

September-October 1995

*The* BEGONIAN 

# The BEGONIAN

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Publication of the American Begonia Society

## American Begonia Society

Founded January 1932 by Herbert P. Dyckman

### Aims and Purposes

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

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

*To standardize the nomenclature of begonias.*

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

*To issue a bulletin that 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** - They grow them BIG in Florida! This is *B. nelumbiifolia*, a native of Mexico through Colombia, right at home in the tropical climate of Daisy Farm Nursery. The photo was taken on tour during the 1993 Convention, by Sue Hessel.

**Back** - *B. thomsonii* isn't seen often, and its blooms are even rarer. Kit Jeans Mounger grew and photographed this beauty. (See article, p. 153.)



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B. 'Nancy Cummins'  
B. 'Tingley Mallet' x *B.*  
*deliciosa*

Drawing by Kit Jeans Mounger,  
hybridizer

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### Quick!

**Check your mailing label - if it reads 9/95 or 10/95, your membership is about to expire. Please renew - we don't want to lose you!**

## Coming Events

**August 31-Sept. 2:  
"Begonia Super Stars"  
1995 ABS Convention.**

Hosted by Doug Frost Memorial Branch and featuring the "Begonia Walk of Fame" highlighting winners of the Alfred D. Robinson Medal. Radisson Plaza Hotel, directly across from Orange County Airport.

**October 8: Palomar and Alfred D. Robinson Branches** co-sponsor Show & Sale at Quail Gardens, Encinitas, California.

*Please note: the date for this show & sale has been changed, and the earlier date announced in the May-June issue is not valid. Thank you to Eileen Clause for notifying us.*

**Start planning now...  
ABS Convention '96  
in sunny Florida**

Hosted by **Fort Lauderdale,  
Miami, and Palm Beaches  
Branches**

**1996 Southwest Region  
Get-Together**

May 24-26  
(Memorial Day weekend)  
Dallas, Texas  
Harvey House Downtown  
Hosted by the **Dallas Area Branch**,  
with some terrific surprises in store.  
*Y'all come!*

*Deadline for next issue is September 15*

## Show News Around the Country

At the *Southwest Region Get-Together*, "Lone Star Begonias: Y'all Come!" in May, Cultural Awards were won by **George Macias**, with Begonias 'Lubbergei' (98 points), *venosa* (97), and 'Di-Anna' (97); **John Howell**, for Begonias 'Benitsubomi' (97.5), 'Silver Misono' (96.6), 'Panassoffkee' (95.6), 'Rudy's Luxurians' (95), and 'Eleanor Yates' (95); **Don Miller**, with *B. herbacea* (97.6), and Begonias 'Don Miller' (96), U176 (96), and 'Peach Parfait' (96); **Virginia Kettler**, with Begonias 'Little Brother Montgomery' (96) and 'Steve Hurd' (95.33); **Leora Fuentes**, with *Begonias rajah* (96) and *sceptrum* (95); **Lucille Dyess**, with an unknown rhizomatous (96) and *B. 'Lime Swirl'* (95); and **Lulu Leonard**, with *B. 'Lulu Bowers'* (95).

odd things begonias do...

## Leaves

### Top the Peduncle of *B. rajah* Ridley

Text and Photo by Akira Tanaka



I enjoy growing rhizomatous type begonias. Recently I discovered an interesting thing: leaves at the top of a peduncle of *B. rajah* Ridley (see photo). I think it is a kind of miracle of botany.

I had one other experience of seeing leaves at the top of a peduncle, on B. 'Big Decora' (*B. decora* x *B. goegoensis*, hybridized by Atsyuki Ashizawa, the Japanese hybridizer of such begonias as 'Fragrant Beauty', B. 'de Elegans', and 'Kifujin'). B. 'Big Decora' also has adventitious leaves at the center of the surface of its leaves, just like *B. hispida* var. *cucullifera* Irm. (See next page for a photo of B. 'Big Decora'.)

I would like to know why these phenomenon occur, and hope anyone with the answer will let me know. In my experience, these phenomenon occur in conditions of high humidity.



