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### **American Begonia Society**

### Founded January 1932 by Herbert P. Dyckman

### **Aims and Purposes**

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

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

To standardize the nomenclature of begonias.

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

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

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

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### **Cover Photos**

front: Sue Hessel captured the geometric charm of a floral burst by *B. convolvulacea*, a trailing-scandent species discovered in Brazil in 1860 and offered in the Seed Fund. back: Hugh McLauchlan photographed his friend George McCormick and the world's largest begonia flower. McCormick raised his B. 'Laurie Mac' from seed. The flower measured 13 1/8", earning a place in the Guiness Book of World Records. Learn more about George McCormick on p 4, and read about Hugh McLauchlan on p. 27



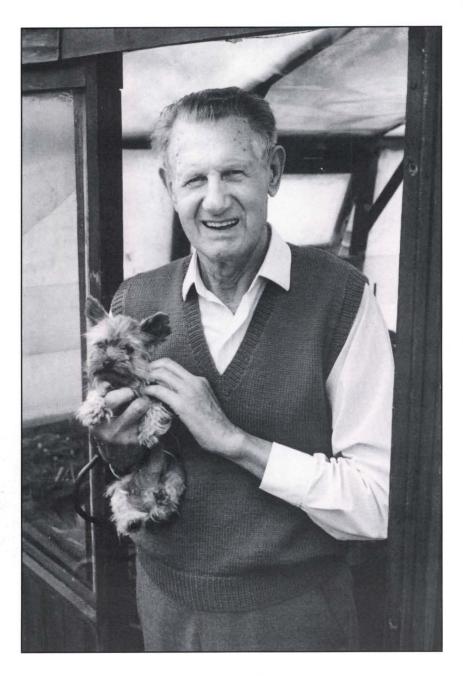
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B. goegoensis from Sumatra is also offered in the Seed Fund. drawing by Kit Jeans Mounger from the <u>Begonia Book of Days</u>

#### Quick!

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George McCormick with friend 'Bonnie"

## The Ruthless Scot: George McCormick

Text and photos by Mose Fadeem

Some believe he is the finest hybridizer of tuberous begonia alive; Guinness has him on record for the largest begonia flowers ever (13 1/8"); commercial growers it's rumored covet his hybrids; and through it all, George McCormick carries on with an air of quiet confidence in pursuit of the artist's obsession.

With Hugh McLauchlan I visited George in late May 1991 at his dwelling in Kirkconnel, Scotland, a small ex-coal mining village in the southwest, and immediately took a liking to his eccentric character. He has a sort of gentle but crazed glow in his eye that proceeds from an excess of ruthless honesty in this life the breeder's art is not for the compromising. Throughout his eighty years George devoted a good deal of his energy to animal husbandry, especially dogs, and when he eventually turned to Begonia the good eye, the instincts, and the habit of culling all but the best stock was already deeply ingrained. He is principled and rigorous when it comes to destroying plants that don't satisfy the highest expectations. Of about 200 hybrid seedlings this season less than a handful are likely to survive George's critical vision.

But I don't write simply to praise the hybridizer so much as to correct a perception we seem to have in the United States that the Scots are only interested in flower size. The notion is inherently mistaken. It's true that size plays an integral role in their tuberhybrida adventure, but strength and vigor are the leading priorities. The

backbone and mettle of a plant determine future directions for the Scottish hybridizers. McCormick's line has all the size it needs and then some; he proceeds to gladly give some back in order to improve quality.

Now to understand what "quality" means for a Scot one may have to enter a realm of methodical fanaticism and blood-curdling show competition that not only defies description but disrupts notions of sanity. It's certainly beyond my own scope and experience, except to say that many an otherwise rough-hewn clansman has gone to his knees arranging petals on a double begonia.

I would also like to relate to you a dimension of George McCormick that truly impressed me, and that involves the simplicity of the environment and the meager tools with which he works. Down the incline of a narrow yard behind George's flat sits a small glasshouse (10' x 13') with a single bench around. Nearby squat two rows of rugged coldframes, distinctly homemade...and that's it. The rest is man and nature. In a world of horticultural sell that would have us believe we couldn't possibly achieve anything without paying dearly for gadgets, accessories. miracle chemicals, and all sorts of supportive tools we find a no-frills, almost primitive environment that does not get in the way of creative human intensity. McCormick's unadorned success lies within the man and within the Begonia community that offers the framework for talent. George readily admits to some luck along the way but also offers recognition of those behind him who set the stage for his own success.



George's unadorned working environment; a small greenhouse and coldframes - the rest is man and nature.

In later correspondence during the summer I mentioned a *boliviensis* x *cinnabarina* in my garden. George wrote:

"I see you have two of the original varieties which arrived in this country in 1848. In fact, boliviensis was one of the parents from which the pendula begonia originated. It was because of its elongated stems I suppose that it was used in this capacity. All of the seven varieties imported were crossed and intercrossed, and I have been reaping the benefit of those dedicated early hybridizers. If I had to start off as they had to do, I'm afraid I wouldn't have either the time or patience to match their accomplishments. Hybridists of today have had much of the work already done for

them, and for my part I feel indebted to my predecessors who have given me the means and materials which so greatly simplified hybridization of the modern tuberhybrida. Everything now is pretty straightforward, and with a bit of care and thought and the application of proven methods, success is near enough ensured. provided the seedling plants are given the necessary care and attention. My new crop of seedlings are coming along nicely and in another two or three weeks I will be securing the buds and will be in full flower in roughly six weeks from bud stage. This is the exciting time - will the crosses be fruitful and produce flowers of exhibition quality? Well, we will soon know. Yours Sincerely, George McCormick."

#### About Mose Fadeem....

"I have read the rough proof of this in which he has made George McCormick immortal and come to think of it he has added a few years to my life." - Hugh McLauchlan Please see IN MEMORY, page 13.

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### **Begonias Aussie Born**

text & photos by Don Miller

"Begonias Aussie Born" is the theme of the first convention of the newly formed Association of Australian Begonia Societies, Inc., to be hosted by the Victorian Begonia Society. The convention will be held March 6-8, 1992, in conjunction with the 40th anniversary of the Ballaarat Begonia Festival, which runs through Sunday, March 15.



Downtown Ballarat

There is no better city for this convention than Ballarat in the state of Victoria. Ask any Aussie gardener about Ballaarat, and he or she will certainly respond, "Beautiful Begonias."

Traditionally the begonias at Ballaarat have been tuberhybridas. These magnificent begonias are displayed in the conservatory at the Botanical Garden, situated on forty acres on the outskirts of the city along the shores of Lake Wendouree. The garden also features masses of semperflorens in the annual color beds.

Philip Clingin, Director of Gardens and Parks in Ballarat, says, "The Festival is now the oldest and most successful community festival in Australia, and contributes in excess of 3.5 million dollars to the local community annually." Each year between 40,000 and 50,000 visitors attend the festival and view the begonias.

Philip Clingin says, "These begonias are now grown in a new state-of-the-art multispan glasshouse, which features automatic venting, retractable shading, hailstone protection, and rolling benches." The hailstone protection was essential, since the old glasshouses dating from 1927 were destroyed in 1989 by a hailstorm.

The tuberous begonias are planted in September, which is early spring in the land down under. The gorgeous blooming plants are displayed in the conservatory from mid-February to mid-April. One hundred and twenty varieties are grown by begonia growers Wayne Walters and Myra Grinter.

