



September-October, 1994

The BEGONIAN 

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 that 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."

Membership (subscription) \$17 annually, \$23 first class mail, US, Mexico, and Canada. \$25 foreign surface mail except Mexico and Canada, \$35 overseas airmail. Added member, same household, \$2. Consult Membership Chairman for sustaining, benefactor, life membership dues. U.S. currency only. Back issues (current volume) \$2.50.

American Begonia Society - P.O. Box 231129, Encinitas, CA 92023-1129

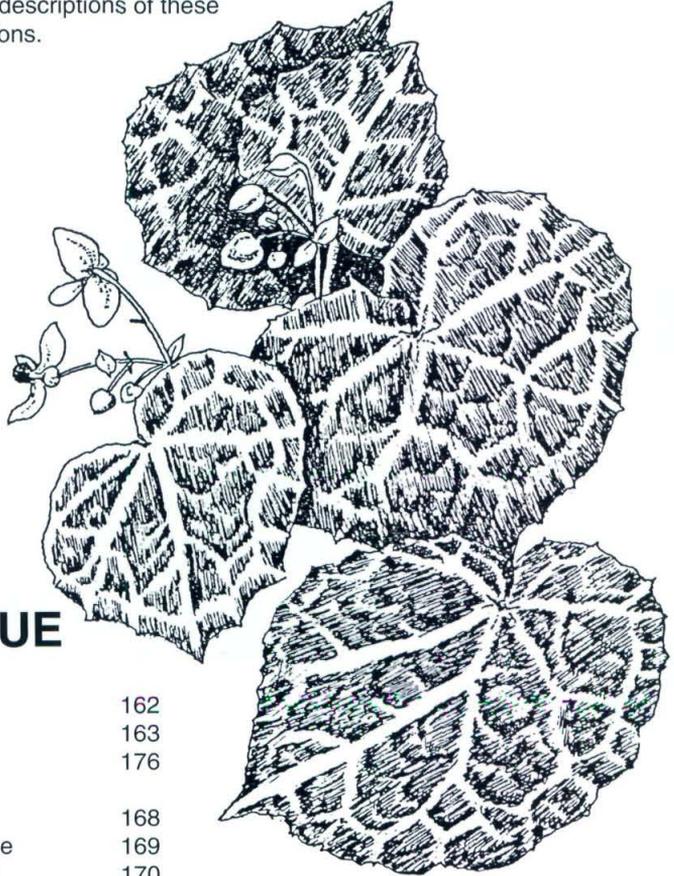
Membership - Subscription, dues, circulation inquiries, and address changes: John Ingles, Jr., 157 Monument, Rio Dell CA 95562-1617; (707) 764-5407.

COVER PHOTOS: New Registrations

Front - B. 'Rose Elfe', a Hiemalis type

Back - B. 'Tamakihada', a cane: the photo does not show the true color of the flowers, which is a most unusual yellow.

See pages 164 - 167 for descriptions of these and other new introductions.



IN THIS ISSUE

Convention 1994

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| More Thanks! | 162 |
| Travelling Begonia | 163 |

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| Corrections | 176 |
|--------------------|-----|

Articles

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Shrubs | 168 |
| Rex es to the Rescue | 169 |
| M. L. McIntyre Trust | 170 |
| Convention in Australia | 171 |
| Growing Under Lights | 173 |

Regular Features

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| President's Message | 160 |
| Important Meetings | 161 |
| In Memory | 176 |
| In the News | 176 |
| Bulletin Board: ABS News | 177 |
| Seed Fund Notes | 178 |
| Seed Fund Listing | 180 |
| Round Robin Notes | 181 |
| Coming Events | 182 |
| Directory of Begonia Societies | 183 |
| ABS Slide Library | 186 |
| ABS Minutes | 189 |
| ABS Officers | 190 |

B. rajah

from Malaysia, and available from the
ABS Seed Fund

drawing by Kit Jeans Mounger

QUICK!

Check your mailing label - if it says 9/94 or 10/94 your membership is about to expire. Please renew! We don't want to lose you!

President's Message

During the year before I was elected as President, I attended the Board meetings as Vice-President and expressed my views and voted my convictions. Although my views and my votes were not always popular with all of those present at the Board meetings, most of us are still friends.

It was evident that a few things were in need of immediate attention. Because they were so pressing, financial needs were addressed first. I found that the information that the Board received was not always current. Also, the various committees were spending more than the organization could afford. The Board sometimes had a bit of trouble saying "no" to worthwhile projects, even when the financial picture was less than healthy.

After making a few changes in the format of statements and reports, and getting current payables, receivables, and up-to-date bank statements, a cash flow projection was made. As usual the membership of the ABS rallied to the cause in support of fund-raising efforts.

The negative cash flow has, at least for the moment, been reversed. It may be however, that without a national convention in 1995, we should continue to be frugal. This possibility needs to be studied. We cannot operate long with a negative cash flow, so I feel that now is the time to correct this situation. The Board needs your ideas to improve ABS income. I personally think that a good deal more commercial advertising in our **Begonian** could be a large source of income. I hope to put ABS on a steady keel, financially, and then get on to begonias, and fun, which is what we are here for, I believe.

As President I am blessed with a very qualified Board. Thanks to the membership and the nominating committee for this. Your officers are dedicated to improving ABS, and willing to devote a considerable amount of time to do their jobs (ABS is an all-volunteer effort, and our financial picture would be much worse if officer's expenses were reimbursed in full). Board members want to be responsive to you, the members of ABS. Please communicate with us, and we'll do our best to answer your needs.

What are your ideas? I'm asking for your comments and feelings, and in the next issue I would like to present some ideas for the future of the American Begonia Society.

Gene Salisbury

Attention!

IMPORTANT MEETING

The Annual Membership Meeting and installation of Officers of the American Begonia Society will be held on Saturday, October 1, 1994 in San Diego, California, at the Seapoint Hotel, 4875 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92106-2394.

This will be a dinner buffet meeting at 7 p.m. with a no-host attitude adjustment period from 6 p.m. Price of the dinner will be \$24.00. Reservations and payment must be made by September 15; make check payable to the American Begonia Society and send to treasurer Carol Notaras, 2567 Green St., San Francisco, CA 94123.

There is important business to be conducted at this meeting, and everyone has a vote - so y'all come!

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the society will be held at 7:45 p.m. on September 30 at the above-mentioned hotel in the rooms of the President. Everyone may attend, but only members of the Board may vote.

For those staying at the hotel, a block of 10 rooms has been guaranteed for our members until August 29 so that we may be in close proximity. After that date locations in other areas of the hotel will be made. Rates are \$56.00 for rooms, and \$95.00 for suites; non-smoking as well as handicapped rooms are available. Make your reservation directly with the Seapoint Hotel, address above; phone number is 1-800-662-8899 (local: 224-3621), and fax number 619-224-3629. Guarantee your reservation by credit card or payment of the first night's lodging. Indicate that you are an American Begonia Society member. The hotel offers complimentary shuttle service from the airport, Amtrak, and Greyhound Bus station. Call the hotel after picking up your luggage and notify them of your location.

Come early, enjoy the Board Meeting, and have a free day to explore the many attractions of San Diego before the Annual Meeting and Installation!

Margaret Lee,
Parliamentarian

Reports Due

All Branch National Representatives (called National Directors in some branches) and all ABS Chairmen are required by the Constitution (Article 1, Section 4) and By-Laws (Article N, Section 3) to send in an annual report, due before the annual membership meeting. Please send a copy to the Secretary, Arlene Ingles, 157 Monument, Rio Dell, CA 95562-1617; a copy to the President, Gene Salisbury, Box 452, Tonkawa, OK 74653; and keep a copy for yourself.

Information wanted from your branch is a membership list or year-book, list of officers, financial standing, and a report on special projects, shows, etc. that the branch has participated in during the last 12 months.

Chairmen are asked to submit a report of their activities, expectations for future projects, and a financial update if applicable.

The Board is also open to any suggestions or remarks that branches and committees want to make. Communication is a two-way street, and your concerns will be addressed if you make them known.

"Begonias: OK!"

Thanks, from Behind the Scenes

by Chuck McGough

As Placement Chairman for the National Convention I've just got to say I enjoyed putting it together with my "semi-permanent" committee. What a great bunch to work with: Jerry & Mike Eubank, Don Miller, Brad Thompson (all of whom first helped me with the SWR Get-Together in Fort Worth) and our added experts Jim Jolly, Richard King, and the "loan" (by wife Wanda) of Richard Macnair.

What few people knew was that Mike Clemens constructed the hanging basket/wall pocket set-up, and the flats for the crafts/art/photo display. He built these from my sketches, with a few phone calls back and forth. Both set-ups come apart and can be reassembled with pegs in different configurations for other begonias shows. This was a lot of work done by one member, and I am very grateful for his help and advice.

I hope to get to see many of my new friends at the Southwest Region Get-Together in San Antonio next year, with new and exciting plants.

Artist Chuck McGough lives at 1603 Walnut, Commerce, TX 75428.

Addenda, and Apologies

As noted above, it was **Mike Clemens**, not Chuck McGough, who built the displays for the show.

Omitted in the list of 1994 Convention Division winners was the Dish Garden Division, won by **Chuck McGough**. **Irene Nuss** donated the trophy.

and More Thanks!

(con't. from last issue)

to **Garden Grove Branch**, for their donation to the plant sale...to **Houston Astro Branch**, for: the lovely begonias in strawberry planters that graced the lobby...the Astro Branch Cookbook, donated to the Boutique...plant sale donations of begonias mounted on cork and terrarium plants...

and speaking of terrariums, few people knew that Barkley Branch's **Dorothy Caviness** not only entered plants in the show and donated sale plants, she also made weekly 180 mile round trips to Tonkawa to help the Salisburys with their sale plants...and she hosted umpteen visitors to her greenhouse during and after the show and ...she grew 125 terrarium plants on her kitchen counter (don't you know Jerry & the family were glad to have the convention over?)...

to more **Barkley Branch** members, who went 'way beyond the call of duty:

Thelma Dodd, for the display of begonia art at the Crystal Bridge, and for driving, with husband **Bob Dodd**, to Tonkawa every week to help with sale plants;

Ann & Gene Salisbury, for growing thousands of sale plants, along with their duties as ABS President, Convention Registrar & Treasurer, and doing all of the printing for Convention materials;

Laura Kirby, who made all of the decorations & "goodie" bags (by hand);

Effie & Howard Clemens, for displays at the Crystal Bridge, helping with tours, & just being there when inspiration was needed;

Diane Horne, for untold hours in show classification/entries;

Jim Jolly, for behind-the-scenes coordinating;

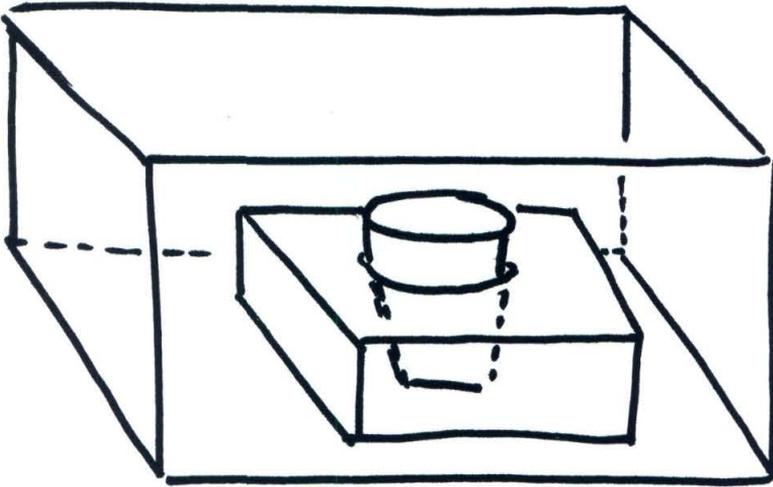
Bruce C. Boardman, for *terrific* tours;

Linda & Mike Clemens, who put on a whale of a sale!