B. 'Big Decora' with small leaves perched on peduncle with the flowers.

---

*Akira Tanaka is a Director and past President of the Japan Begonia Society. His address is 12-3-318 Sengen-cho, 3-chome, Higashikarume-shi, Tokyo 203, Japan.*

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more odd things begonias do, *Down Under...*

## B. 'Essie Hunt' Leaf Grows a Plantlet

*Marj Raddatz, of Beerwah, Queensland, Australia, in the Queensland Begonia Society newsletter of March, 1995:*

"My B. 'Essie Hunt' has been acting somewhat queerly of late. One leaf has a tiny plantlet sitting atop it, and there seem to be lots of tiny "bumps" on the leaf, as if something else might grow too. I suppose the tiny plant will eventually fall off but, if not, I think I'll put a container of potting mix close by, and see if I can peg it down in that. I will not remove the leaf - just keep both containers level."

## and B. U168 does it again!

Dorothy and Barry Mann of Ipswich, Queensland have a B. U168 that has put out a stem of totally different solid green leaves, a phenomenon first reported by Don Miller of Dallas, Texas (see "Begonia U168 Turns Green, the **Begonian**, March-April 1993; and "B. U168 Update", January-February 1994).

The Manns are the first growers outside of Texas to document an occurrence of this interesting development by B. U168, which had also been noticed in specimens grown by George Macias and Tom Keepin, both of Houston, Texas; John Howell of San Antonio, Texas; and Kelton Parker of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden (also in Texas).

### *In the News...*

The English nursery firm of Rhodes & Rockcliffe, owned by ABS members **David Rhodes** and **John Rockcliffe**, won a Silver Medal at the Chelsea Flower Show in May for their display of begonia species and hybrids.

One reviewer, Christopher Lloyd of the magazine Country Life, wrote the exhibit was "well repaying close-focus examination" and commented "There is an inexhaustible well of delights in this genus." (This was especially high praise from a writer who called another exhibit "shamingly pathetic".)

Wow! **Ruth Wilson**, a member of Rubidoux Branch, has been awarded the Life Time Award from the California Master Gardeners for contributing 3,500 hours of community service.

## B. U014 Puts Out a Variegated Leaf



Dorothy and Barry Mann also have in their collection a seedling of B. U014 that put out a strange leaf: green on one side of the midrib, white on the other. No other leaf on this or its sister seedlings has repeated the trick.

Has anyone else noticed variegation in B. U014?

# *B. thomsonii* has an unusual bloom

by Kit Jeans Mounger



I've been watching this begonia ever since I noticed tiny white clusters at the growing tip. They look like tiny nosegays above the lovely red-fuzzed leaves.

John Howell gave me the plant as *B. thomsonii*. I had never seen it before. And it's just lovely.

I grow it in the terrarium, and while it's gotten dry enough to droop (during our trips back and forth while moving), it's always sprung back quickly with some water.

I photographed it because its habit of bloom is so different. The males appear to have only two tepals (the blooms are tiny). No females have yet appeared.

Millie Thompson says it blooms dark pink. Usually such colors are intensified by lots of light, but somehow I think this is not a begonia that grows anywhere in intense light.

---

*Kit Jeans Mounger, creator of B. 'Dragon Flight' and the "Jeans" series, has just moved. Her new address is 485 Cottontail Lane, Afton, TN 37616.*

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# From the Mailbox

Greg Sytch, Horticultural Correspondent

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**Q:** I have been having problems with my begonias. Over the last few months, the leaves have slowly become disfigured with some mildew, and an overall decline in health. I called the Agricultural agent locally, and they said it was a virus and to trash all infected plants immediately. I have done so, but want to save my other plants. What should I do? New Jersey

**A:** First, since you experienced these conditions during winter, I seriously doubt that it was a virus. Viruses tend to be more prevalent during hot weather. Perhaps it was mildew and mildew-afflicted damage. The controls for mildew are many, as previously listed in this column.