The conservatory is a glasshouse with bleacher-like display stands. The blooming tuberhybrida and tuberhybrida pendula begonias are placed on these stands. Visitors view them through glass windows.



Above and right: tuberous begonias in the conservatory



Each year more and more of the "other" begonias are grown at Ballaarat ("other" meaning all begonias except the tuberhybridas). This year the Australian Begonia Societies will display begonia species and the best of Australian hybrids, with begonias from all eight horticultural classifications represented.

I have seen the really spectacular begonias the Aussies grow and hybridize. This will be a major begonia event. If possible, make plans to attend the begonia extravaganza on a trip to the big wondrous lands down under.

For more information, write Philip Clingin General Manager AABS Inc. P.O.Box 655 Ballarat, Vic. 3353 phone (053) 338-647 fax (053) 328-122 or Margaret Wright Secretary, Victorian Begonia Society, Inc. 'Maplewood' 74 Railway Place Macedon, Victoria 3440 phone: (054) 261-298

Don Miller lives at 1010 Mt. Auburn, Dallas TX 75223. He visited Ballaarat in April 1991.

Editor's note: sharp proof-readers will notice that Ballaarat is spelled two ways here. The city spells its name with three "a"s, the gardens use the older spelling with four.

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at right: ( from left to right) Philip Clingin, Wayne Walters, Myra Grinter





at left: the conservatory at Ballaarat Botanical Garden

### The Wild Wild East

Ballaarat is located 110 kilometers northwest of Melbourne in the Australian state of Victoria.

A gold rush in 1850 turned an Aboriginal campsite called Balla - arat into a boom town. It is said Ballarat's gold built Melbourne.

Peter Tobin, director of Sovereign Hill (a re-creation of a gold mining town of the mid-19th century) says, "At Golden Points you could pull up a clump of grass and shake the dirt off and gold would fall out. This aroused a keen interest in gardening."

Along with these new "gardeners" came plenty of bush rangers (outlaws) trying to make a fast buck.

Today Ballarat is Australia's largest inland city, with a population of more than 80,000 people. The town itself is filled with Australian Victorian architecture and most of the original downtown area, including its own Stock Exchange, has been restored to its original Victorian splendor.

The history of this beautiful city is good enough reason to visit. But with a begonia convention and festival to see also - well, you just must go down under. - Don Miller

## Begonia Species are Variable

by Jack Golding

#### All Begonia with the same specific epithet are not identical.

Begonia species growing in the wild have differences in their characters, even among those within the same population. Others of the same species growing in diverse locations may have even greater variations.

Most of the Begonia species we have in cultivation have been reproduced from a single plant collected in the wild many years ago. They appear the same because we have been seeing clones of that original plant again and again. When more plants of the same species are introduced from the wild, some think they are a new or different species because some of their characters may differ from those of the plants we know.

A collector upon discovering a population of Begonia may select the most typical plants of the group, but more often he will choose those with the most distinctive variations. It would be ideal if collectors took sufficient specimens to show all of the variants within the group, but most often they take only one or a few specimens.

Specimens from the same collection are often placed in several herbaria throughout the world. When trying to identify a species, its diversity can be observed by studying many specimens, not only from the original collection but also those from later collections.

The author of a name will base his protologue [everything identified with a name at its original valid publication, i. e. diagnosis and/or description, illustrations, references, synonymy, geographical data, citation of specimens, discussion, and comments] on the collected specimens. One will be designated as the type.

For a better understanding of the nomenclatural type of a name, these are a few rules from the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature, 1988:

Art. 7. 2. The nomenclatural type (typus) is that element to which the name of a taxon [a species] is permanently attached, whether as a correct name or as a synonym. The nomenclatural type is not necessarily the most typical or representative element of a taxon [a species].

Art. 7. 3. A **holotype** is the one specimen or illustration used by the author or designated by him as the nomenclatural type.

Art. 7. 5. A lectotype is a specimen or illustration selected from the original material to serve as a nomenclatural type when no holotype was indicated at the time of publication or as long as it is missing. When two or more specimens have been designated as types by the author of a specific or infraspecific name,..., the lectotype must be chosen from among them.

Rec. 7B. 3. Designation of a lectotype should be undertaken only in light of an understanding of the group concerned. In choosing a lectotype, all aspects of the protologue should be considered as a basic guide. Mechanical methods, such as the automatic selection of the first species or specimen cited or of a specimen collected by the person after whom a species is named, should be avoided as unscientific and productive of possible future confusion and further changes.

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Art. 25. 1. For nomenclatural purposes, a species or any taxon below the rank of species is regarded as the sum of its subordinate taxa, if any.

1

A species comprises not only the element represented in the original protologue (the type), but also all subsequent described variants [subspecies, varietas, forma] ascribed to that species. Hence, if the element now designated as a variant (variety and/or

form) had been discovered first it would have been the type and the element discovered later would have been named the variant.

The variant and the typical element of the species are biological equivalents, one is no more the species than the other.

The description of a species represented by the specific name encompasses the characters of the type and all its variants.

### The distinguishable variations of a species in cultivation can be identified by correct names.

The grouping of the variants of a species under one specific name is logical and practical for the botanist. However, a horticulturist needs to be able to name a distinguishable variant from others of the same species. This is not a problem, because these cultivated varieties of the species can also be identified by cultivar epithets.

These excerpts from the **International Code of Botanical Nomenclature-1988** concern the names of plants in cultivation:

Art. 28.1. Plants brought from the wild into cultivation retain the names that are applied to the same taxa growing in nature.

Note 2. Epithets published in conformity with the **International Code on Botanical Nomenclature** may be used as cultivar epithets under the rules of the **International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants** when this is considered to be an appropriate status for the groups concerned...

Begonia fischeri Schrank is a very variable species with many varieties and synonyms. They all have the same taxonomic status as the type element.

These following varieties of Begonia fischeri have correct names:

Begonia fischeri Schrank var. brevipilosa Irmscher.

Begonia fischeri Schrank var. crenato-glabra Irmscher.

Begonia fischeri Schrank var. crenulato-glabra Irmscher.

Begonia fischeri Schrank var. ermanii (Klotzsch) Irmscher.

Begonia fischeri Schrank var. klugii Irmscher.

Begonia fischeri Schrank var. macroptera (Klotzsch) Irmscher.

Begonia fischeri Schrank var. malvacea (Klotzsch) Irmscher.

Begonia fischeri Schrank var. palustris (Bentham) Irmscher.

When they are growing in cultivation, these varieties retain the same name they were called when growing in the wild, e.g. *B. fischeri* var. *brevipilosa*.

These excerpts from the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants-1980 concern cultivar epithets:

Art. 10. The international term *cultivar* denotes an assemblage of cultivated plants which is clearly distinguished by any characters (morphological, physiological, cytological, chemical, or others), and which, when reproduced (sexually or asexually), retains its distinguishing characters.

Art. 27a. A cultivar name published on or after January 1959, must, except as noted in (b) and (c) below [both involve epithets of botanical names published before or after 1959], be a fancy name, that is, not a botanical name in Latin form.

Art. 27b. A botanical epithet in Latin form, published in conformity with the botanical Code, before, on, or after 1 January 1959, for a plant subsequently considered fo be a cultivar, **is to be retained as a cultivar name** unless it duplicates existing cultivar name of the species or hybrid concerned.

Art. 29. A cultivar name, when immediately following a botanical name or common name, must be distinguished clearly from the latter, either by placing the abbreviation cv. before the cultivar name, or by some typographical device, preferably by enclosing it within single quotation marks...