Above all, thanks to Convention Chair **Martha Chesnut** for a year of her life and her incredible dedication, attention to detail, organizational wizardry, and valor under fire: Martha never lost her cool.

Begonia on the Trail

by Nan Scoble



Yes, I had a wonderful time in Oklahoma. Every time I pass by my hand-made Indian Kachina doll Division Award I grin at the idea.

And what an idea! Imagine taking *B. foliosa* from sunny south Florida to Oklahoma City. This amazing little plant in a 4" pot survived and thrived in the air-conditioned room of the hotel.

Getting the plant to the show wasn't at all hard...I followed Marilyn Goldstein's suggestion of using styrofoam packing "peanuts". Place the plant in an inverted box just large enough to recess the pot base. Place this small base box into a larger box. Then pour in the styrofoam peanuts. Pack the peanuts down all around the plant, and on top of the leaves filling the box, then tape the box shut.

Be careful NOT to use the new peanuts of extruded cornstarch - they could make a sticky mess of your leaves.

I gambled, and sent my entry along with my luggage - we even changed planes in Dallas.

When the next Convention, show, and Travelling Begonias Division comes around, I'll be there. I hope you will be, too. Entering adds excitement to the show, and allows you to be truly a part of it all. And think of all the explaining you'll have to do when people ask: "How did you get it there?"

Nan Scoble and her long-distance travelling companion B. foliosa won the Travelling Begonias Division at "Begonias: OK!" Nan lives at 209 S.E. 21st St., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316.

New Cultivars

Official International Registrations 946-952

Carrie Karegeannes, Nomenclature Director



B. 'Bayberry Lane'

Applications to register *Begonia* cultivars may be obtained from Carrie Karegeannes, 3916 Lake Blvd., Annandale VA 22003-2319. Each form must be typed or printed in ink and accompanied by a \$2 check payable to the American Begonia Society. Clear photos for publication in the **Begonian**, drawings, and dried specimens are requested. ABS is the International Registration Authority for *Begonia* cultivar names.

In the listing of cultivar parents below, the female (seed) parent is listed first.

Begonia 'Bayberry Lane'

No. 946—*Begonia* (U067 {identified as *bakeri*} x *crassicaulis*) 'Bayberry Lane'

Rhizomatous cultivar with erect rhizomes 4" to 6" tall covered with large cleft leaves and bearing large clusters of pink flowers. Leaf blades are 8 1/2" x 9", leathery, medium green and smooth above with a red spot at the petiole junction, and wine red and sparsely hairy underneath. They bear 9 main veins. Margins are toothed as well as cleft, influenced by those of *B. crassicaulis* but not so deeply cut. Petioles are 4 3/4" - 5 1/2" long and red-hairy; stipules are light green, a little over 1/10" long and

1/5" wide, with hairs down the centers.

Two-tepaled light-pink flowers are borne in many-flowered, many-forked drooping clusters from late winter into spring. Male flowers are 1" across and females slightly smaller. The three wings of the 1/2" ovary are deeper colored. Arching peduncles (flower stalks) are reddish, hairy, and 6" - 8" long.

Although echoing traits from its parents, *B. 'Bayberry Lane'* has more leaves and they are larger with more deeply cut lobes and more finely cut edges than of seed parent *B. U067*. Its shorter petioles and peduncles and much larger flowers are inherited from pollen parent *B. crassicaulis*, but it blooms while fully leafed out, while *B. crassicaulis* blooms while leafless.

Developed in 1987 by Joy B. Porter (9 Bayberry Lane, Framingham, MA 01701); first bloomed in 1992; first distributed in 1987. Tested by, and available from, Frank Green (the Barkley Collection, 20 Cross Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420). Registered May 18, 1994.

Begonia 'Percy Ehrlich'

No. 947. *Begonia* (Park Seed seedling x 'Grand Duchess') 'Percy Ehrlich'

A hybrid in the Rex Cultorum group, *B.* 'Percy Ehrlich' has a creeping rhizome and satiny, iridescent brownish-green leaves when mature—the color varying with the amount of light and nutrition. Young leaves show white or pink spots and reddish-brown margins. Leaf blades measuring 4 1/2" x 6" are ovate with acuminate tips, cordate base, and crenate margins. The surface is bare and pustulate, crossed by 7 main veins. The underside is somewhat hairy. Petioles 3"-5" long are red and hairy, as are the 1" long x 1/4" wide stipules.

Pink flowers in December and early spring are borne in few-flowered clusters on 3"-4" peduncles. Males are 1 3/4" across with 4 ovate tepals; females are 1 1/4" with 5 ovate tepals and deeper pink 3-winged ovaries.

Developed in 1981 by the late Percy Ehrlich and described and named for him by Anne Ehrlich (66 Fessenden Street, Newtonville, MA 02160); first distributed in 1990. Tested by Frank Green (address above). Registered May 19, 1994.



B. 'Percy Ehrlich'

Below:

B. 'Bettikins'

see next page for description



Begonia 'Bettikins'

No. 948. *Begonia* (R.Z.'s B. 139 and 'Grand Duchess/51') 'Bettikins'

Records of which of the parents was the seed parent have been lost, but both are of the Rex Cultorum group. *B.* 'Bettikins' has a creeping rhizome and red, green, and white, spiraled leaves, deep red beneath. Ovate, lobed, 3" x 6" leaf blades have 6 red main veins on a green background with white pustules and splashes and deep-red serrate edges. A pink flush spreads from the basal spiral, whose curve is accented by the red edge. Petioles 6" long are red and red-hairy; stipules 3/8" x 3/8" are also red with red hairs.

Pink 1" flowers in December and June are borne on short dichotomous peduncles. Males have 4 ovate 5/8" tepals and females have 5 tepals 1/2" long and red ovaries.

Developed by Percy Ehrlich and described by Anne Ehrlich (address above); tested by Frank Green (address above). Registered May 19, 1994.

Begonia 'Rose Elfe'

No. 949. *Begonia* ('Elfe' sport) 'Rose Elfe'

A cultivar of the Hiemalis group, winter-flowering *B.* 'Rose Elfe' has stems 8" to almost 12" tall and covers itself with pink, extra-full semi-double flowers from late October to early April, depending on starting time from mid-July to early December. Thick velvety leaf blades are dark green, heart shaped (rounded cordate), and about 4" x 3 3/4". Margins are finely crenate and main veins number 8 to 9. Petioles are 2" to almost 2 1/2" long; stipules fall off very early.

Pink flowers (matching JHS color chart 0702, ISCC-NBS 36B, and RHS color chart 36C) measure up to 2 1/3" x 2", with 21 to 25 tepals on each. This cultivar strongly resembles *B.* 'Elfe', from which it derives, but *B.* 'Rose Elfe' flowers are heavier, with more and wider tepals and deeper color. A more vigorous and faster grower, it can be reproduced in a short period.

Developed in 1989 by Sado Masubuchi (808 Daizenno-Machi Midori-Ku Chiba-shi 266, Japan); first bloomed in 1990; tested by Endo Muneo, head researcher of Chiba

Agricultural Experiment Station, Japan. It was described by Seki Eiichi, also of Chiba, and is available from Hironori Murayama (160 Ino Sakura-shi Chiba-Ken 285, Japan). Registered May 19, 1994. *Photo on cover*

Begonia 'Silvermist'

No. 950. *Begonia* ('Kentwood' x *dichroa*) 'Silvermist'

A Superba group cane-like cultivar, *B.* 'Silvermist' reaches 3 feet in height, with large, wavy, silver-splashed medium-green leaves. Strongly lobed long-ovate leaf blades are cordate at the base and reach 5" wide x 9" long, on 4" green petioles.

Large clusters of clear pink flowers are borne on 3" peduncles profusely April through December. Male flowers are 1 1/2" across with 4 tepals, and females 2" with 5 tepals and white-veined pink ovaries.

Developed in 1979 by Irene Nuss (8329 Regis Way, Westchester, CA 90045); first bloomed in 1981; named in 1980 by Mabel Corwin of Vista, CA, with Irene's permission. Published in Mildred L. Thompson and Edward J. Thompson, *Begonias: The Complete Reference Guide*, 1981 as well as in the **Begonian** 1982, 1986, 1990-1993. A photograph is on p. 85 of **Begonian** Vol. 58 (May-June 1991). Winner, best canelike begonia, August 1993 National ABS Show. Registered May 19, 1994.

Begonia 'Skylark'

No. 951. *Begonia* ('Lenore Olivier' x *B.* U014) 'Skylark'

A canelike hybrid suitable for basket culture, with spotted medium-green leaves and bright coral-pink flowers. Leaf blades, red underneath, are 3" x 5 1/2" with 5 main veins. Petioles are green, 1 3/4" long. Male flowers are 1" across with 4 tepals; females 1 1/4" with 5 tepals. Clusters are held on 3" peduncles nearly year around in protected areas in California.

Developed in 1984 by Irene Nuss (address above); first bloomed in 1989; first distributed for testing in 1989. Tested by, and available from, Elda Regimbal (3117 San Juan Drive, Fullerton, CA 92635). Registered May 18, 1994.

Begonia 'Tamakihada'
No. 952. *Begonia* ('Orange Rubra' x
pearcei) 'Tamakihada'

A shrublike cultivar from an unusual cross - and orange-flowered canelike cultivar with a yellow-flowered tuberous species - *B. 'Tamakihada'* was named for its light-yellow flowers. Its Japanese name means 'yellow' (from kihada, a plant that provides a yellow dye) "jewel" (tama). Mature stems reach 16.7". Glossy green leaf blades, red-flushed on the backs, are ovate with acuminate tip, barely cordate base, and almost entire to serrate margins. Bare and thin-textured, they are crossed by 6-7 slightly indented main veins. Petioles 2" long are reddish-green with fine white curly hairs. Stipules 2.8" x 0.43" are also reddish green with a few hairs.

