwin, Evie McDuff, Arturo Nava**, and our anonymous donors for their most generous donations to this issue's selections. THANK YOU!

NOTES ON SEEDS LISTED:

Our three rhizomatous selections are *B. bowerae* var. *nigramarga, B. plebeja* (offered JF '89), and *B. quaternata*. The first comes to us from Mexico, has small leaves and profuse white or very pale pink flowers in winter. The second is found in Mexico and Central America; it has a circular leaf, is erect-growing with moderate pink flowers from December through spring. Please refer to the **Begonian**, April 1977, pp. 96-103 for an article by Rudolf Ziesenhenne on *B. plebeja*. Last, we offer *B. quaternata* from Bambito, Panama, near the Baru volcano. This species has 5 1/2" x 6" leaves and white flowers.

Our only shrub selection for this issue is *B. tomentosa*, from Brazil, which has felted leaves and profuse pink flowers that have white edges and hairs.

I would like to thank our tuberous growers for their patience in waiting all year for these tuberous selections. *B. boissieri* (Mexico) has a medium, angular, bare leaf and pink flowers. *B. boliviensis* (JF '89; Bolivia) is tall growing and needs staking; it is a beautiful species with distinctive scarlet flowers. *B. cinnabarina* (ND '88; Bolivia) is low-growing with fragrant apricot flowers from summer to fall.

B. dregei (JF '89; South Africa) is semi-tuberous with small, angular leaves and white flowers, and is very easy to grow. *B. geranioides* (JF '89; South Africa) has geranium-like leaves and small white flowers.

B. gracilis var. *martiana*, the "hollyhock begonia," (ND '88; Mexico) is tall-

growing with narrow leaves and fragrant pink flowers. *B. grandis* ssp. *evansiana* (JF '89; China) is quite hardy in not too severe climates, has a yellow-green leaf with red underside and profuse pink flowers from summer to fall. *B. homonyma* (*caffra*; JF '89; South Africa) has moderate white flowers from summer to fall, and *B. micranthera* var. *foliosa* (Argentina and Bolivia) is a tall-growing species with 2" leaves and white flowers with 6 tepals. *B. natalensis* (MJ 88, South Africa) is similar to both *B. suffruticosa* and *B. dregei*, and has yellowish-white pink-tinted flowers in winter.

B. palmeri (*californica*; Mexico) is low-growing with leaves which are similar to those of *B. grandis* ssp. *evansiana* only slightly egg-shaped, and white flowers.

B. partita (ND '87; South Africa) has a thinly lobed leaf with white flowers from spring through fall. *B. pearcei* (JF 88; Bolivia) has beautiful green leaves with light veins, yellow flowers from summer though fall, and is low-growing.

B. picta (ND 86; India) is also low growing, with fragrant pale-rose flowers. *B. sonderana* (MJ 88; South Africa) has pink to white flowers with a pink tinge, while *B. suffuticosa* (South Africa) has white flowers and predominantly bare, angular leaves.

B. sutherlandii (South Africa) makes a lovely basket because of its low growth habit and its profuse yellow-orange flowers from summer to fall.

Botanists list *Begonias natalensis*, *partita*, and *suffruticosa* as synonyms for *B. dregei*. This whole group from South African is being researched by Dr. Tracy McLellan (see the **Begonian**, SO 88, p. 151-2). Try growing them side by side, and report differences and similarities to the Seed Fund.

B. wollnyi (JF '89; Bolivia) has elegant silver markings on its 4" leaves, and greenish-white flowers in winter. *B. williamsii* is considered a synonym for *B. wollnyi;* the grower says his seed plant is trailing, with spotted leaves, from the Philipines. Please grow both of these together, watch closely, and report differences and similarities to the Seed Fund.

B. U103 (ND '87; Bolivia) is tall-growing, requires support, has white flowers that are sometimes flushed pink, and was described on page 101, MJ 89 issue of the **Begonian**.

B. U253 is a Mexican species collected near the Mayan ruins of Bonampak in the state of Chiapas; see article, p. 224.

B. U255 is the first of Scott Hoover's collections in Ecuador to be available in the Seed Fund, and is a stunning species with bright orange flowers.