In languages in which capital letters are used, these are required for the initial letter of all words of a cultivar name, except when linguistic usage demands otherwise...

A cultivar epithet can be used for any plant that conforms with Article 10 of the Cultivated Code, not, as some think, only the hybrids or plants that arose in cultivation.

The following name of varieties of *Begonia fischeri* Schrank were validly published, but were later determined to be synonyms of *Begonia fischeri* Shcrank:

Begonia fischeri Schrank var. brasiliensis (Klotsch) Irmscher.

Begonia fischeri Schrank var. elata (Klotzsch) Irmscher.

Begonia fischeri Schrank var. eufischeri Irmscher.

Begonia fischeri Schrank var. moritziana (Klotzsch) Irmscher

Begonia fischeri Schrank var. tovarensis (Klotzsch) Irmscher.

When growing in cultivation these varieties **should not** retain the same name they were once called. However, since these names are no longer accepted by botanists, these former varieties, if distinguishable in cultivation, can be identified by a cultivar name. The prior varietal epithets are used as cultivar epithets, e.g., *Begonia fischeri* 'Brasiliensis'.

If epithets had been used for species (Begonia partita Irmscher, Begonia suffruticosa Meisner, Begonia suffruticosa Meisner f. bolusii Irmscher) that were later determined to be synonyms of another species (Begonia dregei Otto & Dietrich) and they are distinctive in cultivation, they are identified by using the previous epithets as cultivar epithets, e.g.,

Begonia dregei 'Partita'

Begonia dregei 'Suffruticosa'

Begonia dregei 'Suffruticosa Bolusii'

A variation of *Begonia dregei* was found in cultivation at the Botanical gardens, Glasgow, Scotland and was distributed to other growers. It is identified by the cultivar name *Begonia dregei* 'Glasgow'.

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While all elements of a Begonia species are not the same, even the most variable species can be recognized by the study and understanding of the author's protologue, herbarium specimens, later citations, and by the comparison of living plants. The distinguishable variants of a species in cultivation are named with cultivar epithets.

I thank Dr. Dan Nicolson (Smithsonian Institution) and Carrie Karegeannes (ABS Nomenclature Director) for our discussions and their critiques of my preliminary manuscript.

Long-time Nomenclature Department member and Nomenclature Editor for the Begonian Jack Golding presented a seminar on species variability and nomenclature at the ABS Convention in September. He lives at 33 Ingram Drive, Cranbury NJ 08512-4641.

### In the News ...

Begonia 'Shiloh' had its picture taken and appeared in the <u>Dallas Morning News</u> House & Garden section on October 25, 1991 in an article by Julie Ryan entitled "Black Magic." Mentioned also were "black-leaved" begonias 'Joe Hayden' and 'Concord', recommended by **Don Miller**.

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### In Memory

Ralph Reno, long-time and much loved member of the Edna Stewart Branch, died October 17, 1991. Ralph built the begonia barn which we used at the May Market, year after year. He was always there to put it up and take it down, and tell us how to put it together. We share Marie's sorrow and offer our deepest sympathy.

The Potting Shed, newsletter of Edna Stewart Branch

K. Mose Fadeem died October 20, 1991. Author, artist, researcher, gardener, Mose was active in many areas of begonia study. Members will remember his many articles for this magazine and his study projects involving members across the country and abroad.

Hugh McLauchlan remembers Mose as "so knowledgeable and professional in everything he did...he had such a unique style in his writing...having a Churchillian flair for the use and charm of the English language...He will be sadly missed but never forgotten by all who knew him."

As Technical Editor of the **Begonian** Mose solicited manuscripts, edited technical materials, and corresponded with members and institutions world-wide. His letters were always a delight, and will be saved and savored by many who, on learning of his death, exclaimed "But I had a letter just ready to send him!"

Mose'contributions were legion, and his curiosity, learning, and wit will be sorely missed.

Donations in his memory may be made to his favorite garden: La Mirada, c/o Kate Deterle, 720 Via Mirada, Monterey CA 93940. - Tamsin Boardman

#### **Book Review:**

Maurice Curry reviews

Gardening from the Heart: Why Gardeners Garden by Carol Olwell Antelope Island Press, 1990 \$18.95

Carol Olwell remembers helping her Grandmother grow vegetables for the family, and flowers that they both loved. Some years later, when her first few gardens resulted in a lot of hard work with poor results, she began to wonder and reflect on why gardeners in fact do garden. Her book is a summary of interviews with about two dozen gardeners and beautiful photographs of their gardens.

Each of the gardeners had a slightly different reason for gardening. Some created their gardens for beauty and a love of plants, some as a means of earning a living through food production. For many it was for an understanding of nature and the process of life on this planet earth and society as the caretaker of Earth.

There are professional gardeners who start out for fun, and profit by marketing their produce or teaching horticulture. Found among her gardeners are tree gardeners for fruit; landscape gardeners for parks, homes, and highways; professionals for greenhouse and nursery operators; county agents advising the public and farmers on how to garden or on experimental plant production. Her book is for all these, and for those who garden for their health, as prisoners on the county pea farm (there's a section in the book on working

with inmates), or just for the fun of being out in the sun and playing in the dirt (like me).

Some gardeners begin as children, helping their parents care for the family garden. Others marry a gardener and become partners in the garden - willingly or otherwise; some are late bloomers, so to speak, only gardening after retirement. Many talented people approach a garden as an art form, and create a thing of beauty in a landscape or a secluded nook where they can relax and enjoy their surroundings.

Gardening can be a challenge to those who garden in extreme conditions, such as the desert or the cold conditions of Alaska, and the book covers the difficulties and the solutions. Space available can be a challenge also: one gardener, not content with her own garden space, made a deal with an elderly neighbor to do the neighbor's gardening if allowed to choose the plants that she wanted but had no room for in her own garden!

There are an estimated seventy million gardening households in the United States: men, women, and children working in different soils and climates for love or necessity, and as a gardener you will recognize yourself among the many gardeners in this book - hopefully, not as one on the county pea farm!

Maurice Curry, a Master Gardener, maintains a beautiful acre-and-a-half garden, part natural (with native plants and a seasonal stream and waterfall), and part cultivated. His address is P.O. Box 1232, Weatherford TX 76086.





### THE AMERICAN TVY 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, hardiness testing, life-sized photos of ivies. Memberships: General \$15; Institutional \$25; Commercial \$50. Information: The American Ivy Society, PO. Box 520, West Carrollton, OH 45449-0520.

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#### **BEGONIAN INDEX 1991**

#### 1991 TOPICS AT A GLANCE

**Jan-Feb**: B. U126; ancestral leaf form; chromosome counting; year in life of tuber; Fort Worth Botanic Garden; Malaysian expedition; rex leaf propagation; U# listing 152-159

March-April: aesthetic arrangement, rhiz. begonias; conserving older hybrids; U# listing 160-177

**May-June**: Barkley Collection; growing around the country; pH; species list, conservation; *B. conchifolia* var. *rubrimacula*; flowering leaves; seeds amplified; Australian hybridizers

**July-August**: hybridizing; Daisy Plant Farm; high humidity begonias; Dr. Fred Barkley; growing in styrofoam boxes; rexes; *B. decora*; 2nd Australian convention; SWR Get-Together

**September-October**: Hugh McLauchlan; sinus; U# listing 178-186; pine cone begonias; winter survival; baking soda; cold frame; B. 'Ginny'; Washbourn Garden; B. *cathayana*; scented begonias

#### November-December:

Convention 1991; Glasgow Botanic Garden; Sydney Tropical Center; inventory & back-up cuttings; *B. subscutata* 

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## A Garden in Scotland

Seminar review by D. J. Aikin

Scots are "very keen" on gardening, according to Hugh McLauchlan, and, as he demonstrated in a slide talk at the 1991 ABS Convention, some of them are very, very good at it! Known to many ABS members as a grower of tuberous begonias, Hugh is also a prize-winning photographer, a member of the Rose Society, the Gladiolus Society, the Dahlia Society, the National Vegetable Society, and the Scottish Begonia Society as well as ABS.