Many-branched, many-flowered clusters hang on 2" peduncles with pairs of small bracteoles at each joint of the cluster branchlets. Male flowers 1" across have 4 obovate tepals; females 0.7" across have 5. Faint-green to faint-yellow ovaries are almost equally triangularly 3-winged. Bloom with an air of transparency, appears spring through autumn, and even into winter in good conditions. The yellow flowers particularly distinguish this cultivar.

Developed in 1986 by Shizuo Nagaki (107 Oaza Nakanoya, Minori-Machi, Higashi-Ibaraki-Ken, Japan); first bloomed in 1987; not yet released. Described by Midori Nobusawa of Kanagawa, Japan. Inspected by an official of the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries, pursuant to application #6226 for plant variety protection. Registered May 20, 1994. *Photo on back cover.*

**PROTECT
YOUR
PLANTS
FROM
PESTS**

made with
PYRETHRINS
from
CHRYSANTHEMUM
FLOWERS

INDOOR-OUTDOOR
Schultz-Instant
HOUSE PLANT AND GARDEN
**INSECT
SPRAY**
Made with
Botanical Pyrethrins

For more
information:
Schultz Company
14090 Riverport Dr,
St. Louis, MO 63043

"Schultz-Instant"

INDOOR GARDENING SUPPLIES FREE CATALOG

Shallow pots: 5" to 10"

Squares: 2.5" to 4.5"

Round Tubs, Standards, Trays, Reservoirs, Soilless Mixes, Perlite, Vermiculite, African Violet and Sinningia Seeds, and more. You can expect your orders to get immediate attention.

**THE VIOLET HOUSE (abs) , P.O. BOX 1274,
GAINESVILLE, FL 32602**



Shrub-like Begonias

There always seems to be some confusion in identifying these begonias. Understandably, because there are often strong similarities between dwarf/mini canes, shrub-like, and the thick-stemmed varieties.

If we ignore the hybrids and look at the species only, it is easier to note the differences.

The cane-like (for example, *B. albo-picta*) have the distinctive swelling at each node, which gives them a cane-like appearance - hence the name cane-like.

The shrub-like (for example, *B. acutifolia*, synonym *acuminata*) usually have fairly slender stems that branch easily and produce basal shoots.

The thick-stemmed (for example, *B. dipetala*) as expected have thick upright stems, usually only one or two. They do not naturally branch, and even when pruned or tipped seldom make extra side shoots. New basal shoots are few and far between.

That is reasonably straightforward (I think) but when the hybridizers became busy and crossed canes with rhizomatous, trailing/scandents with canes, etc., they did create some confusion - gorgeous confusion.

The American Begonia Society is responsible for the international registration of *Begonia*, a function of their nomenclature department. When a hybrid is submitted for registration, the powers that be decide the classification of that plant. We may not always agree with their decision, but we stick with them.

Some examples of the confusing ones are:

B. 'Tiny Gem', a naturally trailing plant classified as shrub-like.

B. olsoniae, which is easily mistaken for rhizomatous, but is classified as shrub-like.

B. 'Delores', which appear to be shrub-like but is classified as trailing/scandent.

B. 'Looking Glass', which could easily be mistaken as shrub-like. It's a cane.

And so it goes on.

Use Mildred & Edward Thompson's [Begonias: The Complete Reference Guide](#) to help identify the varieties. Place large name tags in your pots with the name and type on it. When in doubt, ask. You are no orphan, most of us are confused.

from the February, 1994 issue of the [Begonia Society Newsletter](#) of the Begonia Society of Western Australia. Editor is Betty Grigg.

Quote:

Green Thumb: Common condition suffered by gardeners in which the skin of the thumb develops a greenish hue as the result of handling large amounts of money at nurseries.

Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch newsletter

Rexes to the Rescue

by Loretha McIntyre

In the winter of 1990, the county of Crawford in Michigan decided they could no longer afford to keep their Animal Pound open. I had helped support the Pound for two years, and, with several others, sought permission to keep it open and change its status to Animal Shelter.

My friend Dixie Lobsinger and I put in eight to ten hours a day, seven days a week. Real animal lovers!

To support the Grayling Animal Shelter we ask for donations, have yard sales, and hold special events. The biggest and best money-making event is held annually throughout the month of April: anyone who adopts a pet or gives a \$2 contribution receives a lovely Rex begonia!

In addition to the April give-aways, we also have Rexes on sale in our yard sales - and we always sell out. I donate all the plants. I have had great success with Rex begonias, and they are not available in most of Michigan.

The money from the begonias helps sick and injured pets, and also goes to our Spay-Neuter Program.

Health problems forced me to move southward to a milder winter climate, but I still raise my begonias for the Grayling

Animal Shelter. Dixie and others are doing all the work now. There's still a good record of adoptions. Forty percent of the felines find new homes, while dogs do better with a 65-70% adoption rate. Also, the number of puppies and kittens has diminished with the Spay-Neuter Program - new owners are given a certificate worth nearly 1/2 the cost of neutering.

The Rex begonias have helped the dogs - one could say "going to the dogs" has been great here in northern Michigan. Pinching the begonias and setting new plants has paid off.

This year many seedlings grown from Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund seeds went to further the cause. The seeds were prolific - and so many turned out to be rexes! Some were unbelievably lovely, and I kept several to use as parents for next year. This helped greatly, as I still have to buy pots and soil.

So: thank all of you who take time to harvest the seeds, and thank you, too, ABS, for making seeds available at low cost!

Aren't Begonia People wonderful? Loretha McIntyre lives at 4235 Hayes Rd., Shelby, MI 49455-9712.

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

new Full Color Catalog...\$3.00

LOGEE'S GREENHOUSES

(Est. 1892)

Dept. B, 55 North Street, Danielson,
CT 06239

**REX CULTORUM BEGONIA SEED
RUDOLF ZIESENHENNE**

\$1.25 per packet plus 29c postage

Calif. residents add 7.75% Sales Tax

**1130 NORTH MILPAS STREET
SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA
93103**

The M. L. MacIntyre Begonia Trust

by Dr. Eric W. Curtis

The Trust in memory of the late Malcolm L. MacIntyre was established in 1985 by his widow. The objectives were, in brief, to promote research on begonias and support the begonia collection at Glasgow Botanic Gardens. This collection is designated the "National Collection of Begonias" in Britain.

'Mac' MacIntyre, who lived in Cheshire, England, was an active member of the American Begonia Society and served on the Research Committee throughout the 1970s. He had a wide interest and knowledge of begonias and specialised in the breeding of hybrids of *Begonia bowerae*. He was for many years a regular visitor at Glasgow Botanic Gardens and a firm supporter of the begonia collection there. Since 1984 the Trust has developed that support.

The Trust has now been considerably expanded as a result of a large bequest from Mrs. MacIntyre, which is intended to establish a scholarship or fellowship for the study of *Begonias*. Rules for the operation

of the enlarged Trust have been formalised and five more trustees have now been appointed. The first meeting of the expanded Trust was held on 7 April 1994. The trustees are now in a position to invite applicants for a scholarship for the study of begonias, based at Glasgow where there are facilities and staff to support research projects at the Botanic Gardens and the University of Glasgow. Other research establishments in the Glasgow area may also be involved. Applicants for this scholarship must be either qualified botanists or graduates in allied subjects. Students will be expected to carry out research for a higher degree, and this scholarship will be awarded for up to a maximum of three years. Further information and application forms are available from:

Professor Malcolm B. Wilkins,
Secretary
The M. L. MacIntyre Begonia Trust
Botany Department
University of Glasgow
Glasgow G12
Scotland U.K.

LAURAY of SALISBURY

Begonias, Gesneriads, Orchids
Cacti & Succulents
432 Undermountain Road, Rt. 41
Salisbury, CT 06068 203 435-2263
Usually open daily, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
1993 Catalog \$2.00

Pacific Horticulture

**The color illustrated quarterly
for keen gardeners**

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

P.O. Box 485, Berkeley, CA 94701

1995: Convention in Australia

"Begonias: Beautiful one day, Perfect the next" is the title chosen for the 1995 Convention of the Association of Australian Begonia Societies April 14-17, 1995. Four days of begonia displays, seminars, visits to local gardens, and sales of rare and unusual begonias (including Queensland hybrids) are planned, with an additional optional tour on Monday, April 18 to the garden of Queensland Begonia Society members Dorothy and John Miller in Toowoomba, Queensland.

Registration and a social evening will start the convention on Friday. Saturday will feature plant sales, the President's address, morning seminars, and afternoon bus visits to local begonia collections. Saturday evening will be the convention Dinner. Sunday will offer plant sales, morning seminars, afternoon visits, and a smorgasbord barbecue dinner at 7 p.m.

Distinguished speakers will be:

Brian Bowes, Senior Lecturer, Department of Botany at the University of Glasgow, Scotland, whose topic will be "The British National Collection and its Conservation by Micropropagation". AABS member Philip Labrie is, under Dr. Bowes' direction, preparing material to support the presentation.

Michael Ferrero of Cairns Botanical Garden, Queensland travels to Papua New Guinea at least twice a year to collect begonia specimens. He has quarantine facilities, and is involved in Symbegonia research. His talk is entitled "Some observations of Papua New Guinea Begonias in their own Environment."

Jan Goodwin, a founding member of the Australian Begonia Society (now the South Australia Begonia Society, to avoid confusion with the Association), has held official positions in a number of capacities,

including Seed Fund Director. Her topic is "Begonias from China and Vietnam", illustrated with slides and with plant material. Some of the begonias to be presented are unidentified and perhaps new species.

Jake Hafer was a committee member of the Australian Begonia Society (now the South Australia Begonia Society) for six years, including two as President. Together with Jan Goodwin, AABS Seed Fund Director, Jake grows a large collection of begonia species and cultivars that includes many of their own hybrids. Dedicated to the preservation of species, he has supported the AABS and ABS Seed Funds. His subject is "The How and Why of Hybridizing: Insects, Wind, and Science."

Thelma O'Reilly, President of the San Miguel Branch of ABS, Senior Judge, and member of the ABS Nomenclature Committee, will present "Bewitching Begonias - Species."

Bernard Yorke, Queensland's own very talented hybridizer from Park Ridge, Brisbane, has at least twenty years experience in growing and hybridizing begonias, has registered begonia cultivars with the American Begonia Society, and tested cultivars for both Mickey Meyer and Hazel Burley. The subject Bernard has chosen is "Early Queensland Hybrids."

The Convention will be held at the Robertson Gardens Motor Lodge & Conference Centre, 281 Kessels Road, Robertson, Brisbane, Queensland 4109, Australia.

Registration fee is \$130 if received by November 30, 1994, and \$140 for later payments, and includes lunches, morning and afternoon teas, convention dinner, Sunday night barbecue, tour fees, and one copy of the seminars presented. Fees must be paid in Australian currency.