It's a shame you trashed all of the afflicted plants, as with proper control and pruning they should have responded to become healthier plants once again. In the future, make sure you have a second opinion before you go to extremes. If you were to send me a picture, I could probably help you more.

**REMEMBER,** begonia growers:

A rule of thumb for disease is generally as follows: during cool weather, mildew tends to breed vigorously. During warm weather, viruses and bacteria tend to thrive. Liquid copper is but one control that works well for both.

**NOTE OF INTEREST:**

I have received some feedback from persons concerned about whether I could help with their plant problems because I live in a tropical climate. Rest assured that I can, as my first 26 years of life were spent in the temperate climate of New Jersey. I have experienced all sorts of problems, conditions, and factors, and should be able to lend you some assistance.

If you have a question, concern, or comment, please drop me a line:

Greg Sytch  
P.O. Box 1033  
Port Richey, FL 34673  
or call (813) 841-9618

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## Terrarium Tip:

Do you use clear plastic wrap to turn any clear container into a terrarium? Isn't it irritating when the plastic wrap blows off, leaving your begonias open to the dry air?

Moisten the sides of the container before putting the wrap on - and the plastic wrap will stay on.

# University of Southern Florida Botanical Garden, and Begonia Collection

Text and Photos by Dale Sena

The Botanical Garden at the University of Southern Florida is located near the southwest corner of the campus in north Tampa, Florida. The seven acre natural park-like setting has several distinct growing areas, and throughout you will find a wide variety of both exotic and native plants.

The three growing areas around the perimeter (Riparian Forest, Scrub Plot, and Temperate Forest) are higher, and therefore drier, ground. The terrain becomes progressively wetter through the Rain Forest and Bog areas, continuing down to a lake.

Two recently added growing areas have enhanced the grounds nicely: the Bromeliad Garden and the Herb Garden. Both are maintained by members of their respective plant societies.

The Conservatory is a 1500 square foot covered and landscaped lath house, where beautiful greenhouse plants can be showcased for visitors. It is also used for garden events such as parties, receptions, meetings, classes, plant shows, and other exhibitions.

While there are beautiful and interesting plants throughout the Garden, the most rare and unusual are found in the glass greenhouses. There are two, each approximately 20 ft. by 30 ft. The "back" greenhouse is home to the Species Begonia Collection, as well as the orchid and fern collections. There's also a nice group of palms, aroids, and carnivorous plants.

The Begonia Collection currently has about a hundred species and over thirty hybrids. Due to space constraints the hybrids have to be limited to those that are rare or unusual (or requested by members - the Garden needs the money). Begonias are used throughout the Garden, with *Begonias popenoei*, 'Big Green', *heracleifolia*, and 'Joe Hayden' growing in the Rain Forest, and *Begonias convolvulacea*, 'Spring Song', and *thiemei* growing in the Conservatory. Fabulous greenhouse (collection) plants are showcased throughout the Conservatory all year long.

The front greenhouse, the Elizabeth Johnson Plant Shop, is definitely not your neighborhood garden or nursery store. Here both the hobbyist and the collector can find rare and unusual plants from all over the world, as well as a fine collection of native plants, cactus, butterfly plants, bromeliads, aroids, begonias, and so much more.

The Plant Shop is one source of income for the Garden. In addition a large portion of the operating budget comes from individual memberships and Plant Festivals, now held both spring and fall. Plant societies and commercial vendors from four surrounding counties set up shop on the grounds, donating back a portion of their sales to the Garden. With everything imaginable available, the Festivals have become THE plant events of the year for the area.

While there have been many recent changes at the USF Botanical Garden, much of the property is still undeveloped.



In the USF rainforest:  
above, Begonias 'Joe Hayden' (left) and 'Big Green' show off along a walk;  
below, *B. heracleifolia* peeps out from among ferns.



An ambitious two-million dollar expansion plan is expected to get underway soon. Plans include a new Conservatory/Education complex to combine offices, library, classrooms, plant and gift shop, and conference center around a 10,000 square foot tropical conservatory. Annexing the adjacent 7 to 8 acres will allow for developing native plant areas, hiking and jogging trails, wildflower gardens, and a native sandhill ecosystem.