B. U256 from Tepoztlán, Mexico has green leaves with some red when exposed to sun. It grows in the wild with single stems and profuse flowers.

B. 'Imperial Orange' is the largest of full double tuberous begonias for pots and bedding.

We also have a hanging (pendula) tuberhybrida, and a cross of *B. partita* x a tuberhybrida pendula. B. 'Rory' seed is still FREE for the asking while it lasts.

We offer 7 Mexican tuberhybrida:
#1: B. "Lace' x tuberhybrida with 3 1/2" wide orange flowers with lobed border; #2: B. 'Lace' x pendula with 2 1/2" red flowers; #3: pendula, 3" yellow flowers; #4: a cross between a plant with 3" purple flowers x one with 3 1/2" orange flowers; #5: B. 'Lace' x 3" yellow flowers.; #6: B. 'Lace' x pendula with 2 1/2" orange flowers; #7: B. 'Lace' x pendula with 2 1/2" pink flowers. **These must be ordered by number, please.**

There are 10 California tuberhybridas: #1: pink; #2: dark red; #3: red for clay pot; #4: red; #5: pendula, pink; #6: mixed; #7: crimson red; #8: ruffled with white edges, light pink/white; #9: pendula, yellow; #10: pendula, orange. **Please order by number.**

Please use the current 1989 convention listing as the available inventory until the 1990 convention listing comes out. The 1989 listing is available upon request with your seed order, OR send a SASE to receive it.

CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND

species seed
$1 per packet

B. boissieri
B. boliviensis
B. bowerae var. *nigramarga*
B. cinnabarina
B. dregei
B. geranioides
B. gracilis var. *martiana*
B. grandis ssp. *evansiana*
B. homonyma
B. micranthera var. *foliosa*
B. natalensis
B. palmeri
B. partita
B. pearcei
B. picta
B. plebeja
B. quaternata
B. sonderana
B. suffruticosa
B. sutherlandii
B. tomentosa
B. williamsii
B. wollnyi
B. U103
B. U253
B. U255
B. U256

hybrid seed
50c per packet

B. 'Imperial Orange'
partita cross
pendula tuberhybrida
7 Mexican tuberhybridas (numbered 1-7)
10 California tuberhybridas (numbered 1-10)

free seed: B. 'Rory'

BEGONIAN MINI-ADS

Mini-ads are a service to our members. The charge is $1 per line per insertion with a minimum of $4. Payment must accompany order. Make checks payable to ABS and mail to:

Martha Curry
P.O. Box 1232
Weatherford, TX 76086

BEGONIA CUTTINGS AND PLANTS Send $1 for expanded 1989 list. Kay's Greenhouses, 207 W. Southcross, San Antonio, TX 78221.

BEGONIAS (a specialty), plus Gesneriads, Peperomias, Succulents, Perennials and more. Informative Quarterly Newsletter! New plants each issue! $3 (1 yr.) (Canada $4, Overseas $6) to: Robert B. Hamm, 10065 River Mist Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670.

BEGONIAS: THE COMPLETE REFERENCE GUIDE by Mildred L. and Edward J. Thompson. 884 pages, 850 illustrations (165 in color). Culture, classification, and history. $20.00 to ABS members. To order autographed copies write: THE THOMPSONS, P.O. Drawer PP, Southampton, NY 11968. **BEGONIAS: 1984 UPDATE** $6.75. Prices include shipping. Foreign orders $5 additional for shipping via Surface Mail.

SOUTHWEST REGION, ABS: Annual Get-Together, show, sale; monthly newsletter. Membership $7, family $10. Send to Marie Harrell, Rt. 3, Box 689, Elgin, TX 78621.

"BEGONIAS GALORE" Cuttings and Plants. Please send $1 for list. P.O. Box 5073, Gainesville, FL 32602.

WANTED: Either good starts, up to 4" pots, or cuttings of: *B.bogneri, B. annulata, B. morelii, B. versicolor*, B 'Flash Light' (not B. 'Akatombo'), B. 'Gold Coast', B. 'Puffy Clouds', B. 'Sliver Leaf.' Top $ paid, no trades. Write: TIM LAST, 437 Prospect Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11215.