Unidentified species collected in China by Robert Cherry - one of the begonias to be covered in Jan Goodwin's seminar. Photo by Jan Goodwin.

Robertson Gardens Motor Lodge is offering Convention rates per night of \$69 single, \$75 double (upstairs); Garden studio (ground floor) \$81 single, \$88 twin share; double \$88 + \$10 for 3rd person. Villas are \$89 single, two people \$89 + \$10 per extra person. A 10% deposit on accommodations is required with your Registration Fees; the remainder will be settled with the Motor Lodge at the time of the Convention. Please contact Averil Thompson, Convention Secretary, 18 Kelly Road, Virginia, Queensland 4014, Australia, phone (07) 267-5938 for further inquiries about accommodations.

Robertson Gardens Motor Lodge is about 40 minutes from Brisbane Airport. Taxi fare to the Lodge is approximately \$26 (priced April, 1994).

Brisbane weather in April is mostly mild to warm, with average maximum 26.4°C (day) and minimum 17.1°C (night),

with the occasional drop to 8°C. Humidity can be expected to be in the range of 50-70%. Rain can be expected about 11 days of the month. Winds are usually light. We suggest bringing some warm clothing, sun hat, and raincoat.

For more information about attractions in and around Brisbane, contact your travel agent or the Queensland Government Travel Centre, Cnr Adelaide & Edward Streets, Brisbane, Queensland 4000, Australia.

For more information on the Convention, contact Barry Mann, Convention Chairman, 49/51 Goddards Road, Yamanto, Queensland 4305 Australia, phone (07) 202-3194; or Averil Thompson, Convention Secretary (address above).

NOTE: If you plan on bringing back plant material, check BEFORE LEAVING THE USA with the both your state and the US Department of Agriculture.

Growing Begonias Under Lights

by Jeff Stuart

I live in a small first floor apartment, and first became acquainted with begonias when my landlady gave me several after I had moved in (*Begonias* 'Sir Percy', 'Thurstonii' and 'Concord' among them). She then made the mistake of showing me a few old copies of the **Begonian**, and for better or for worse, I was hooked!

Soon, after I learned some simple propagation techniques, my collection grew and window space became more and more limited. Growing under lights became the most viable alternative to limiting my desire to try new begonias.

After growing under lights for several years now, there is some advice that I would like to share with anyone who wants to go this route. There are, after all, a few advantages to using lights. Added space for plants might be the most obvious, but you also have more control over the growing conditions. And the extra light has proven to be a welcome addition as well, especially in my part of the country (central New York state), where sunlight is a precious commodity. Plants are bunched together so that humidity becomes less of a problem, and they grow and bloom all year round.

There are purists who contend that growing this way is sterile and artificial, and that it has no place in the hobby of indoor plants because it is "just not natural." Well, let's face it - nothing about growing houseplants is very natural! Begonias, with all those wonderful hybrids, are even less so. And how many of us are lucky enough to live in a home with enough bright windows to suit our needs? All in all, growing begonias (and houseplants in general) under

lights is a great way to expand your interests in the hobby, and is almost sure to provide pleasing results with just a little time and effort.

I'll stick to two areas in my discussion: (1) setting up lights, and (2) care of plants under lights.

Setting Up Lights

There are many types of lights to choose from, some especially made for plants, others not. But one group stands out above and beyond as the rest - fluorescent lights. The advantages to using fluorescent lights are several: they are relatively easy to set up, and are inexpensive to operate; little heat is generated, so leaves can't become dry and burn; the standard 4 foot size makes for a nice functional display for plants; and the lights and fixtures themselves are fairly inexpensive, so it doesn't cost a lot to get up and running. They are also a more efficient use of space when compared to incandescent lights that produce heat. Two tube fluorescent fixtures are available for under ten dollars; the one I use is a 'Hi-Tech Premium Performance Shop Light'.¹

I have set up most of my lights in the form of wall-mounted shelves. I use simple shelving track mounts (secured to the walls with toggle bolts), with shelving brackets to support the lamp fixtures as well as the actual shelves. For those I use standard closet shelving; this is the type made out of large sturdy white wire available in any hardware store (typically used for storing sweaters and the like in bedroom closets). This type of shelving allows for more air circulation around the plants, and is very

sturdy but light in weight. In addition, it is fairly inexpensive (on the order of about \$1 per foot, depending on the grade that you get). For shelves with my heavier plants I added string supports secured to the ceiling from the front of the shelves, to take some of the strain off of the wall-mounted shelving tracks.

Of course there are other ways to set up lights, but the wall shelf method is the only one I use, mostly because it was the easiest option. I have seen carts for sale with pre-mounted fixtures, which look wonderful; however, they are very expensive. The obvious advantages are the mobility and ease of watering (you can water from all sides rather than just the front). I'm sure that a similar cart can be constructed at home with a little patience and ingenuity.

I have also suspended lights in front of the windows that don't get much light - the plants love the supplemental light and do very well. Several of my orchids thrive and bloom regularly under these conditions.

There is also the choice of which type of fluorescent to use. Among those available are "warm" and "cool" light lamps, "daylight", and registered trade names: Gro-Lux, Agro-Lite, and Vita-Lite. All of these have worked, but Vita-Lites have given me the best results. The light they produce is by far the most pleasing and natural to look at, and in fact is almost like having another window in the room. However, now for the down side: they can be prohibitively expensive. Each tube can cost upwards of \$15, and that makes for quite an initial investment. My rationale for continuing to use them is that each tube will last three years in use, so that the cost spread out over time does not seem that bad, and the plants do wonderfully under them. By far the cheapest route to go, and perhaps the best to start out with, is a simple combination of warm and cool white tubes, which can usually be found on sale for about a dollar each.

Care of Plants under Lights

The main difference in growing under lights rather than the windowsill is that the intensity of the light does not change from season to season. This means that growth can be constant throughout the year.

Whereas you would not fertilize windowsill plants in the fall and winter, you can do so in your light garden.

In my experience with standard warm and cool type fluorescent tubes, and with Vita-Lites, I have found that plants can be placed anywhere from 4" to 6" from the tubes (to the tips of the plants). The only case where I have had plant leaves burned by the tubes is when some vigorous canes came into contact with the lights for prolonged periods of time.

My lights are left on about 14-15 hours per day. Depending upon how sophisticated you want to get, the duration of the "day" can be varied with the seasons: this may be necessary with rhizomatous begonias, which need the seasonal changes in light periods in order to be enticed into blooming.

The other aspect of caring for plants under lights is watering. This may not seem to be much of a big deal - you water them just as you would any plant. But the actual watering can be a problem. How does one conveniently, efficiently water all of those plants cramped together under the lights? It always seems to end up being an exercise in moving plants around in order to get to the ones in the back (especially for my wall-mounted gardens).

I've come up with two solutions to this problem. I modified a standard garden insecticide sprayer so that the end of the spraying wand delivers a gentle stream of water instead of the spray. The wand is long enough to reach the plants in the back.

The second solution is to wick-water. This is the easier of the two, as long as you don't get fooled into thinking that the plants don't need to be checked, and end up neglecting them. During a recent very busy period I fell victim to this, and lost several begonias. There is one suggestion that I have about wicking: make sure to use nylon wicks, as cotton will rot away in a matter of weeks. Suitable material for wicks can be picked up at most sewing and fabric stores.

Finally, I would like to comment on some of the ways I have used lights for my plants, and the results. As I mentioned above, I have had nice results by suspending lights in front of some of the windows in my apartment that get less light due to neighboring houses.

I have also used lights for terrariums, with great success. I used to be one of those hobbyists who insisted that if a begonia, or any other plant for that matter, needed terrarium care, it wasn't for me! It was enough to care for all my other plants, without having to deal with those with special needs. Then I requested some cuttings from Kelton Parker of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden. He didn't have a few of the ones I requested, so he sent substitutes - some requiring terrarium care. I was not all that thrilled, but I couldn't bring myself to throw out the little gems. So I became determined to rise to the challenge. I ordered some trays with 6" humidity domes²; when they arrived I placed the small plantlets inside, setting the humidity domes directly under the lights so that the tubes were just above them. Over time the results have been spectacular! The small begonias quickly outgrew their pots. I transplanted them using the long fiber sphagnum moss and perlite medium as suggested by the Thompsons in [Begonias: The Complete Reference Guide](#), and all are doing incredibly well, with virtually no day-to-day care!

Included in my terrarium collection are *Begonias longimaculata*, *triflora*, *subnummularifolia*, *ficicola*, and U089. The last is absolutely stunning with its conspicuously red-veined apple-green tear-shaped peltate leaves, and *B. subnummularifolia* is currently blooming for me - it has red rhizomes, and small white flowers that stand above the olive-green foliage, occasionally sending up a double flower. It's really quite incredible how well they all do under these conditions.

In addition to the "Fort Worth Begonias," I placed under the domes a few of my other begonias that had never done well. They came to life with such vigor that I could hardly believe it. *B. soli-mutata* (it has also been known as *B. glaziovii*, U003) had always been a problem plant for me, and was near death after two years of mere survival. I placed it in the terrarium, and lo and behold I now have two of the most beautiful specimens of this plant I have ever seen - real blue ribbon contenders! I expected to see some leaf rot with this one, due to the pebbled hairy texture, but surprisingly this never happened. The leaves are deeply colored and beautiful.

Several other begonias have similarly "come back from the dead" with such treatment, including B. 'Benitochiba' (a gorgeous palmate rex), a seedling of B. U014 (the only survivor of my first attempt at growing from seed) and B. 'Raymond George Nelson' (a *listada* hybrid).

B. serratipetala was a success story as well: it had started to decline for reasons unknown until it was nothing more than a leafless stump in the pot. I shook all of the soil off, and discovered that it still seemed to be alive; so I trimmed the roots, put it in a prop mix, and then into the terrarium. Within a few weeks a new sprout appeared, and it continues to do well.

I hope I have given some useful advice on some of the techniques that have worked for me in growing under lights. There's really not much to it. I strongly recommend

using fluorescent lights for begonias; it has allowed me to expand my collection of begonias, and my fascination for this wonderful family of plants.

Terrariums under lights have proven to be particularly rewarding, providing an ideal environment for the plants, as well as minimal care on the part of the grower - an ideal situation as far as I'm concerned! For those of you who have not expanded into these techniques already, I hope I've convinced you - Good Luck!

NOTES;

1. Made by Lights of America (Walnut, CA 91789). Cost is about \$8 per fixture. These use 69 watts to operate two 40 watt tubes (I don't understand how they do that, but the result is an energy-efficient fixture that costs less to operate).

2. Propagation trays with "High Topper" humidity domes from New Earth Indoor/Outdoor Garden Center, 3623 East Highway 44, Shepherdsville, KY 40165; phone 1-800-462-5953.