Functioning within the state university system, the Garden continues to flourish with help from Members and volunteers, as well as a very small core of very dedicated staff. Director of the Botanical Garden is Fred Essig, PhD. His plans for the future take the Garden into the next century, and he has been wonderful in directing efforts towards those goals. Allen Spencer, the Garden Caretaker, has a job that is never done; but you'll always find him trying, sun up to sun down, seven days a week. Tim Manka, a Botany Department graduate student who also works as the Garden Curator of Collections, sees that the various plant collections are being cared for and coordinates the spring and fall Festivals.

With the recent opening of the Plant Shop, the Garden added Mary Abbott to the staff. Patient and knowledgeable, Mary had previous retail plant shop experience and was instrumental in getting the shop up and running.

The future is bright for the USF Botanical Garden. The opening of the plant shop has not only generated a small but desperately needed income but has also generated greater exposure for the Garden, which will ultimately result in much needed support from a wider variety of sources.

The Garden is open to the public Monday through Friday from 9 to 5, and on Saturday from 9 to 1. Guided and group tours to the Garden and/or the collection areas must be made in advance. The Elizabeth Johnson Retail Plant Shop is open Friday 11:30 to 1, and Saturday 9 to 12. There is no admission charge, but donations are encouraged.

Anyone interested in contributing to the Garden and/or the Begonia Species Collection should make checks payable to the USF Foundation and send them to Dr. Fred Essig, USF Botanical Garden, 4202 E. Fowler Ave., LIF 136, Tampa, FL 33620. Donations are tax-deductible. Individual memberships are \$15/yr., and include a quarterly newsletter, 10% discount on plant shop purchases, annual plant distribution, early entrance to the Festivals, seminars, classes, and more.

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*Dale Sena became hooked on begonias after falling in love with B. listada at a mall show in the mid '70's. Since then she's joined Santa Clara (CA), Miami, and Tampa Bay branches, and is currently a member of Pinellas County Branch (FL). In 1990 she became Curator of the Begonia Collection at USF. Her address is 816 W. Braddock St., Tampa FL 33603.*

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## “Lone Star Begonias - Y'all Come!”

It's no secret that the annual Southwest Region Get-Together is friendly and fun. “Lone Star Begonias”, hosted by Alamo Branch with Melba Schultz as chair, matched the best. Begonias, begonia talk, and begonia nuts dominated the weekend filled with great tours (thanks, June Shawver!), a fine show (decorations by incredibly talented Chuck McGough, placement by Jerry and Mike Eubank, classification by Leora Fuentes and Diane Horne - see page 148 for show results), a plant sale that just wouldn't quit - you had to go back every few hours because more and more plants came in (chaired by energetic Wanda and Dick Macnair).

Seminars began Saturday morning with Don Miller on “Begonias as Herbs” Next came ABS Conservation Chair Bruce Boardman, Bill Ash of England, Beth Castellon of the New York Botanical Gardens, and Kelton Parker of Fort Worth Botanic Garden on “Begonias Around the World”. Saturday afternoon Texas hybridizers Virginia Kettler, John Howell, and

Chuck McGough discussed different concerns and methods of attempting to create the illusory ideal begonia, and brought samples of their efforts.

Pam Lee's Begonia Boutique tempted us with goodies, and down the hall Ray Fuentes held forth with the famous SWR hospitality - aided often by wife Leora popping in between show duties (she also had put together the lovely begonia quilt.)

Mariachi Estrella, a young and talented band, brought a festive serenade to the Banquet Saturday evening. Chuck McGough won the Mae Blanton Service Award, John Howell the Marguerite Vernon Award, and Maurice Amey the Begonia Ambassador Award. New officers for 1995-1997 were installed. MC Bruce C. Boardman kept us laughing, then put on another hat and auctioned off extra trophies from the show. Mary Ellen McCormick, who had made the table decorations, gave most of them away as souvenirs of a fine occasion. (continued, p. 166)

The focus at the SWR Get-Together '96  
will be the Legacy of Begonias.