ROUND ROBIN NOTES

Margaret Coats, Round Robin Director

Interested in joining the Robins? If you are an inexperienced grower, there are seven other members who will be happy to help you with your problems; if you are experienced, join and share your knowledge with ones who need help. There are openings in the following Robins: cane, rhizomatous, general culture, small commercial growers, tuberous, ferns, tropical, semperflorens, cold climate greenhouse, shrub-like, southwest growers, southeast growers, species, miniatures, growing from seed, odd/rare/unusual. C'mon, join up - it's loads of fun! Just write to me at 11203 Cedar Elm, San Antonio, TX 78230, and tell me your interests.

For you feline lovers, here's a tip on how to keep your friends out of your plants. Naomi Lynch (TX) sprays her pots with Off. She says the cats hate it and it doesn't seem to hurt the plants if any spray gets on them. Virginia Hamann (IA) adds that she has been told that bits of onion in the soil will also keep cats out.

Hooray for Mae Blanton! She has succeeded in setting seed on *B. ficicola*, and everyone in the southwest growers Robin was as excited over it as she. Mae eagerly shared her experience: "As the stems dried, I removed the pods and allowed them to dry thoroughly — by then they were hard as stone! I cut the ribs with cuticle scissors, then gently crushed the pods and separated the seed and chaff on a large sheet of white paper. Seeds rolled on paper, so I packaged them. I planted a few and waited - and watched - and waited. They took 36 days to germinate. Success! Since they were so different from other begonia seed pods, and how-to information so scarce, I felt good about them."

Bob Hamm (CA) shares his experience with some dried B. *grandis* ssp. *evansiana* bulbils. Thinking them useless, he threw them all out in the yard. Now "evansiana" plants are coming up everywhere. Seems all they needed was some moisture. He also says he is enjoying the white, scented blossoms on B. 'Aislee', which he finds fast and easy to grow.

Having problems growing small rhizomatous plants? Frances Hoffman (NY) helps out her fellow greenhouse Robin friends. Frances advises watering those small plants by standing them in a couple of inches of tepid water and letting them absorb the moisture. When the soil at the top darkens and feels moist to the touch, remove the pot and let drain well. She finds this method works much better than top watering, which sometimes rots the tiny rhizomes; the moisture penetrates the full depth of the container, so the roots aren't left dry.

Sheila Matthews (IL) is trying something new with *B. chlorosticta*. She declares her area has been as humid as a cloud forest, so she took her plant outside and set it in shade without its cover. Although she says she may live to regret it, so far the plant is happy and blooming. In response to Sheila's remarks, Mary Simon (OH) said she could not find any place indoors that even remotely suited B. 'Moon Maid'. In desperation, she put the discontented plant out onto the porch where it quickly took a new lease on life; it has now developed into a nice, sturdy plant. With such good results with 'Moon Maid', she decided the outside atmosphere might put the "magic" back into B. 'Magic Lace', which had been struggling for survival. It's too soon to tell if it will work out.

Most members of the Mini-begonias group agree that the miniatures are affected by the hot weather and rainfall if grown outside. Mary Bucholtz (FL) says she puts extra perlite around the rhizomes, hoping to let more air into the soil. This also allows for quicker drainage during rain showers.

Round Robin Notes is short this month because of space problems.Cut material will appear in the next issue.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

August 15, 1989

The Annual Business Meeting of the American Begonia Society was held after the Saturday luncheon of the 57th Convention "Begonias by the Bay," August 5, 1989 at the Clarion Hotel in San Francisco, California.

President Arlene Davis called the meeting to order at 1:15 pm. Flag salute was led by Houston Knight. The Aims and Purposes were read by Michael Ludwig.

Secretary Ingeborg Foo read the minutes of the previous meeting. There were two corrections. The treasurer's report was to read as of May 31, 1989, and the reference to $20.00 (twenty) U.S. dollars was deleted. Minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer Eleanor Calkins reported balances as of July 31, 1989: checking $13, 483.67; savings $39, 770.01 for a total of $53, 253.68.