Jeff Stuart lives at 103 Bristol Place, Syracuse, NY 13210-2511.

Jeff's article appeared in the Members-at-Large (MAL) newsletter of October, 1993, and is just one example of the interesting and useful material to be found in the outstanding MAL Newsletter. MAL membership is available to any ABS member who lives too far from a Branch to participate in Branch activities. To join, send four stamped, self-addressed legal-sized envelopes and \$1 to MAL Director Thelma McRae, 5471 S. Libby Rd. #15, Paradise, CA 95969.

IN MEMORY

Betty Tillotson, long-time member of Sacramento Branch, passed away on June 7. In addition to branch activities, Betty was active on the national level; she was a Senior Judge and served until 1993 as Back Issues Chair. Even after an injury that limited her mobility, she made every effort to work at show set-up and to attend Birthday Dinners. She will be missed.

- Paul Tsamtsis, Sacramento Begonia Leaflet

In the News...

Thelma O'Reilly is not only a whiz with begonias: she won Sweepstakes at the *World Bromeliad Congress* in San Diego in June. Not only that, but her garden was on tour and featured in a four-color spread in the local newspaper.

Corrections

"Show News" reported in the last issue that the Buxton Branch had won a Gold Medal in the *New England Flower Show*. True! But omitted in the credits was **Frank Green**, who designed the exhibit and co-ordinated the installation.

Included in the Mini-Ads last issue was one for **Bill Voss**, who did not intend for it to run. Apologies to Bill, and to those who ordered from him. The error was not his.

BULLETIN BOARD

ABS News

Officers Elected

Ballot Counting Chair **Shelley Andros** and her committee members **Ronnie Nevins** and **Mary Sakamoto** confirm the election of:

President: **Gene Salisbury**

1st Vice-President: **Mary Bucholtz**

2nd Vice-President: **Bruce C. Boardman**

3rd Vice-President: **Michael Kartuz**

Secretary: **Arlene Ingles**

Treasurer: **Carol Notaras**

Installation of Officers, Meetings

Executive Board: Friday, September 30, 7:45 p.m., at the Seapoint Hotel, San Diego, CA. All members welcome to attend (but only Board members can vote).

Annual Membership Meeting & Installation of Officers: Saturday, October 1, 6 p.m. for social, 7 p.m. for dinner. At the Seapoint Hotel, San Diego, CA. All members welcome: please come, make your voices heard and your votes count.

For more information on both meetings, see p. 161

Overseas Exchanges

Interested in learning about begonias in Australia? Give a gift membership to ABS, receive a gift membership in the Association of Australian Begonia Societies. You'll get **Begonia Australis** (quarterly). Contact Membership Chair John Ingles, Jr., 157 Monument, Rio Dell, CA 95562-1617.

For names and addresses to contact about memberships in other begonia societies worldwide, see the Directory of Begonia Societies, p. 187.

Back Issues, Overprints

Back issues of the **Begonian** are on special: buy one year at \$2.50, get one year free! Contact Back Issues Chair Ann Salisbury, Box 452, Tonkawa, OK 74653. For cost of postage, branches may order back issues for branch libraries, and recent overprints to use at shows or give to visitors who might be interested in membership. Contact Back Issues Chair or Editor.

Appointed Chairmen &

Branch Representatives:

Please send your annual reports to Secretary Arlene Ingles and President Gene Salisbury by mid-September. Addresses are on page 161 and also page 190.

Thanks!

Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Notes

September-October 1994

Thank you! to Cynthia Bishop, Eleanor Calkins, Joan Campbell, Francoise Fairfield, Phil Mudgett, Joy Porter, Jeff Stuart; Beth Castillon and the New York Botanical Gardens, and Kelton Parker and the Fort Worth Botanic Garden; and all the other ABS members who have contributed to the Seed Fund.

Donors make every effort to see that parent plants are not exposed to unwanted pollens. Unfortunately, no precaution can provide a 100% guarantee that wind, bees, etc. have not foiled all the pollinator's work. If your seedlings grown from species seed don't look like the description provided, please notify the Seed Fund Director.

On the other hand, seedlings from hybrid and open-pollinated will vary, often wildly. These little surprises sometimes turn out to be quite beautiful begonias, and perhaps worthy of registration. In that case, you as grower have the privilege of naming them.

Notes on Seeds Listed

Species

Shrub-like

B. paleata (Brazil, 1859) is a compact grower with distinctive light green foliage and profuse white flowers in winter. See plate 11 in Begonias: The Complete Reference Guide, by Mildred L. and Edward J. Thompson.

Thick-stemmed

One of the earliest begonias in cultivation was *B. dichotoma* (Venezuela, 1791), which reached England in 1800. Don't bother pinching this one; *B. dichotoma* rarely branches, but it does create a nice full plant by sending up basal shoots. It has large bare light green leaves and white flowers. Bloom is in early spring. There is a black & white photo on p. 104 of

Begonias: The Complete Reference Guide.

Note: Some plants of *B. dichotoma* have smaller leaves and red stems and petioles; these were once classified as a separate species, *B. sulcata*. Both types are now considered to be a single species, with *B. dichotoma* as the proper name.

B. ulmifolia (Venezuela, 1805) received its name for its elm-leaf-like leaves. But elms don't have a profusion of white flowers from winter into spring. This is another of the thick-stemmed begonias that pinching doesn't seem to help. Enchanting as a baby, *B. ulmifolia* goes through a gangly teen-age stage before it fills out (via drooping branches that root if they find soil, and basal shoots) to resemble an attractive bush, about 3 1/2 to 4 feet tall and equally wide. This one takes a lot of room if allowed to mature. Or grow it as an annual and enjoy its infancy - young ones have even been known to look good in a hanging basket. Opinions vary as to required cultural conditions: at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Sydney, Australia, *B. ulmifolia* grows in their cloud forest area, in a shady spot by a small stream; in Fort Worth, it is grown in bright light in a warm area with no mist. Both places boast big healthy plants, the major difference being deeper green leaves in deeper shade, and more vigorous growth and more bloom with several hours of sun. See black & white photo on p. 114 of Begonias: The Complete Reference Guide.

Rhizomatous

B. coriacea (Java, 1858) is an enchanting small begonia with rounded, peltate, leaves the color of deep copper, and contrasting deep pink flowers. It blooms almost continuously. High humidity is required to keep *B. coriacea* happy; in most areas, this means terrarium care or a humid greenhouse.

B. rajah (Malaya, 1894) has distinctive leaves with light green veins crossing a

“bumpy” raised chocolate brown surface. Reddish stems and light pink flowers provide a nice contrast. Terrarium care is required. See plate 21, Begonias: The Complete Reference Guide, and the **Begonian**, March 1976, for articles about *B. rajah* by Millie Thompson (p. 68) and Elda Haring (p. 70).

Tuberous/Semi-tuberous

B. dregei ‘Glasgow’ differs from others in the *dregei* group in that its leaves retain their dainty silver spots in maturity. Begonias in this group come from Tropical Africa and like warm temperatures. They are small and dainty with incised “maple-leaf” leaves, and good candidates for a sunny windowsill. Tiny white flowers are almost continuous when enough light is received. Cooler temperatures (below 60°F) may bring about dormancy, and mildew may be a problem, especially when light is insufficient.

If your only knowledge of semi-tuberous begonias is the *B. dregei* “maple-leaf” types, *B. morelii* will come as a surprise. Its leaves are heart-shaped, coppery when new and dark green, sometimes faintly spotted with silver, when mature. Flowers are white tinted very lightly with pink.

Also a surprise was its discovery: *B. morelii* appeared spontaneously in the Station Central de Physiologie Végétale at Versailles, and was sent by the director, Dr. Morel, to Edgar Imscher for identification. Dr. Imscher placed it to the Asiatic section Reichenheimia, whose members are found from India and Ceylon through Burma and north into China. A color photo appeared on the cover of the December, 1975 **Begonian**, in which the original description, botanical print, and growing information also appear.

Some characteristics it shares with the *dregei* group: it’s small, dainty, nearly ever-blooming, likes warm temperatures, and may go dormant below 60°F. Terrarium care recommended.

B. U295 (Ecuador) was collected by Scott Hoover. It has orange flowers, and will go dormant. Thelma O’Reilly says it will come back reliably; she has had hers for three years.

Trailing-scandent

It’s not often that we have offerings in this, the tiniest horticultural class of begonias. This time there are two real winners.

B. ampla (Tropical Africa, 1871) has large, thick, glossy glabrous dark green leaves that can reach 10" and white flowers. Unusual are its pale orange fruits, said to be the size of a hen’s egg, which appear in summer. I suspect the plant’s name comes from its ample proportions. See the **Begonian**, March-April 1992, p. 34 for an article by Millie Thompson, with black & white photos. Millie suggest growing *B ampla* in temperatures of 65°F or higher, with humidity of 60% or more and pH between 6.5 and 7.0, in moss-lined wire baskets. Give it strong bright light, filtered in summer.

B. thelmae (Brazil, 1981) was grown for some years as B. U009, then named for Thelma O’Reilly. A cover photo, along with the original description, history, and growing information appears in the May, 1981 **Begonian**. Its small leaves are slightly hairy, dark green with pale green veins, and have reddish undersides. Flowers are white, and held above the leaves; they appear fall into winter, when not many begonias are blooming. *B. thelmae* creeps along the ground and up the wall of a terrarium or humid greenhouse, creating a carpet effect. Watch out for too much light, which will bleach out the leaves. Mable Corwin reported in 1981 that after flowering *B. thelmae* may go partially or totally dormant; it’s a good idea to take cuttings as the blooms fade: “to keep a beautiful, healthy specimen of this unusual begonia, it must be restarted from strong tip cuttings each year.”

Hybrid/Open Pollinated

Seed parent B. ‘Pattern’ is rhizomatous with large cleft leaves and pink flowers, from a cross of B. ‘Virbob’ with ‘B. ‘Verde Grande’.

“Bottom of the Box” is our popular grab-bag, a collection of seeds that escaped from their containers. Could be anything!
- Tamsin Boardman

CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND LISTING

Marilyn Goldstein, Seed Fund Director

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

The Seed Fund would appreciate receiving donations of any fresh seed, as our supply is very limited at this time. Thank you!

All packets of species seed are \$1 each, and all packets of hybrid seed are 50c each.

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:

US only: 1-12 packets, \$1; 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.

Please send your order with payment to:

Marilyn Goldstein
1001 Diplomat Parkway
Hollywood FL 33019-2209
U.S.A.

Species Seed

\$1 per packet

B. ampla
B. coriacea
B. dichotoma
B. dregei 'Glasgow'
*B. morelii**
B. paleata
B. rajah
*B. thelmae**
B. ulmifolia
B. U295

*very limited quantity

Other Seed

50 cents per packet

B. 'Pattern' (seed parent)
"Bottom of the Box"

ROUND ROBIN NOTES

Virginia Hamann, Round Robin Director

Robins sent out in December returned for spring and summer flights, and new Robins have been formed. The topics are Terrariums and Rhizomatous Culture. Robins needing more members include Semperflorens, Tuberous, and Organic Growing.