Calling his talk "A Garden in Scotland," Hugh offered a year-long guided tour through his garden in Bishopsbridge, Scotland, located north of Glasgow, 20 minutes drive from the Botanic Gardens. Beginning with early spring flowers and continuing through rhododendron, roses, perennials, vegetables, summer-flowering bulbs and espaliered fruit trees to the snow-covered branches of winter, he emphasized the role of color and the thrifty use of space.

Summer in Scotland lasts only three months, but the sun comes up at 5 a.m. and does not set until 10:30 or 11:00 p.m. Noting that a garden reflects the care or disregard of the gardener and you get out of it what you put in, Hugh showed some of the methods he uses to get extra-special results - including prize-winning carrots and parsnips grown individually in drainpipes filed with a special compost. After 30 years, his soil is enriched to a depth of more than 2 feet, but the drainpipes enable him to grow perfect carrots and parsnips 3 or more feet long! Not to mention onions more than 17 inches in diameter.

Hugh has three greenhouses where he grows tuberous begonias to perfection, ruthlessly discarding those whose blossoms don't reach 9 inches in diameter. When the buds are ready to open, he places a 10inch collar of cardboard behind the bud to keep it from being damaged by the foliage. Although many growers pinch the other buds to produce one super large terminal bloom, Hugh likes to produce a clump of large blooms on a plant. About 3 weeks before his tuberous begonias reach their peak of bloom, Hugh moves them to what he calls his "begonia shelter," a 12 x 14 ft. structure with a PVC top and open sides lined with shelves. The additional shading and cooler temperatures (12° cooler than the greenhouses) help the blooms maintain their color and slow aging.

Hugh showed some of the many tuberous varieties he grows, including one of his own hybrids, B. 'Mrs. McLauchlan', that took a prize as "best seedling" four years ago. He also grows other begonias - from 'Lucerna' and 'Charm' to 'Illsley', *cubensis*, 'Little Brother Montgomery', U. 008, and *sutherlandii*. A 12 ft. long humidifier, double-glazed, with under-soil heating, is used to carry difficult plants through the winter.

Hugh is "very organic," and doesn't use "any chemicals I've no use for." To eat slugs - the bane of many an outdoor begonia grower's existence - he recommends a frog.

When he talks to horticultural organizations, Hugh encourages them to learn how to use a camera. And when he talks to camera clubs, he tells them, "All right, now go get yourself a garden!" If only all our gardens came equipped with a gardener like Hugh McLauchlan!

D. J. Aikin is a member of the Potomac Branch, and was Show Chair for the 1991 Convention. Her address is 14301 Cantrell Road, Silver Springs MD 20905. Exploring the World of Begonias

### "From Prop Box to Show"

Seminar review by Sue Hessel

Mary Bucholtz' seminar "From Prop Box to Show" could also have been entitiled "Showing is Sharing and Caring!" She gave us a neat timetable to prepare our plants for show and some different and environmentally sound suggestions for propping.

Five months before a show, choose your potential entries and isolate them in a space large enough for good air circulation (this helps in preventing mildew and strengthening leaves and stems). Now start caring, repotting, pinching (flowers too), feeding, staking, and grooming. Vary the mildew spray - one recipe is 2 teaspoons of baking soda to 1 gallon of water. If rhizomes are crawling out of the pot, pinch or bend them around inside of the pot and stake them in place for a few weeks. Also feed them with a high phosphorus fertilizer (phosphorus is the middle number on the fertilizer container).

Two months before the show, give your plants the maximum amount of light they can use. If the weather has warmed, foliar feeding may begin. Canes get higher phosphorus once a week now.

One month before the show, trim your stakes, clean the pots (with vinegar and water), and clean foliage (with dishwashing liquid in water, or Safer soap).

A few days before the show water well, trim minor damage on leaf edges with scissors (making sure to follow the leaf shape). Apply a fresh dressing of top soil.

When you arrive at the show, water your plants and do a final dusting and cleaning.

Now go back to the showing is sharing. For five months you've been pinching - with sterile scissors! - and propagating! Always remember to label everything with a waterproof pen as you go along. Make labels from a cut-up bleach bottle - you can use the bottom of the bottle as a saucer, and the top as a funnel, too.

Ways to prop are:

1. in water:

This method is good for canes and some leaves. When roots are 1/2 - 1" long, add vermiculite/perlite to the water a few days before potting to help keep roots from balling up.

2. in prop boxes:

Leaf cutings - leave 1-2" of stem. Set so the leaf doesn't touch the medium.

Semps - must have side branches to get a full plant.

Rhizomes - cut so they're not twisted. Make sure you put the down side down. Hold with a hairpin and pinch out the growing tip.

3. paper towels in prop boxes:

Moisten towels (approximately 4); place leaves on them, with the labels beside the leaves. Roots should appear in around 3 weeks. If you need to re-moisten towels do so from the edge - don't worry if roots stick to the towels, just pot the towel, too.

When plants are rooted, open the prop box around 1" for a week. Keep sliding the lid off gradually to harden the plants. After potting, leave pots on moistened spaghnum, perlite, or vermiculite for added humidity.

Make sure each plant is labeled, and share them at the show with all those who "oooh and aaah" over their parents - which hopefully have won blue ribbons, trophies, and maybe even a cultural award.

Sue Hessel, president of Knickerbocker Branch, won the Photography Division at the 1991 Convention. Several of her photos have appeared as **Begonian** covers. She lives at 14 Sutton Place South, New York NY 10022.

The Begonian

### **Unidentified Begonia Species List**

Thelma O'Reilly, Project Director

The ABS Nomenclature Department maintains a list of unidentified species. These are assigned numbers precede by "U" (for unidentified).

Your cooperation is important for supplying information, including observations, photographs, slides, or drawings, for this group. Any shared information will be appreciated. Please contact Thelma O'Reilly, 10942 Sunray Place, La Mesa CA 91941.

The references in parentheses are to the **Begonian**, year: Seed Fund number or page.

#### B. U187

Venezuela. Seed collected by Scott Hoover in Pittier National Park, 1980. Tuberous. Stemless. Leaf blades green with red spot at blade-petiole juncture, 4 x 6 inches, broadly ovate, acute, finely pubescent, marginally dentate. Inflorescence emerges from top of tuber. Staminate flowers pink, five (rarely four) serrulateciliate, finely pubescent tepals. Pistillate flowers pink, five (rarely six) unequal, broadly elliptic, ciliate-serrulate, finely pubesent tepals, three unequal wings with largest oblong and ascending. Tentatively identified by Thelma O'Reilly and Carrie Karegeannes as Begonia quetamensis Smith & Schubert. Verified by Dr. Lyman B. Smith with the following information; In Phytologia 54 (no., 7): 469 (Jan 1984), Lyman Smith and Dieter Wasshausen made B. quetamensis S & S = B. novogranatae A. DC 1864. Note: For additional information see "A Scott Hoover Collection - Begonia U187 Identified as Begonia novogranatae" by T. O'Reilly Begonian 1985: 73-76.