*The legacy we've been given from the past and what's yet to become part of this wonderful legacy.*

*There will be a reintroduction of some of the very rarest of the rare in our species begonias and an opportunity for us to see some of the very best of our old hybrids that often now might also be considered endangered, existing in only one or two locations sometimes.*

*We will also get a look at the newest of the new hybrids coming along... so new, we'll see them in 4 inch pots and still unnamed in most cases. Everyone will have an opportunity to adopt part of our legacy, both the very new and the old.*

Chuck McGough, Co-Get-Together Chairman

*For many of us, fall is a time to bring begonias in from the garden, and often we have to trim back their summer growth - which gives us lots of cuttings to propagate. On the next few pages there are some ideas for placing plants indoors and for propagating the trimmings...*

## Propagating Tips

by Mickey Meyer

I have found over the years that it is a good idea to strike the leaves of rhizomatous begonias by placing them in a tumbler of water to which have been added several drops of plant hormone. Naturally, it takes a few months for roots and plantlets to form on the stem end. It is essential to plant these out into inert material, such as equal parts of peat moss and perlite. If planted straight into the growing mix, the plantlets will rot off very quickly as the roots are only water roots. New ones to sustain the plants have to grow in the inert mix. After planting out gently spray so as to wash off all clinging bits of peat, as the new leaves don't seem to care too much to be covered. A lot of growers have great success with leaves and leaf wedges put directly into potting mix, but somehow I did not, hence the water program.

A simple way to sterilize the seed-raising mix is to put the required amount into a plastic bag and lay it very flat on a concrete path in strong sunlight, turning the bag several times. This mix should then be put into a container and soaked the day before sowing. Seed is then sprinkled on top of the mix and the container covered with a clear material such as glass or plastic. My favorite container was a styrofoam cup (with suitable drainage holes) covered with

a clear plastic tumbler. This created a miniature greenhouse. When watering is needed simply dunk the cup and let it soak up water.

When growing from seed I used to like for the tiny plants to get a bit lanky so that I put each one fairly deep when planting out; this gives a good root growth. My favorite planting out tool was an old peeling knife from the kitchen, because it had a handle for a firm grip and a slender blade to ease the little seedling out of its bed and into a new place. I liked to plant nine seedlings into a 3 inch pot and then pot up when the leaves touched each other. I used the same mix for initial planting out as I used for seed germination, to avoid culture shock.

---

*from the New South Wales Begonia News, June 1995. Mickey's address is 16 Yuppara, Tathra, NSW, Australia.*

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## Three Creative Tricks ...

Photos & Text by Midred Swyka



1



2



3

# *for Squeezing Them All In*

## **1. Create Mixed Terrariums**

This is a plastic pretzel barrel, which makes a large, low-cost terrarium. The flat surface makes it ideal for stacking (which I do). This one contains small pots of Begonias 'Curly Zip', a nice-sized *solimutata*, and one of my crosses - plus a couple of figurines.

## **2. Create a Begonia Stand**

Go vertical! My begonia stand, made by my husband, was created from kitchen sink cut-outs. The pieces had gathered dust in our basement for at least 20 years!

Each cut-out is 1" plywood covered with plastic laminate. I painted the bare edges. The spindles are round stair rail, which had also collected dust for several years.

The stand is very sturdy, and holds quite a few plants. My husband made two, and they certainly save a lot of space.

## **3. Create a Bowl of Begonias**

This method of consolidating my begonias saves space, and the combination looks great. This bowl holds three good sized rhizomatous begonias.

The bowl is about 7" deep, with a diameter of 15". I place small stones in the bottom, to a depth of about 3", for drainage, and use Peters Pro-Mix for the planting medium, keeping the plants on the dry side.

---

*Mildred Swyka lives at 1147 Bethel Church Road, Middleton, DE 19709*

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### **Quote:**

"You can't speak a kind word too soon

For you never know how soon it will be too late."