#13, Canes:

Spotted leaves are a favorite. Walter Dworkin (NY) is looking for beautifully colored leaves in his hybrids. He told members that there are both stable and unstable variegations on seedlings. Silvery spots can disappear as the plant matures. Walter finds that temperature can affect the leaf markings; he grows in 55° temperatures during the winter months, and his canes show gorgeous variegated silver markings only to have the leaves change to thicker, solid dark green foliage when placed outdoors in summer. Another factor is fertilizer; he advises that high nitrogen 30-10-10 fertilizer should be avoided to maintain the markings.

#57, Mini-Begonias:

Jackie Wiksten (IL) likes miniature begonias, the tinier the better. She grows under lights, tucking her begonias among her miniature sinningias. Having had some problems rooting miniature rhizomatous begonias, she now sits the rhizome on top of moist potting mix, propping them up and covering them; so far this system has worked for her.

#43, Terrariums:

Coleen Anderson (WI) saved *B. prismatocarpa* from an infestation of aphids by washing foliage, roots, and all. She changed the soil and hoped for the best. So far *prismatocarpa* has restarted, and at last report tiny buds were appearing.

Instead of trying to keep old plants going, take cuttings and grow new plants, suggests Mae Blanton (TX). Members hate to toss out old plants: it is like parting from old friends.

#16, Eastern General:

Elaine Ayers (OH) has enjoyed her greenhouse during the winter. Begonias, bromeliads, and orchids all in bloom perfume the air, creating a rainforest atmosphere.

#2, Tuberous.

This Robin is in need of members.

Jeanette Dupey (WA) will prepare her begonia beds outside by spraying the soil with foliar food, and Benomyl for fungus prevention. Jeanette has 500 plants to set out!

Monte Richards (SD) will pick the first blooms off of his tuberous begonias to encourage larger plants.

#20, Photography:

Daniel Haseltine (IL) suggests setting aside time each week for photography. In addition, he advises taking pictures of the same subject at different times of the day to see how light shifts and changes the mood of the picture.

Using different backgrounds was discussed. Most members favored darker backgrounds, as these showed off the plant's leaf colors rather than washing them out as lighter backgrounds did.

#5, Hybridizing & Breeding:

Tissue culture of plants is being discussed more and more often. This propagation method would enable hybridizers to create identical clones of plants, thus putting them on the market faster.

Brad Thompson (CA) has swirls and double swirls on his rhizomatous seedlings. He chooses Egyptian names, as they are mysterious and exotic.

Walter Dworkin (NY) would like for his canes to bloom - "sometime in his lifetime!" His hybrids have lovely leaf designs, streaks, splashes, and dots, but no bloom as yet. He wonders if they could be classified as "ornamental canes, no blooms." Friends and other Begoniacs are threatening to steal these plants if he does not release them soon He says, "Begonias held hostage?? What next!"

John Howell (TX) said the Oklahoma convention was the best ever! The show had over 400 begonia entries.

New ABS members are welcome to join the Round robins. There is no such thing as a beginner, members are ready and willing to share growing knowledge. Drop me a line and tell me of your special begonia interests, and I will find a Robin for you.

Virginia Hamann
Rt. 1, Box 10
Chester, IA 52134

Quote:

"Failure is one thing that can be achieved without effort."

Alamo Branch newsletter

Quote:

"You can't get rid of a bad temper by losing it."

San Francisco Begonian

Coming Events

September 30: ABS Executive Board Meeting, Seapoint Hotel, 4875 North Harbor Drive, San Diego CA; 7:45 p.m.

October 1: ABS Annual Membership Meeting. Dinner, 7 p.m. At the Seapoint Hotel, San Diego (address above).

1995

February 25-26: New South Wales Begonia Society Show & Sale at the Harvey Lowe Pavilion.

April 14-17: "Begonias: Beautiful One Day, Perfect the Next" **Fourth Australian Begonia Convention** in Brisbane, Queensland, hosted by Queensland Begonia Society. Seminars, plant sales, visits to local begonia collections. Cost approximately \$150 Australian currency covers all events, dinner. For more information, contact P. J. B. Henderson, 79 Chuter St., Stafford 4053, Brisbane, Australia.

April 29-30: Barkley Branch Annual Show and Sale, Will Rogers Garden Center, Oklahoma City, OK.

early June: Southwest Region Get-Together, San Antonio, Texas, with Alamo Branch as hosts. Exact dates and place to be announced. Y'all come!

Deadline for next issue is October 15.

Directory of Begonia Societies

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETIES

Australia

Association of Australian Begonia Societies

Peter Henderson, Chair
79 Chuter St.
Stafford, Queensland 4053

Associated Societies:

Begonia Society of Western Australia, Inc.

Lyla Kilpatrick, Pres.
Lot 44 Canns Rd.

Bedforddale WA 6112

New South Wales Begonia Society, Inc.

Jean Whitten, Pres.
15 Carlo Close
Kincumber 2250 NSW

Queensland Begonia Society

Les Bowden, Pres.
24 Lexham St.

Bald Hills

Queensland 4036

South Australian Begonia Society

Ted Williams, Pres.
P.O. Box 116

Stirling 5152, South Australia

Victorian Begonia Society, Inc.

Philip Wright, Pres.
74 Railway Place
Macedon 3440, Victoria

Belgium

Societe Belge du Begonia
Piron Gilles, Pres.
Chemin de Lancre, 4
B-4970 Coe, Belgium

Canada

British Columbia Fuchsia & Begonia Society
Lorna Herchenson, Pres.
2402 Swinburne Ave.
North Vancouver B.C.
V7H1L2

Canadian Begonia Society

Miree Lex, Pres.
70 Enfield Ave.
Toronto, Ontario M8W1T9

England & Wales

The National Begonia Society
Dr. Eric Caterall
3 Gladstone Rd., Dorridge
Solihull, W. Midlands B93 8BX

France

Assoc. Francoise de Amateurs de
Begonias
Mme. Annie Danancher
editor, le petit bégo-fil
11 Rue Myrha
Paris 75018

Japan

Japan Begonia Society
Mr. Tatsuo Suzuki, Pres.
2-1-11 Yakumo 2-Chome
Maguro-Ku
Tokyo 152

Scotland

Scottish Begonia Society
c/- 260 Bellfield Rd.
Coalburn, Lanarkshire
Scotland M11100NQ, UK

AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

REGION

Southwest Region

Tom Keepin, Director
4513 Randwick Dr.
Houston, TX 77092

BRANCHES

CALIFORNIA

Alfred D. Robinson

2nd Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.
Homes of members
Crystal Zook, Pres.
526 San Elijo St.
San Diego, CA 92106

East Bay

3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Northbrae Com. Church,
941 Alameda Berkeley
Rich Bishop, Pres.
1404 Cypress
Berkeley, CA 94703

Garden Grove

1st Wed., 7:30 p.m.
 12860 Euclid St.
 Garden Grove
 Ed Vogel, Pres.
 9811 Oma Place
 Garden Grove, CA 92641

Long Beach Parent Chapter

3rd Friday, 12:30 p.m.
 Apollo Neighborhood
 Center, Apollo Park
 12458 Rives Ave.
 South Downey
 Vivian Hill, Pres.
 5133 Ashworth St.
 Lakewood, CA 90712

Monterey Bay Area

4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
 Monterey Senior Cntr,
 Lighthouse & Dickman
 Sts., Monterey
 (no meeting June, Aug.)
 William Schramm, Pres.
 17 Calera Canyon
 Salinas, CA 93908

Orange County

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
 Fullerton S & L
 2310 E. Lincoln Ave.
 Anaheim
 Joyce Hesse
 636 S. Gilbuck Ave.
 Anaheim, CA 92802

Palomar

2nd Sunday, 2 p.m.
 Quail Botanical Gardens
 230 Quail Gardens Dr.
 Encinitas
 Ingeborg Foo, Pres.
 1050 Melrose Way
 Vista, CA 92083

Palos Verdes

1st Mon., 7:30 p.m.
 S. Coast Botanic Garden
 Teri Dykzeul, Pres.
 23115 Falena Ave.
 Torrance, CA 90501

Rubidoux

4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
 W. Riverside Mem.
 Auditorium
 4393 Riverview Dr.
 Terry Hicks, Pres.
 4243 Kathy Ave.
 Riverside, CA 92509

Sacramento

3rd Tuesday, 7:15 p.m.
 Garden Center
 3330 McKinley Blvd.
 Sacramento
 Paul Tsamtsis, Pres.
 1630 F St.
 Sacramento, CA 95814

San Francisco

1st Wednesday, 8 p.m.
 Garden Center
 Golden Gate Park,
 9th Ave. & Lincoln Way
 Susan Muller, Pres.
 124 St. Charles Ave.
 San Francisco, CA 94132

San Gabriel Valley

2nd Tuesday, 7:45 p.m.
 Los Angeles State &
 County Arboretum
 301 N. Baldwin Ave.
 Arcadia
 Beverly Hitz, Pres.
 663 Anaby Ct.
 Upland, CA 91786

San Miguel

4th Saturday
 Members' Homes
 Eleanor Calkins, Pres.
 910 Fern St.
 Escondido, CA 92027

Santa Barbara

4th Sunday, 2:30 p.m.
 The Cottage
 1130 N. Milpas St.
 Santa Barbara
 Rudolph Ziesenhennel,
 Pres.
 (address same as above)

Santa Clara Valley

3rd Thursday, 7:45 p.m.
 Rm 2, Kirk Com. Cntr.
 1601 Foxworthy Ave.
 San Jose
 Jackie Davis, Pres.
 170 Wingfoot Way
 Aptos, CA 95003

South Bay

2nd Friday, 7:30 p.m.
 Dana School Cafetorium
 135th & Aviation
 Hawthorne
 Evelyn Isaac, Pres.
 2022 Bataan Rd.
 Redondo Beach, CA
 90278

Theodosia Burr Shepherd

1st Monday, 7:30 p.m.
 American Commercial
 Bank
 6401 Telephone Rd.
 Ventura
 Pam Hantgin, Pres.
 94 N. Santa Rosa St.
 Ventura, CA 93001

Westchester

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
 Univ. Christian Church
 5831 Centinella Ave.
 Janet Brown, Pres.
 7825 Kentwood Ave.
 Los Angeles, CA 90046

Whittier

1st Friday, 7 p.m.
 Room 1, Civic Center
 7630 Washington Ave.
 Whittier
 Beverly Hitz, Pres.
 205 E. Maple St.
 Ontario, CA 91961

CONNECTICUT**Connecticut**

4th Monday
 homes of members
 Priscilla Beck, Dir.
 1931 Shewville Rd.
 Ledyard, CT 06339