#### B. U188

Alturas de Echarate, Peru. Seed supplied to Seed Fund by Professor J. D. Doorenbos, 1985. Original seed, distributed by Jack Golding, was collected by R. Chavez (no. 1701). Habitat Sub-tropical, humid forest, acid soil, Elevation 1450m. (1986: 48-72; 1988: 173; 1989: 188-189.) Thick-stemmed. This species has the peculiar habit of producing a fine pubescence

on all parts of plant, with the exception of stipules and inner surfaces of tepals, that feels sticky (dry) to the touch. Stems green with red lenticels, pubescent. Leaf blades medium green, 4 x 6 inches, both surfaces pubescent. Stipules pale green, 3/4 inch, deciduous. Staminate flowers white, two (rarely three) tepals, forming an a cluster at apices of peduncles. Peduncles green, 3 inches, pubescent. Pedicels white, 1/2 inch, pubescent.

#### B. U189

Africa. Live plant material labeled J. D. 1575 received by Mildred Thompson from Prof. Doorenbos, 1985. Rhizomatous. Section Scutobegonia. Leaf blades medium green, peltate.

#### B. U190

New Guinea. Live plant material labeled J. D. 1007 received by Mildred Thompson from Prof. Doorenbos, 1985. Shrub-like, Leaf blades reddish.

#### B. U191

Paete, Philippines. Seed collected by Carling, 1985. Imported by Martin Johnson. Shrub-like. Climber to 2m. Flowers white.

#### B. U192

Bicol, Philippines. Live plant purchased and imported by M. Johnson. Plant was given to Bob Haussler and Joan Coulat for propagation and distribution. Trailingscandent. Stems 12-16 inches, reddish, lenticellate, glabrous. Leaf blades rosepink with areas of yellow-green splashes at main nerves on upper surfaces, glabrous, openly cordate, ovate, 3 x 3 1/2 inches with finely dentate, ciliate, rippled margins, undersurface glabrous with short, bristly red hairs. Leaf blades glimmer and glow with a sparkling, silvery sheen. Petioles red with sparsely scattered hairs. Stipules 1 1/4 x 1/2 inches, tan with red nerves, persistent. Staminate flowers white, sometimes flushed pink, 4 tepals, 3/4 x 3/4 inches. Pistillate flowers like staminate

flowers, ovary green, wings pink. Peduncles pink, 8-9 inches. Greenhouse or terrarium conditions recommended. For additional information see 'Martin's Mystery Begonia" by Thelma O'Reilly **Begonian** 1988: 1-5-6.

#### B. 193

Chiriqui Province, Panama. Seed collected by Roberto Brin from Lagunas Volcan, Baru area, 1986. Habitat: Clay banks around the lagoons of tropical rain forest. Elevation 4910'. Temperature range 50-60F. (1986: 70-71; 1989: 153-154; 1990: 154-155.) Rhizomatous. Leaf blades green, 8 x 5 inches, marginally serrate-ciliate with prominent "drip points." Flowers white.

#### B. U194

Chiriqui Province, Panama. Seed collected by R. Brin from Lagunas Volcan, Baru area, 1986. Habitat: Clay banks around lagoons of tropical rain forest. Elevation 4910'. Temperature range 50-60F. (1986: 70-71; 1989: 68-69; 1990: 142.) Rhizomatous. Leaf blades dark green, 7 x 4 inches, upper surfaces hirsute, lower surfaces glabrous with narrow scales on nerves, marginally ciliate-serrulate, cordate, asymmetrical. Petioles green flushed red, ovate, keeled. Staminate flowers white, with two tepals (sometimes three.) Tentatively identified as *B. urophylla* by T. O'Reilly.

#### B. U195

Chiriqui Province, Panama. Seed collected by R. Brin from Delgados Cattle Farm, 1986. Habitat: Clay banks along tree-covered creek on the farm. Elevation 4910'. Temperature range 50-60F. (1986: 70; 1989: 68069.) Rhizomatous. Leaf blades green, 7 x 6 inches, drip points marginally. Flowers white.

#### B. U196

Chiriqui Province. Panama. Seed collected by R. Brin from Delgados Cattle Farm, 1986. Habitat: Clay banks along tree-covered creek on the farm. Elevation 4910'. Temperature range 50-60F. (1986: 70; 1989: 68-69.) Rhizomatous. Leaf blades

green, 6 x 5 inches, drip points marginally. Flowers white.

#### B. U197

Chiriqui Province, Panama. Seed collected by R. Brin from Cerro Punta, Baru Volcan area, 1986. Habitat: Begonia was covering a tree at the edge of a trail. Elevation 6200'. Temperature range 50-60F. Also collected at Rio Sereno. (1986: 70-71; 1989: 68-69.) Trailing-scandent. Leaf blades green, 5 x 2 1/2 inches, asymmetrical, penninerved. Flowers white.

#### B. U198

Chiriqui Province, Panama. Seed collected by R. Brin from Delgado Cattle Farm, 1986. Habitat: Clay banks along tree-covered creek. Elevation 4910'. Temperature range 50-60F. (1986: 70; 1989: 68-69.) Rhizomatous. Leaf blades green, 6 x 3 inches, marginally serrated. Flowers white.

#### B. U199

Chiriqui Province, Panama. Seed collected by R. Brin at Bambito, 1986. Habitat: Slopes of Baru Volcano near a small river in the tropical rain forest. Elevation 5250'. Temperature range 50-60F. Also collected at Delgado Cattle Farm in Volcan. (1986: 70-71; 1989: 68-69.) Shrublike. Leaf blades green, 5 x 2 1/2 inches, penninerved, marginally serrulate. Flowers white.

#### B. U200

Chiriqui Province, Panama. Seed collected by R. Brin about five miles beyond Volcan, 1986. Elevation 3200'. Temperature range 60-80F. (1986: 70.) Rhizomatous. Leaf blades green, 9 x 6 inches. Flowers white.

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## BULLETIN BOARD ABS News

### **President Resigns**

President Jeannette Gilbertson resigned, citing increased work duties. The Board accepted her resignation with regret and First Vice-president Carol Notaras moved up to the presidency.

## You're Invited to a Party!

The Mother Chapter is having a party. Long Beach Parent Chapter of the ABS is having a party to celebrate our 60th anniversary on January 16th, 1992 at the Huntingdon National Bank, 9025 Artesia Blvd. in Bellflower, California. Rudy Ziesenhenne will be the guest speaker. We are extending an invitation to all. Come join us!

### **Directory Update**

President of Monterey Bay Area Branch is William Schramm, 17 Calera Canyon, Salinas CA 93908. The branch meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Monterey Senior Center, Dickman & Lighthouse Sts. in Monterey.

# Moving? Don't forget to let the Membership Chair know so you won't miss an issue!

### "Captivating Canes"

"Captivating Canes" will be the theme of the 1992 ABS Convention to be held August 19-24 at the Inn at the Park in Anaheim, California. Host branch is Orange county, and co-chairmen are Elda Regimbal, Mary Sakamoto, and Brad Thompson.

As part of their attempt to have as many canes as possible represented at the convention, the chairmen have requested that members throughout the country send cuttings of their favorite canes to be propagated for the sale and for use as decorations. Send cuttings to:

Elda Regimbal 3117 San Juan Dr. Fullerton, CA 92652 (and thank you very much!)