Marion Lindgren, in the Westchester Branch newsletter

# Propagating Plant Cuttings the Texas Method, or "Texas Potting"

by Gerald Goodman

I was first introduced to the Texas Method/Texas Potting in 1983 by Evelyn Clawson, a fine person and a wonderful grower who unfortunately is no longer with us. She saw it in action in Texas, where it was first revealed, and brought it East.

Even the most experienced of growers test out a new plant with several methods, simply because there is no one method of propagating all plants by cuttings. Since a lot of growers are unfamiliar with the Texas Method, I think it's timely to review this simple and effective and almost sure-fire way to prop plant cuttings.

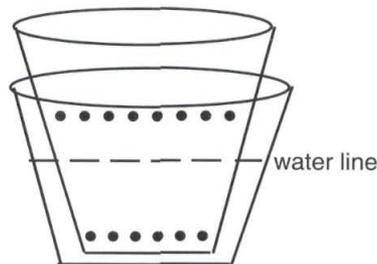
Take a 3 1/2" deep styrofoam coffee cup, and punch 2 rows of holes in its sides with an ice pick or thin nail:

One row about two inches from the bottom



Another row at the bottom edge

Place the cup and cuttings inside a 2 and 3/4 inch clear plastic "Old Fashion" glass. Fill the glass with water up to halfway between the two sets of holes. Replenish the water when it has been absorbed. No baggy is needed. Put the cup under lights, or near a window (back from the sun).



For lots of cuttings, place the styrofoam cup "pots" together in a tray and fill the tray with water to just below the second row of holes. When the tray becomes dry, fill it up again. Of course, this alternate method does not utilize the "Old Fashion" plastic cup.

Put 1/2 inch of perlite in the bottom of the cup and fill the cup with a slightly moist soilless mix. Make holes in the mix with a pencil and put cuttings in the holes [first, dust the ends of the cuttings with hormone (rooting) powder].

Gerald Goodman's article first appeared in the *Knickerbocker News*, April 1995. His address is 89 Lotus Oval N, Valley Stream, NY 11581-2327.

# BULLETIN BOARD

## ABS News

### Election Results In

Ballot Counting Chair Shelley Andros reports that the ballots have been counted, and our officers for 1995-1996 are:

President: Ann Salisbury

1st Vice-President: Bruce C. Boardman

2nd Vice-President: Shelley Andros

3rd Vice-President: Michael Kartuz

Secretary: Margaret P. Fisher

Treasurer: Carol Notaras

(please see p. 178 for addresses)

Officers will be installed at the Saturday night banquet during the National Convention.

These six people will spend a considerable amount of their time in the coming year trying to ensure that ABS runs smoothly and grows as beautifully as the begonias we all love. Please give them your support! Contact them with your concerns and ideas for improving our Society (and you might just surprise them with a nice note occasionally, too).

### Slide Library

Please make a note of the new address for the Slide Librarian:

Charles Jaros

200 Maureen Dr.

Sanford, FL 327712

### 1997 Convention: Florida!

Fort Lauderdale, Palm Beaches, and Miami Branches have offered to host the 1997 ABS Convention. They grow incredible begonias down there in sunny Florida - you won't want to miss it! Details and dates in the next issue...

### Please Don't Shoot the Editor

The Directory of Begonia Societies appears twice a year, and it is in this issue. It will contain mistakes. Every effort is made to keep current, but omnipotence does not come with the job of editor. Or secretary! We depend on your input. Please let us know who your branch officers are, and when you meet.

And a great big **Thank You!** to **Vivian Hill**, who has faithfully and in a timely manner kept the Board posted on all activities of Long Beach Parent Chapter. Would that we could clone Vivian!

If you don't see your branch mentioned much in the **Begonian**, it's not prejudice or injustice: we don't have any idea what you're doing.

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*See you at  
"Begonia Super Stars!"*

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# Conservation News

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## Scott Hoover Expedition: Seed Update

by Gene Salisbury

For those of you who do not know how Scott Hoover's latest begonia collecting trip came about, it is time you did.