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
AREA****Potomac**

4th Sunday, 2 p.m.
 Green Spring Farm Park
 4601 Green Spring Rd.
 Alexandria, VA
 Ruth Ihara, Pres.
 Rt. 2, Box 182A
 Leesburg, VA 22075

FLORIDA**Fort Lauderdale Area**

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
 3245 College Ave.
 Davie, FL
 Sylvia Ben, Pres.
 2808 N. 46th Ave. #E551
 Hollywood, FL 33021

Jacksonville

3rd Monday, 7:30 p.m.
 Garden Club
 1005 Riverside Ave.
 Jacksonville
 Ruby Young, Pres.
 231 Tallulah Ave.
 Jacksonville, FL 32208

Miami

4th Tuesday, 8 p.m.
 Simpson Garden Center
 55 SW 17th Rd.
 Miami
 Alma Crawford, Pres.
 14250 Madison St.
 Miami, FL 33176

Palm Beaches

2nd Monday
 Horticultural Center
 531 N. Military Trail
 Helene Jaros, N. Dir.,
 2621 NW 23rd Ct.
 Miami, FL 33142

Pinellas County

3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
 Fellowship Hall, Church of
 Christ
 6045 Park Blvd.
 Pinellas Park
 Wylie Summerlin, Pres.
 7235 53rd St. N. Apt. C
 Pinellas Park, FL 34665

Tampa Bay Area

3rd Wed., 7 p.m.
 Members Homes
 Dora Lee Dorsey, Pres.
 8110 N. Edison Ave.
 Tampa, FL 33604

GEORGIA**Greater Atlanta**

2nd Sunday, 3 p.m.
 odd-numbered months
 Atlanta Botanical Garden
 Russ Richardson, Pres.
 1854 Chancery Lane
 Chamblee, GA 30341

ILLINOIS**Greater Chicago**

4th Sunday, 1:30 p.m.
 Oak Park Conservatory
 Earth Shelter
 621 Garfield St.
 Chicago
 Daniel Paulson, Pres.
 6339 S. Kenneth Ave.
 Chicago, IL 60629

MASSACHUSETTS**Bessie Buxton**

write for meeting info.
 Frank Green, Pres.
 20 Cross St.
 Fitchburg, MA 01420

NEW JERSEY**Elsa Fort**

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

NEW YORK**Knickerbocker**

2nd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
 (except July & Aug.)
 Hort. Society of NY
 128 W. 58th St.
 New York
 Vanessa Young, Pres.
 2975 Bainbridge Ave
 Bronx, NY 10458

Brooklyn-Queens-Nassau

3rd Sunday, 1:30 p.m.
 Planting Fields Arboretum,
 Oyster Bay NY
 Walter Dworkin, Pres.
 8 Rugby Rd.
 Westbury, NY 11590

OHIO**Greater Cincinnati**

Douglas Hahn, Pres.
 7736 Stonehill Dr.
 Cincinnati, OH 45230

OKLAHOMA**Fred A. Barkley**

3rd Sunday, 2:30 p.m.
 Will Rogers Garden Cntr.
 3400 NW 36th St.
 Oklahoma City
 Jim Jolly, Pres.
 9712 S. Winston Way
 Oklahoma City, OK 73139

PENNSYLVANIA**Edna Stewart Pittsburgh**

3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
 Pittsburgh Garden Center
 Melissa Jones, Nat'l Dir.
 5220 Beeler St.
 Pittsburgh, PA 15217

TEXAS**Alamo**

3rd Saturday
 Homes of members
 Barbara Stewart, Pres.
 30631 Blanco Rd.
 Bulverde, TX 78163

Astro

1st Sunday, 2 p.m.
 Gail MacGregor, Pres.
 4407 Joyce Blvd.
 Houston, TX 77084

Dallas Area

3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m.
 Northaven Gardens
 7700 Northaven Rd.
 Dallas
 Charles McGough, Pres.
 1603 Walnut
 Commerce, TX 75428

Houston Satellite

4th Tuesday
 League City Bank & Trust
 League City
 Helen Spiers, Pres.
 1423 Laskey
 Houston TX 77034

Mae Blanton

4th Wed., 10:30 a.m.
 Homes of members
 Kay Jennings, Pres.
 5701 Oakmont Lane
 Fort Worth, TX 76112

THANK YOU!

*to all Branch Officers who
 sent updated information
 for this Directory.*

*Please check your Branch
 listing and let us know of
 updates and corrections.*

*We need to hear from
 William Penn (PA) &
 Roger Williams (RI):
 Are you still out there?*

ABS SLIDE LIBRARY

Slide Programs

A2. MISCELLANEOUS BEGONIAS, 85 slides. Includes printed list with basic descriptions. Excellent.

A3. MISCELLANEOUS BEGONIAS growing in California. 86 slides with typed program. Excellent program. Slides are identified.

A4. 1975 ABS NATIONAL CONVENTION, ribbon & trophy winners, 44 slides. unnamed and no order. Fine photography by Gene Daniels.

A5. MISCELLANEOUS BEGONIAS, 99 slides with typed program, all named. Excellent, but slides are faded.

A6. SEATTLE AND VENTURA BEGONIA SHOWS, 1970-1973, 36 slides. No order, no tape or printed sheet. Some slides not identified.

A7. THE DEVELOPMENT OF TUBEROUS BEGONIAS narrated by Patrick Worley. Tape cassette and excellent slides, including many of Reinelt's "Pacific" strain blossoms. Professional photography.

A8. MISCELLANEOUS BEGONIAS, all types including species, 117 slides. Also California gardens. No order, no typed program or tape - much used, worn condition, but very good.

A9. MISCELLANEOUS BEGONIAS, ferns, and other plant families, 33 slides. All named, no order, no typed or printed sheet. Slides in fair condition.

A10. GENERAL BEGONIA TALK by Millie & Ed Thompson. A 2 1/2 hour tape and slide program. One half of the program is general begonia talk, tape only with descriptive literature. Second half of the program on tape with 128 excellent slides. One of the best. (Due to length, half can be used at a meeting; the 128 slides make an excellent program alone.)

A11. BEGONIA FESTIVAL AT CAPITOLA, CA. Beautiful slides of floats on the river in 1963, excellent photography. No script. Includes slides of Reinelt's best tuberous blossoms with printed historical and cultural information.

A12. BEGONIA MATERIAL COLLECTING AS A HOBBY by Rudolf Ziesenhenné. Includes printed lists with description. This program is about collecting begonia-related items including antique prints, paintings, majolica, other memorabilia. Interesting program.

A13. RHIZOMATOUS BEGONIAS presented by Millie Thompson. Millie starts by discussing rhizomatous on tape and leads into the presentation of beautiful begonia slides with comments, followed by slides of Thompson's growing area and gardens. About 1 1/2 hour long, 200 slides, typed list.

A14. JAPANESE CULTIVARS GROWN IN THE UNITED STATES by Millie Thompson. Tape, 127 slides, printed list.

A15. BEGONIAS IN THEIR NATURAL HABITAT by Scott Hoover. A half hour discussion & 26 slides of begonias in Mexico; 1/2 hour, 17 slides, Guatemala; 40 minutes, 28 slides, Venezuela; 8 slides from Colombia, 11 from Ecuador, with tape; 9 slides from Papua/New Guinea & Jamaica, with tape.

A16. THE TROPICAL RAIN FOREST by Scott Hoover. 78 slides, 45 minute tape narration, collecting in Colombia & Ecuador 1984. Slides taken by Scott, donated by Daniel Haseltine.

A17. BARKLEY BRANCH SHOW, 1982: Set-up & Show. 77 slides, printed list.

A18. LIVING MUSEUM OF BEGONIAS by Millie Thompson. 173 slides with 50 minute tape, printed list. Donated by Thompsons & Daniel Haseltine.

A19. MONTREAL BOTANICAL GARDENS. 92 slides of plants, gardens, begonia collection donated by Jackie Davis & Joy Porter; printed list.

A20. BEGONIAS IN GENERAL by Millie & Ed Thompson. 140 slides, typed list. Separates begonias into the 8 horticultural groups. Donated by the Thompsons.

A21. BEGONIAS. 98 slides, typed list. Good slides showing variation in color and growth of the same begonias, also begonias in arranged plantings.

A22. BEGONIAS GALORE. 123 slides, show plants from 1980 & 1981. Views of Kartuz Greenhouses, Mabel Corwin's garden, Jackie Davis' plants.

A23. 50TH ANNUAL ABS CONVENTION, SANTA CRUZ, CA. 137 slides, typed list. Show plants, people, tours of Jackie Davis' home, Antonelli Bros., Brown Bulb Farm, & Begonia floats on Sequil Creek.

A24. HOW NOT TO GROW A BEGONIA by Miami Branch. Humorous look presented at 1985 ABS Convention. Fun program, good chuckles. Donated by Miami Branch.

A25. 1990 ABS CONVENTION, SAN ANTONIO, TX. Printed list. A look at the fabulous show plants at "Begonias: Olé!"

A26. *Begonia dregei*: STUDY IN SOUTH AFRICA. Printed list. Dr. Tracy McLellan's expedition into South Africa; a fascinating look at the different variations of this semi-tuberous begonia.

A27. SCOTLAND & ENGLAND: BEGONIA HIGHLIGHTS. Printed list. Glorious look at Kew Gardens, including the Princess of Wales Conservatory where the begonia collection is housed; the Glasgow Botanical Gardens; and the Ayr Flower Show, with outstanding tuberous begonias. Donated by Charles Jaros.

Videos

B1. TRAVELLING WITH BEGONIAS by Marilyn Goldstein. Demonstration of safe easy method of transporting begonias to and from a convention. 1993 ABS Convention seminar. Video donated by Bill O'Geary.

B2. FAIRCHILD TROPICAL GARDENS by Dr. William McKinley Klein. Before & after Hurricane Andrew. 1993 ABS Convention seminar. Video donated by Bill O'Geary.

B3. LANDSCAPING WITH BEGONIAS by Bruce Pearson, of Tropical World Nursery. Find out how to use begonias in your landscape. 1993 ABS Convention seminar. Video donated by Bill O'Geary.

B4. SOILS & FERTILIZERS. Tim Anderson of Daisy Farm Nursery. How do fertilizers differ? Why is aerolite used more & more? Find out in this video of the 1993 ABS Convention seminar. Video donated by Bill O'Geary.

B5. TROPICAL SPLENDORS by Roberto Brin. A slide fantasy, a potpourri of begonias, and a National Park in Panama declared a "Biosphere & Man Preserve" by the UN. 1993 ABS Convention seminar. Video donated by Bill O'Geary.

B6. 1993 ABS CONVENTION SHOW, MIAMI, FL. A video view of the show room, printed list of plants shown. No audio. Video donated by Bill O'Geary.