### Hoover Expedition Postponed

Scott Hoover's Asian expedition departure has been delayed because of his duties at the proposed New England Conservatory.

He expects to be making the trip within six months, and asks that donations be held until a new departure date is announced.

## Northwest Region Calls It Quits

It is to my sorrow that we could not get the NWR organized. There were many people interested in joining, but no one wanted to help. Two people could not do it all.

So we have called it quits, and turned our treasury (\$262.95) over to ABS' general fund.

We sincerely hope that one day someone will tackle the job and NWR will become a reality.

- Arlene Ingles, Membership Chair

### **CONSERVATION NEWS:**

Getting 'up to speed' on global issues

All our lovely begonia cultivars have come from species collected in the wild. The attempts to locate species in private collections have been chronicled in previous **Begonians**. Despite such good works locally, we are losing globally.

Rainforests, the home of begonias in the wild, are being depleted. Timber concessionaires in the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, and southeast Asia are harvesting all the hardwoods for export.

These are not necessarily cash poor nations; there are many instances of indigenous peoples trying to stand up to the politicians, the military and the very wealthy who have contrived to sell the forests. Their laws are designed to thwart those who have no power nor the ability to understand such laws.

In Central and South America, the clearing of forests is for creating crop land to feed burgeoning populations, or so cheap beef can be raised on the new, temporary grass, mostly for export.

Independent journalists and scientists are studying the problems of the rainforest. Their studies are accessible in numerous publications available at your local public library: A 'digest' of these issues is in the periodicals of the conservation organizations, e.g. Sierra Club, Audubon, World Wildlife Fund, National & International Wildlife, & Cultural Survival.

Also, book reviews in the Sunday papers can guide you to topical and timely reading. Here are two books to check out right away: Stranger in the Forest, by Eric Hansen (recommended to me by Ed Bates), and Into the Amazon, by Augusta Dwyer. We'll discuss these and more next issue.

-- Bruce C. Boardman

### Orange County Branch Scores with "Begonia Fiesta"

by Virginia Carlson

For several years, the Orange County Branch of ABS has sponsored a Begonia Fiesta during the summer. Fun, Fellowship, and Food are important parts of the Fiesta, but we also have new and unusual begonias for sale, and door prizes - all kinds of plants and plant-related items.

In 1991 the event was planned for August in Elda Regimbal's back yard, in spite of the water shortage. Thankfully, it rained buckets in March so we weren't faced with some of the problems we anticipated. We even had one of those unusual summer drizzles the morning of the event.

We sold tickets as the Mexican food was catered. The Fiesta was publicized throughout the area through branch newsletters and word-of-mouth, and about 150 Begonia lovers came (some from as far away as San Diego, The Palos Verdes peninsula, and Colton) to see Elda's begonias and other plantings, meet with other begonia fanatics, and acquire some new plants.

Door prizes were solicited from members and businesses, and members donated some specimen plants for an auction. Don Case got top dollar for the auction items.

The Fiesta was a success in the usual categories of Fun, Fellowship, and Food, with the bonus of some added Funds with which to plan activities for the 1992 convention, "Captivating Canes."

Virginia Carlson is editor of <u>Begonias</u>, <u>Begorra!</u>, newsletter of the Orange County Branch. Her address is 1137 N. Highland Fullerton, CA 92635.

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#### **CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND NOTES**

Diana H. Gould, Seed Fund Director January-February 1992

The 1991 Convention Listing is now available and will be mailed free of charge with all seed orders, or it can be requested by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Seed Fund Director.

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

The Seed Fund thanks Roberto Brin, Michele Cole, Jackie Davis, Lynda Goldsmith, Jan Goodwin, Jake Hafer, John Howell, Doug Jensne, Eiichii Kawamata, Naomi Lynch, Wanda Macnair, Evie McDuff, Karan Myers, Joy Porter, Pat Sage, Lillian Stone, our anonymous donors, and the international exchanges for making this offering possible, and a very special thank you to Steve Coppins, Ann Moses, and Lillian Stone for their generous and unselfish labors on behalf of the Seed Fund.

#### Notes on Seeds Offered: Rhizomatous

B. carrieae (Mexico) has velvety-textured, large, lobed leaves that are a medium-green, puckered, and have an unusual surface. The stems and petioles are a paler green, and the flowers are white.

B. crassicaulis comes to us from Guatemala. It goes into semi-dormancy in winter, losing its heavily incised leaves, and the white blooms appear before the new leaves.

B. crispula (Brazil) has distinctive foliage, requires terrarium care, has medium-sized medium-green leaves with a puckered surface and scattered hairs giving a rough surface. It has a creeping growth pattern and is SLOW to grow and send up its yellow flowers.

B. deliciosa (Borneo) is classified as an upright because its rhizomes are ioined at or below the soil line. It has erect stems and fragrant light pink flowers. B. fenicis (Philippines) has large, dark-green, glossy, broad, heart-shaped leaves with serrated margins that have tiny points at the nerve endings, and pink flowers. B. gehrtii (Brazil) has distinctive foliage, large medium-green puckered leaves with green stems and petioles and white flowers. It requires terrarium care in some areas.

B. glandulosa (Mexico; synonyms: dayi hort., hidalgensis) has mediumthick, waxy, dark green leaves with black veining and red reverse. Petioles are light-green and late winter flowers greenishwhite. See Begonian March-April 1990 p. 61 for article and photo.

B. goegoensis (Sumatra) requires terrarium care, has distinctive foliage with large brownish leaves with green

veining, pebbly texture and patterning. Stems and petioles are green, flowers are pink from winter to spring. B. hatacoa (India) is a variable species and it is possible that plants with spotted leaves, silver leaves, or plain green leaves will grow from the same batch of seeds. Please adivse what type of leaves you get from the seed, and whether the markings change as the plant gets older. B hatacoa 'Silver' hort, requires high humidity and is upright with medium-green spearshaped leaves and a silver coating; B. hatacoa 'Spotted' hort, shares the need for higher humidity, has the same growth pattern and leaf shape, with silverspotted green leaves. We also offer seed from India came labeled rubrovenia, a synonym for hatacoa; leaf shape and growth pattern are the same, but markings are elongated, very silvery, very irregular.

B. hydrocotylifolia (Mexico) has small green leaves, a creeping growth pattern, and rose-pink flowers.

B. imperialis var. smaragdina (Mexico) requires terrarium care. It has distinctive foliage, pustular type, large medium-green leaves and white flowers.

B. lyman-smithii (Mexico) has a repent rhizome. Leaf blades are oblique, asymmetrically obovate to ovate

or broadly elliptic with cordate base, tip rounded to acute, upper surface dark green and lower surface deep red, dentate to undulate at ends of the major nerves. Flowers are pink.

B. masoniana (China) has large green roundish leaves with a distinctive surface and a brown "Iron Cross" marking that gives it its popular name. Flowers are white.

B. nigritarum (Philippines) requires terrarium care. It has distinctive foliage, medium- green silver-patterned leaves and profuse pink-tinted white flowers.

B. paulensis (Brazil) has distinctive foliage, large medium-green puckered leaves and creamy white flowers.

B. pringlei (Mexico) has small lobed green leaves. B. pustulata requires terrarium care, has distinctive foliage, pustular type, a creeping growth pattern, and rose-pink flowers.