Martin Johnson and Scott had been close friends and had cooperated on several projects. Martin died, and, through his will, bequeathed a sum of money to the American Begonia Society to be used for a begonia collecting expedition.

Scott has spent a few years working on another horticultural project and was getting "itchy feet." What better tribute to an old friend, both for Scott and the American Begonia Society, than an expedition?

Even though Scott had been busy on other things, it is evident that he had been thinking of a trip like this for some time.

There is no doubt that Scott has put forth more work and effort on this trip than other trips. Scott will expound on this in an article, I am sure, so I will leave his thoughts and other points to him, and get on to the question of seed.

The seed Scott collected is in. Scott is very excited about this trip, as he found, and collected, what will probably be several new species.

A few seed are being mailed out to a few proven seed growers across the nation, along with instructions. As soon as germination occurs, the seedlings will be given "U" numbers set aside for this group, and the seed will be advertised by Beth Castellon, Seed Fund Director, through the Seed Fund. At this time also a small amount of seed will be sent to donors who helped support the trip.

### 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  
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### Quote:

"Laughter is a tranquilizer  
with no side effects."

Alamo Branch newsletter

### LOS ANGELES FERN SOCIETY

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LARGE PLANT TABLES ]DOWNEY STUDY GROUP  
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\$24.00 FOR FIRST CLASS TO: LOS ANGELES  
INT'L FERN SOCIETY P.O. BOX 90943 PASA-  
DENA, CA 91109-0943

# CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND NOTES

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Once again we're asking that you order from Ann Salisbury; the extreme heat that hit the northeastern part of the country made it imprudent to send sensitive seed across country until cooler weather. We expect that new Seed Fund Director Beth Castellon will have the seed by the time the next issue is mailed.

## Species

### Shrub-like

*B. echinosepala* (Brazil, 1871) is sometimes called the "peach tree begonia" because of the shape of its leaves: bare, elongated, and gracefully arching. Fragrant white flowers appear in profusion winter through summer. Take advantage of its natural shape by growing it in a hanging basket, and don't let it go dry.

Quite different is *B. kellermanii* (Guatemala, 1919), which has felted leaves and an upright growth habit. Flowers are fragrant white tinted with pink, and profuse within a short period of bloom late winter-early spring. It's similar to *B. venosa*, but lacks that species' distinctive large and persistent stipules.

Rounding out the shrub-like selection is *B. sanguinea*, with medium-size bare leaves that have red undersides. Begonias: The Complete Reference Guide has a photo of the plant on p. 92, and a close-up of the leaf on p. 80.

### Thick-stemmed

*B. egregia* (Brazil, 1887) has large elongated hairy medium green leaves and white flowers. It is a challenge to grow well, and takes a lot of room when it is happy. There's a color photo in Begonias: The Complete Reference Guide, plate 13.

### Semperflorens

Unusual among begonias are self-pollinating annuals like *B. hirtella* (Brazil, 1861). Leaves have fine hairs, stems and petioles are shiny green with entangled white hairs; flowers are small and white. Male flowers appear at the same time as the female flowers and slightly above them, so that pollen released drifts down on the stigmas. Seed is produced in abundance. (See article by Dr. Jan Doorenbos, **Begonian** November, 1970.) Great begonia for naturalizing in a southern garden or in your greenhouse. Or just enjoy it during the summer and save some seed for next year.

### Rhizomatous

Small entire/subentire shiny leaves, dark green with light green shading, and rose-pink flowers characterize *B. hydrocotylifolia* (Mexico, 1864). Mary Weinberg wrote about it in the **Begonian** of Nov.-Dec. 1987. She suggests terrarium care and a temperature range of 58-72 degrees; lower temperatures may induce dormancy.

*B. plebeja* (Mexico-Central America, 1852) comes from the same part of the world and also has entire-subentire leaves, but there its resemblance to *B. hydrocotylifolia* ends. *B. plebeja* grows with a erect rhizome, and few terrariums could contain its growth. Flowers are greenish-white, and come in late winter-early spring.