Special Committee Report: Michael Ludwig reported the judges booklet is almost completed.

Standing Committtee Reports:

Awards: Award certificates will be given out at the luncheon to conserve time at the banquet.

Branch Relations: Doug Hahn reported the show and seminars were taped and are available. There will be a newsletter in about 2 months.

Business Manager John Ingles reported there might be 3 branches in the making: Redondo Beach, California; Delaware, New Jersey; and Maine. Central Joaquin Valley is closing. September-October **Begonian** labels were sent out. The membership listing is now available, send check for $7.00 to John; it was stressed that the list is for individual members' use only.

Seed Fund: Diana Gould is in contact with 30 to 40 international gardens. A supplement is in the making. She suggested that a photograph accompany donated seeds (also cultural data, such as altitude, where grown, etc.). A line drawing of each plant will also be made.

Conservation: Martin Johnson reported an expedition to Southeast Asia is planned by Scott Hoover. Donations from branches and individuals are necessary.

Judging: Michael Ludwig reported an update of the judges list shows that many had to stop because of health. New judges are needed.

Historian: Norma Pfrunder asks that members please send newsletters, newspaper clippings, pictures of shows, etc. It was suggested that the books be brought to the convention for members to enjoy.

Long Range Planning: Bob Hamm listed sites for upcoming convention: 1990, San Antonio, Texas; 1991, Washington D.C.; 1992, Orange County, California; 1993, New York, New York. The 1991 convention in Washington D.C. will highlight the U numbers. All members are urged to grow U numbers and bring them to the convention in 1991. If you have species you would like to share with members, please contact Bob Hamm.

Members at Large: Thelma O'Reilly wrote 80 notes and letters. Newsletters 12, 13, and 14 were sent and 15 is on the way.

Nomenclature: Thelma O'Reilly has assigned U numbers to unidentified begonias through B. U254.

Convention Chairman Peter Notaras announced a silent auction for a planter box starting at $75.

Kit Jeans Mounger donated a Tiffany lamp and proceeds will go to the Conservation Fund.

There were 239 entries in the show.

The committee was thanked for their work.

Membership: Life members, 80; institutions, 128; dues paying members, 1,351. A long time begonia friend, Dr. Fred Barkley, passed away. The news was received with great sadness.

Unfinished Business: Wanda Macnair inquired what was being done for advertising. Maurice Amey has been very busy with the Southwest Region Get-Together; he wil get to it, and has redesigned the ads.

Members asked about the Bookstore. A motion was made that the Bookstore should be at conventions; seconded and carried.

New Business: There will be a new annual award in honor of Dr. Fred Barkley. Our friends from Australia invited everyone to their 1991 convention at Perth.

Certificates for Cultural Awards were given out.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ingeborg Foo,
Secretary

New Advertising Manager

Begonian Advertising Manager: Martha Curry, P.O. Box 1232, Weatherford, TX 76086.

ELECTED OFFICERS

'esident . . . . . .Michael Ludwig
7007 Mt. Vernon Ave., Lemon Grove, CA 92045
(619) 461-6906

Past President . . . . . .Arlene Davis
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First Vice-President . . . . . .Jeannette Gilbertson
410 JoAnn Circle, Vista, CA 92084

Second Vice-President . . . . . .Joan Coulat
4111 DePaul Court, Sacramento, CA 95821

Third Vice-President . . . . . .John Howell
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Secretary . . . . . .Ingeborg Foo
1050 Melrose Way, Vista, CA 92083

Treasurer . . . . . .Eleanor Calkins
910 Fern Street, Escondido, CA 92027

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Audit Committee . . . . . .Marion Paris
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Ballot Counting . . . . . .Ronnie Nevins
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Book Store . . . . . .Bob Bailey
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Convention Chairman . . . . . .Melba Schultz
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Show Entries . . . . . .Tim Last
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Speakers Bureau . . . . . .Muriel Perz
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ase send manuscripts to editor, with SASE if return requested.

For subscription, dues, circulation inquiries contact John Ingles, Jr., 157 Monument, Rio Dell, CA 95562-1617

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Address correction requested