B. U100 (Panama) has pale green hairy leaves and pinkish-white flowers.

B. U254 (Brazil) has been grown for years under the name "acetosa." How this tiny charmer ever became confused with the true acetosa, which grows to over 6 ft., is one of the mysteries of begonia nomenclature. B. U254 has distinctive foliage, with very thick, dark green velvetytextured roundish leaves with deep red undersides, and very fine abundant red hairs. Flowers are pinkishwhite. See Begonian Nov.-Dec '89 p. 228 for a discussion of the confused nomenclature.

#### Shrub-like

*B. acida* (Brazil) is a compact grower with distinctive foliate and white flowers.

B. acutifolia (Caribbean; syn. acuminata) has small bare green leaves and profuse white flowers tinted with deep pink.

B. alice-clarkiae (Mexico) has distinctive foliage, sparse and beautiful white flowers, and is very difficult to grow.

*B. annobonensis* (Tropical Africa) has medium-green hairy wide leaves and white flowers.

B. bracteosa (Peru) has bare medium-green leaves and rose flowers.

B. convallariodora (Guatemala) has medium-sized oval green leaves and grows to a possible height of 2-3 feet. Its white flowers have a similar fragrance to the Lily of the Valley.

B epipsila (Brazil) has medium-sized bare mediumgreen leaves and very fragrant white flowers.

B. fernando-costae (Brazil) has large wide hairy medium-green leaves and white flowers.

B. foliosa (northern South America) requires high humidity. It has small mediumgreen bare leaves with red stems and petioles and red reverse veining and small white flowers. B. foliosavar. putzeysiana (Colombia) is similar in appearance but has waxy leaves.

B. fuchsioides (Venezuela-Colombia) has small medium-green bare leaves and red-orange flowers.

B. holtonis (Venezuela; syn foliosa var. amplifolia) re sembles the B. foliosa group, but has larger thicke leaves. It will grow to 3 ft tall.

B. incisa (Philippines) re quires terrarium care. It has a fern-like appearance, is easy to grow, and has me dium-green leaves with recundersides and reddish stems, branches easily, and has white flowers.

B. odeteiantha (Brazil) has medium-sized, medium green bare leaves and white flowers.

B. scharffiana (Brazil) has wide, hairy, medium-greer leaves, requires staking fo a well-shaped plant, but car also have a picturesque appearance when growr semi-erect as a basket plan with its ivory-colored flowers from summer through fall. B. U008 has small, round medium-green hairy leaves and flowers that turn rose colored in strong light.

#### Trailing-scandent

B. ampla (Tropical Africa has white flowers with pale orange fruits in summer. B. glabra (Central America has medium-green wax)

has medium-green waxy leaves, light green stems and petioles, with undersides light green brushed slightly with red. Flowers are white. Also offered is seed labeled B. U167 (Panama) which has been identified as *B. glabra*. It has red stems and petioles and reddish pink flowers.

B. loranthoides (Tropica Africa) is an epiphyte with medium-sized thick and

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#### B. loranthoides

leathery dark green leaves with red reverse, woody stems, pink petioles, and pink-tinted white flowers.

B. glaucophylla is a synonym of B. radicans. Its leaves are deeply unequally cordate, bright green with white spots above and purple underneath. It has many small pale pink flowers.

#### Semperflorens

B. cucullata (Brazil) has white flowers. B. cucullata var. arenosicola (Argentina) is "distinguished by the narrowly elliptic leaves rounded at the tip, narrow, unequally cuneate at the base, and the larger subentire roundly obtuse stipules" (Jack Golding), and B. cucullata var.

spatulata (Brazil) has small medium-green leaves and is everblooming with profuse white flowers.

B. hirtella (Brazil) has thick waxy puckered mediumgreen leaves and white flowers.

B. schmidtiana (Brazil) is a compact grower with small soft green hairy leaves and pale-pink flowers.

B. subvillosa (Brazil) requires high light, and B. subvillosa var. leptotricha (Paraguay), known in horticulture as "woolly bear", is similar with white flowers. B. wallichiana (Mexico) is a schmidtiana-type and has pink flowers.

#### Thick-stemmed

B. dipetala (India) has hairy medium-sized green leaves with fragrant white flowers.

B. involucrata (Costa Rica) requires high humidity, has large hairy medium-green leaves and profusely fragrant white-pink flowers.

B. multinervia (Central America) has large leaves and white flowers tinted with pink. Blooms appear January through spring.

B. U115 (Panama) requires high humidity, has green leaves with red undersides, reddish stems and petioles, and reddish-pink flowers. B. U115 has been tentatively identified as *B. multinervia*. Growers report some differences.

B. sericoneura (Central America; syn. pilifera) is described as non-ramified, trunk-like with fragrant white flowers and medium-green leaves.

#### Cane-like

B. coccinea (Brazil) is intermediate in height and has coral-red flowers.

B. lubbersii (Brazil) is lowgrowing with medium-green leaves and fragrant white flowers.

#### Tuberous

B. brevibracteata (Malawi) grows 30-90 cm. tall, has a glabrous stem, is sparingly branched; leaf blades are ovate-acute to acuminate and margins distinctly serrate. Flowers are white or palest pink.

#### Unclassified

I have neither classification nor description for B. U250.



### **CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND LISTING**

The Seed Fund is a service to 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 50c each; a pamphlet on growing from seed is 25c.

All orders must be accompanied by check or money order payable ONLY in US funds to The Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund.

Costs of Mailing:

U.S. only: 1-12 packets, 99c; 13-24, \$1.35; 25-36, \$1.71; 37-48 (2 cans), \$2.30; 49-60, \$2.66.

Canada only: 1-12 packets, \$1.10; 13-24, \$1.46; 25-36, \$1.82; 27-48 (2 cans), \$2.35; 49-60, \$2.71.

Mexico only: 1-12 packets, \$1.15; 13-24, \$1.51; 25-36, \$1.87; 37-48 (2 cans), \$2.50; 49-60, \$2.81.

All other international mail: 1-12 packets, \$1.85; 13-24, \$2.68; 25-36, \$3.68; 37-48,

\$4.68; 49-60, \$5.68. Two sets of planter dishes, in US only: \$1.20

Two sets & 1-12 packets, \$1.80; and 13-24, \$2.40; 25-36, \$3.00; 37-48, \$3.60; 49-60, \$4.20.

These mailing costs include the costs of postage, mailers, and glasine seed envelopes.

California residents please add 7 3/4% sales tax to all orders.

Please send your order with payment to:

Ms. Diana H. Gould 9278 Mapleview Way Elk Grove, CA 95758 U.S.A.