Order from:

Charles Jaros
2621 NW 23rd Court
Miami, FL 33142

Cost is \$15, plus return postage & insurance. Make check payable to American Begonia Society. Please list 1st, 2nd, & 3rd choice; order by slide/video number and program name. When ordering, allow time for travelling and time to preview programs. Programs are to be shipped 1st Class and insured for \$100.

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:

Cynthia Bishop
4150 Auburn-Folsom Rd.
Loomis, CA 95650
(916) 652-7311

Deadline for next issue is October 15

BEGONIA CUTTINGS AND PLANTS.

Send \$2 for expanded 1994 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, 317 N. 12th St., Donna, TX 78537.

"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.

BEGONIAS, FERNS, SHADE PLANTS.

We are now open to provide you with quality plants...Come visit. Send \$2 for plant list. Golden Hills Nursery (Cynthia Bishop), 4150 Auburn-Folsom Rd., Loomis CA 95650; (916) 652-7311.

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.

BEGONIAS, EPISCIAS, HOYAS. Cuttings only. Send \$1 for list to B & K Tropicals, 5300 48 Terrace N., St Petersburg, FL 33709; (813) 522-8691.

BEGONIAS, 1994: newest Texas hybrids. 'Black Swirl', 'Bo Jangles', 'Morning Sun', 'Funny Farm', and many more. Send \$2 for list to Stew's Greenhouses, 30631 Blanco Rd., Bulverde, TX 78163. Ph. 210-980-9439.

BEGONIAS, GESNERIADS, RARE FLOWERING PLANTS. 1993 catalog \$2.00, free to A.B.S. members. KARTUZ GREENHOUSES, 1408 Sunset Drive, Dept. B., Vista, CA 92083-6531.

BEGONIAS, New and Old Lowe hybrids, as well as popular rhizomatous, cane, trailing species and hybrids; and **ORCHIDS.** List free with legal-size SASE. Paul Lowe, 5741 Dewberry Way, West Palm Beach FL 33415.

HOUSEPLANT MAGAZINE - Enjoy indoor gardening, travel, humor, hydroponics, tips for better growing, and information about your favorite houseplants - all in one delightful, full-color magazine. 1994 Discount subscription rate to ABS members. One year for four issues \$15.95 US/\$19.95 Canada & Mexico/\$24.95 overseas. Sample copy \$3.50 US/\$4.50 Canada & Mexico/\$5.50 overseas. US Funds drawn on US Bank only. For VISA/MC orders call 1(800)892-7594; or mail to **HOUSEPLANT MAGAZINE**, PO Box 1638-BS, Elkins, West Virginia 26241-1638.

Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting

May 21, 1994

The Board of Directors of the American Begonia Society met in Oklahoma City at the Embassy Suites Hotel on May 21, 1994, during the annual convention, at 12:15 p.m.

Roll call was taken; 37 Directors and Executive Board Members were present, as well as numerous member guests. Included were members from Japan, England, Australia, and Canada. President Gene Salisbury introduced the Executive Board and the Committee Chairpersons in attendance.

The reading of the Minutes of the January 19 meeting was dispensed with after a correction in paragraph 2 to read "annual membership meeting" and an addition requested by Eleanor Calkins to read "Pursuant to Article 2, Section 3 of the by-Laws, Eleanor closed out the Color Fund account and transferred monies to the General Fund". This was done by written vote of the board, 42 ayes and 1 nay. The Minutes were approved as amended.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Carol Notaras. Beginning balance in checking account Jan. 1, 1994: \$3,566.47. Income Jan. 1 through April, \$12,136.16; disbursements for the same period, \$12,110.59. Balance as of April 31, 1994: \$3,594.20.

Committee Reports:

Audit, Award, Members at Large, Book Store, Branch Relations, Conservation, Judging, Membership, Parliamentarian, Public Relations, Slide Library, Nominating, and Publications Committees gave reports.

GESNERIAD CORRESPONDENCE CLUB

RON & LOIS KRUGER, EDITORS
207 WYCOFF WAY WEST, EAST BRUNSWICK NJ
08816 Membership \$5 US; \$6.75 Canada; \$12 foreign;
Braille \$5 (all payable US funds to Ron Kruger) includes
a bi-monthly newsletter; seed & tuber funds, round
robins; listing of pen pals with various plant interests.

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF PLANT
FRIENDSHIPS!

Greater Atlanta, Monterey Bay, and Barkley Branches gave reports.

Margaret Lee is working on a revision to the ABS Constitution and By-Laws. Please send recommendations in writing.

Gene Salisbury asked that Kelton Parker be ratified as Research Librarian. The board approved the appointment.

The Secretary received no names by petition, and requested that the editor print the ballot in the July-August issue of the Begonian.

The Board voted 18 to 11 to cut back temporarily on advertising. Wanda & Richard Macnair donated a sum of money to keep our ad in *Horticulture* magazine for the rest of the year. The Silent Plant Auction raised \$294.50 to go to advertising.

Dale Sena asked that the Board look into the cost of liability insurance to cover branch shows. The Board would appreciate hearing from anyone in the insurance business; please contact Gene Salisbury.

Conservation Chair Bruce C. Boardman requested up to \$300 from the Conservation Fund to get the Adopt-A-Species program started. The Board approved.

The Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

The next Board meeting will be held October 1, 1994 at the SeaPoint Hotel in San Diego, CA. The annual Membership Meeting will be held the evening of the 1st, and a short Board meeting will be held on Sunday morning, Oct. 2. A meeting notice will be sent out on August 1, 1994 with times and prices of the dinner. Rooms at the SeaPoint Hotel will be \$56 (single or double) per night.

Respectfully submitted,
Arlene Ingles,
Secretary

GROW GREAT FERNS JOIN LAIFS

Annual membership \$20
LAIFS Journal with Fern Lessons
Spore Store, Books, Educational Programs
Los Angeles Int'l Fern Society
P.O. Box 90943, Pasadena, CA 91109-0943

Join the NATIONAL

FUCHSIA SOCIETY

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.

Elected Officers

President.....Gene Salisbury
P.O. Box 452, Tonkawa OK 74653
(405) 628-5230

Past President.....Carol Notaras
2567 Green St., San Francisco CA 94123

1st Vice-President.....Mary Bucholtz
2411 Hendricks Ave., Jacksonville FL 33207

2nd Vice-President...Bruce C. Boardman
P.O. Box 69, Bluff Dale TX 76433

3rd Vice-President.....Millie Thompson
P.O. Drawer PP, Southampton NY 11968

Secretary.....Arlene Ingles
157 Monument, Rio Dell CA 95562-1617

Treasurer.....Carol Notaras
2567 Green St., San Francisco CA 94123

Appointed Chairmen and Directors

Awards.....Thelma O'Reilly
10942 Sunray Place, La Mesa CA 91941

Ballot Counting.....Shelley Andros
740 Lamat Rd., La Habre Heights CA 90631

Begonian Back Issues.....Ann Salisbury
P.O. Box 452, Tonkawa OK 74653

Branch Relations.....Mary Bucholtz
2411 Hendricks Ave., Jacksonville FL 33207

Business Manager.....John Ingles, Jr.
157 Monument, Rio Dell CA 95562-1617

Conservation.....Bruce C. Boardman
P.O. Box 69, Bluff Dale TX 76433

Convention Advisor.....Charles Jaros
2621 NW 23rd Court, Miami FL 33142

Convention Chairman.....Martha Chesnut
3232 N.W. 47th, Oklahoma City OK 73112

Entries/Classification.....Leora Fuentes
13747 Wilderness Point, San Antonio TX 78231

Historian.....Norma Pfrunder
3135 Severt Lane., Eureka CA 95503

Judging.....Maxine Zinman
Rt. 1, Box 73, Boyce VA 22620

Long-Range Planning.....Kay Tucker
207 Southcross, San Antonio TX 78221

Members-at-Large.....Thelma McRae
5471 S. Libby Rd. #15, Paradise CA 95969

Membership.....John Ingles Jr.
157 Monument, Rio Dell CA 95562-1617

Nomenclature.....Carrie Karegeannes
3916 Lake Blvd., Annandale VA 22003

Parliamentarian.....Margaret Lee
1852 31st St., San Diego CA 92102

Public Relations.....Russ Richardson
1854 Chancery Lane, Chamblee GA 30341

Research.....Houston Knight
13455 Hadley St., Whittier CA 90601

Research Librarian.....Kelton Parker
3220 Botanic Garden Dr., Ft. Worth TX 76107

Round Robin.....Virginia Hamann
Rt. 1, Box 10, Chester IA 52134

Seed Fund.....Marilyn Goldstein
1001 Diplomat Parkway, Hollywood FL
33019-2209

Slide Library.....Charles Jaros
2621 NW 23rd Court, Miami FL 33142

OPENINGS

Audit Chair

Begonian Editor

Bookstore Chair

Horticultural Correspondent

BEGONIAN STAFF

Editor: Tamsin Boardman, P.O. Box 69, Bluff Dale TX 76433; (817) 728-3485

Nomenclature Editor: Jack Golding

Editorial Assistants: Phyllis Bates, Bruce C. Boardman, Kit Mounger, Mary Weinberg

Advertising Staff

Mini-Ads: Cynthia Bishop, 4150 Auburn-Folsom Rd., Loomis CA 95650

Display Ads: Ann Salisbury, P.O. Box 452, Tonkawa OK 74653

Plant Society Ads: Wanda Macnair, 177 Hancock St., Cambridge MA 02139

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

Help Available from ABS

These services are available to all ABS members. For names and addresses of department heads, see preceding page. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope when you write.

Members at Large

Members who do not belong to branches are represented at Board meetings by the Members-at-Large Director. MAL members receive a quarterly newsletter and work on projects by mail

Back Issues

Back issues of the **Begonian**, also current issues for branch use at shows, etc.

Bookstore

Books about Begonias! And more! Write for complete list.

Judging Department

Certifies accredited judges through judging schools and correspondence course.

Nomenclature Department

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

Research Department

Works on problems relating to begonia culture.

Round Robins

Members exchange information about begonias and their culture through packets of letters that circulate among a small group of growers. There are dozens of these packets, called flights, on many specialized subjects.

Seed Fund

The Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund offers seed of begonia species and cultivars by mail. New acquisitions are discussed in the **Begonian**.

Slide Library

Write Slide Librarian for list of slide programs and videos.

Member Input Opportunities

Conservation Department

wants lists of species grown by members

Nomenclature Department

wants photos and information on "U" numbers members are growing from seed.

Research Department

solicits suggestions on projects and participation in research.

Seed Fund

seeks donation of seed and photos of plants grown from Seed Fund seed.

Slide library

requests individual slides of begonias as well as complete slide programs.

See also "Openings", preceding page.

Participate. You can make a difference.



American Begonia Society

157 Monument

Rio Dell, CA 95562-1617

Address correction requested

Non Profit Org.

U.S.POSTAGE

PAID

Permit No. 3735

Dallas, TX