#### species seed \$1 per packet

B. acida\*\*\*

B. acutifolia

B. alice-clarkiae

B. ampla\*\*\*

B. annobonensis\*\*\*

B. bracteosa

B. brevibracteata

B. carrieae

B. coccinea

B. convallariodora\*\*

B. crassicaulis

B. crispula\*\*\*

B. cucullata

B. cucullatavar. arenosicola

B. cucullata var. spathulata

B. gladulosa

B. deliciosa

B. dipetala

B. epipsila
B. fenicis\*\*\*

B. fernando-costae

B. foliosa

B. foliosa var. putzeysiana

B. fuchsioides

B. gehrtii

B. glabra

B. goegoensis

B. hatacoa

B. hatacoa 'Silver'

B. hatacoa 'Spotted'

B. hirtella

B. holtonis

B. hydrocotylifolia

B. imperialis var.

smaragdina\*\*\*

B. incisa\*\*\*

B. involucrata\*\*\*

B. loranthoides\*\*\*

B. lubbersii

B. lyman-smithii

B. masoniana

B. multinervia

B. nigritarum\*\*\*

B. odetiantha

B. paulensis\*\*\*

B. pringlei\*\*\*

B. pustulata

B. radicans

B. scharffiana\*\*\*

B. schmidtiana

B sericoneura

B. subvillosa

B. subvillosavar. leptotricha

B. wallichiana

B. U008

B. U100\*\*\*

B. U115

B. U167

B. U250

D. U250

B. U254\*\*\*

mixed species

mixed tuberous species



B. fuchsioides

#### hybrid seed 50c per packet

mixed canes\*\*\*
mixed "Frillies"
mixed rexes\*\*\*
mixed rhizomatous
mixed semps
mixed tuberhybridas
mixed Mickey Meyer
hybrids

\*\*\*very limited supply

### **COMING EVENTS**

**February 21-23: Astro Branch** display and sale in the Texas Lawn & Garden Show at the George Brown Center, Houston, Texas.

February 21-24: Sacramento Branch participates in Garden & Home Show at CAL-EXPO with display, information, sale.

March 4-8: Atlanta Branch participates in the Atlanta Flower Show at the Atlanta Apparel Mart/Inforum.

March 7-8: The Victorian Begonia Society will be hosting a convention of the Association of Australian Begonia Societies in Ballarat, Australia to coincide with the Ballaarat Botanic Gardens' Begonia Festival.

March 14-22: Knickerbocker Branch participates in the New York Flower Show, "Discovery '92," at Pier 92. Hours are 10 am - 8 pm weekdays and 10 am - 6 pm weekends. The begonia class will be Friday, March 13 through Monday, March 16.

May 15-17: Southwest Region Get-Together, "Begonias Astronomical", hosted by Astro Branch. At the Concord Hotel, Houston, Texas. For more information, contact Tom Keepin, 4513 Randwick Dr., Houston TX 77092; (713) 686-8539.

#### April 3-Oct. 12:

#### Ameri-Flora '92

International Floral & Garden Exposition, Franklin Park, Columbus, Ohio. United States' first international floral event, commemorating the Christopher Columbus Quincentennial, with gardening exhibits by 30 nations including Japan, Monaco, Italy, Spain, UK, Bahamas, Canada, Dominican Republic.

August 19-23: American Begonia Society Convention 1992, "Captivating Canes", will be held at the Inn of the Park, Anaheim, California, with the Orange County Branch as hosts.

Deadline for next issue is January 15

### 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 1992 list. Kay's Greenhouses, 207 W. Southcross, San Antonio, TX 78221.

SOUTHWEST REGION, ABS: Annual Get-Together, show, sale; newsletter. Membership \$7, family \$10. Send to Marie Harrell, Rt. 3, Box 689, Elgin, TX 78621. "VICKI'S EXOTIC PLANTS" Beautiful Begonias, Episcias, and Hoyas. Large variety of each. Please send \$1 for list to 522 Vista Park Dr., Eagle Point, OR 97524; (503) 826-6318.

BEGONIAS, FERNS, SHADE PLANTS. We are now open to provide you with quality plants...Come visit. Golden Hills Nursery (Cynthia Bishop) 4150 Auburn-Folsom Rd. Loomis CA 95650 (916)652-

7311.

ATTENTION FLORIDA VISITORS: Are you planning to visit the Tampa/St. Pete area this winter? Pinellas Branch meets 3rd Tuesdays 7:30 p.m. in an easy to find CENTRALLY LOCATED spot. We'd love to have you visit. Call Bill O'Geary (813) 392-0006.

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The Annual Business Meeting of the American Begonia Society was held after the luncheon of the 59th Convention "Exploring the World of Begonias" on September 14, 1991 at the Old Colony Inn, Alexandria, Virginia.

First Vice-President Dr. Tracy McLellan called the meeting to order at 2:25 p.m. John Howell led the Flag Salute. Mabel Corwin read the Aims and Purposes. Vice-President McLellan welcomed the branches and read the roll call. Reading of the Minutes of the June 22 Board Meeting was omitted.

Treasurer Eleanor Calkins gave the Treasurer's Report from August 1, 1990 to July 31, 1991. Balances are \$4,928.29 in checking, \$43,846.61 in savings, for a total of \$48,775.51.

#### Committee Reports:

<u>Audit</u> - Ed Bates and Ralph Corwin reported that the National Audit is in progress.

<u>Ballot Counting</u> - Ronnie Nevins reported ballots had been counted and the Officers for 1991-1992 are:

President Jeannette Gilbertson; 1st Vice-President, Carol Notaras; 2nd Vice President, Millie Thompson; 3rd Vice-President, Mary Bucholtz; Secretary, Ingeborg Foo; Treasurer, Eleanor Calkins. The Nominating committee of Arlene Ingles (Chair), John Howell, and Charles Jaros were thanked for their work.

Bookstore - Anita Ruthenberg reported balance as of July 31, 1991 was \$187.29.

Branch Relations - Doug Hahn invited everyone to Columbus, Ohio in 1992 for Ameri-Flora. He reported six queries on new branches, and asked that each branch send him the name and address of its National Director. A booklet on increasing membership will be sent to the branches soon. Seed Fund - Diana Gould was commended for doing a great job. The Convention Listing was available.



#### GROW GREAT FERNS JOIN LAIFS

Annual membership \$15.00
LAIFS Journal with Fern Lessons
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MEMBERSHIP \$15 per year includes bi-monthly FUCHSIA FAN
The new A to Z on Fuchsias abridged version
\$6.95 plus \$1 shipping (CA residents add 42c tax)
Mail to: National Fuchsia Society, 11507 E. 187 St.
Artesia, CA 90701

<u>Conservation</u> - Bruce C. Boardman spoke on the need for international cooperation. Scott Hoover will be leaving for Indonesia and needs more donations.

<u>Publications</u> - Tamsin Boardman resigned as editor of the **Begonian**. She was thanked for her work.

Convention - Barbara Nunes was thanked for her untiring efforts, and Maxine Zinman received a round of applause for her work on judging. Long Range Planning - the 1992 Convention will be in Anaheim, California August 19-23. The 1993 Convention will be held in Miami, Florida. Nomenclature - Carrie Karegeannes reported 2 new registrations; 56 letters and 12 articles have been sent by members of the Nomenclature Committee.

<u>Public Relations/Advertising</u> - Russ Richardson reported new members from advertisements in horticultural magazines. He has re-drafted the "14 Reasons to Join ABS" and asked members for their input.

Show Entires - Tim Last resigned, and was thanked for his work.

<u>Slide Library</u> - Dan Haseltine and Charles Jaros report four new programs, and requested slides for new programs. Kelton Parker has donated slides from the begonia collection at Fort Worth Botanic Garden.

#### **Business:**

Eleanor Calkins reminded members to send dues to the Membership Chair and all other money and bills only to the treasurer.

Palomar Branch requested that ABS double the amount pledged to support Scott Hoover's trip. Sue Hessel so moved with Mike Golub seconding. Motion carried.

Frank Green requested donations for the Barkley Collection Preservation Fund.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Ingeborg Foo, Secretary

### Pacific Horticulture

The color illustrated quarterly for keen gardeners

\$12 a year (\$14 Canada & Mexico, \$16 elsewhere)

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American Begonia Society P.O. Box 56 Rio Dell, CA 95562-0056

Address correction requested

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