### Tuberous

*B. pearcei* is the lovely low-growing species that gave the Tuberhybridus their yellow coloration. Flowers are orange-yellow and profuse, summer into fall. See the **Begonian**, March-April 1982 for an article by Dr. Doorenbos and a botanical drawing, in color, of this beauty.

## Cultivars

### Cane-like

All of our hybrid cane-like seed offered in this issue is open-pollinated, and not the result of a deliberate cross.

Cane fans who are always excited about the latest super hybrid will enjoy growing seed of two open-pollinated canes: B. 'Kentwood' and B. 'Ruth Langl' were the seed parents, and the pollen parents are unknown. That means offspring will be varied, and there may be a real winner (or more!) in the batch. See Thelma O'Reilly's article "Go for the Jackpot!", **Begonian** May-June 1994, and try your luck. If you get a terrific plant, you get to name it.

Also available are packets of mixed canes - both parents unknown. The same rules hold: if you get a really different, distinctive beauty, you get to name and register it.

### Semperflorens

'Frillies' seed will give you a taller semp with a frilly flower (hence, obviously, the name); flower colors are mixed. These are nice in a garden border.

B. 'Glamour Rose Picotee' has larger flowers; leaves are green.

Mixed semperflorens seed is also available. While semperflorens seed is usually true to its parents, there could still be some exciting surprises in these packets.

### Other seed

We don't often get to offer seed of plants other than begonias; right now you can order hoyas, a succulent that's terrific in hanging baskets and has large clusters of small waxy flowers that give out a honey-like substance, and columbine, great in the garden with striking blooms that hummingbirds and butterflies love (varieties of hoyas and columbine weren't specified).

- Tamsin Boardman

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## Lone Star Begonias

(continued from p. 158)

Sunday was the occasion for a visit to the home and garden/greenhouse of John Howell: wow! Despite having 56 of his biggest and best in the show, despite having donated thousands of begonias to the sale, John had so many begonias that it was hard to walk through without stepping on a pot or banging your head on a basket. And generous John was giving plants away!

A good time was had by all! We headed for home, laden with sale plants and souvenirs, with that odd mixture of invigoration and exhaustion brought on by a marathon weekend of begonia festivities. Next year: **Dallas!**

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*on gardening...*

*from the Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch newsletter*

### **Quote:**

"It takes half a lifetime to decide what's best worth doing in a garden and another half to try to do it."

Gertrude Jekyll

### **Quote:**

"If we persist, I do not doubt that by age 96 or so, we will all have gardens we are pleased with, more or less."

Henry Mitchell

## CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND LISTING

*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:

Ann Salisbury  
P.O. Box 452  
Tonkawa, OK 74653  
U.S.A.

### **Species Seed**

\$1 per packet

*B. echinosepala*  
*B. egregia*  
*B. hirtella*  
*B. hydrocotylifolia*  
*B. kellermanni*  
*B. pearcei*  
*B. plebeja*  
*B. sanguinea*

### **Odds and Ends**

50 cents per packet

mixed canes  
mixed semperflorens  
mixed "Frillies"  
B. 'Glamour Rose Picotee'  
B. 'Kentwood' (open-pollinated)  
B. 'Ruth Langl' (open-pollinated)  
hoya  
columbine

# ROUND ROBIN NOTES

Virginia Hamann, Round Robin Director

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## #31, Southwest Growers:

Mae Blanton (TX) has a special knack for growing *B. versicolor*. She has leaves putting up babies, and has also set seed.

This Robin spans time from January to April; everyone is anxious to get plants outside for the summer.

Margaret Coats wants the WHOLE WORLD to know that she has **B. bogneri** in BLOOM!

## #55, Species:

Cynthia Bishop (CA) lost many of her species during a recent move. She had seed of many species planted; some of them are rhizomatous begonias from Vietnam and are proving to be beautiful.

Sharon Holtzman (OH) has seed of *B. U059* and *B. morelii* that she has planted. *B. grandis* ssp. *evansiana* set seed, and from this seed "millions" of babies were produced. Sharon is also growing *Begonias guadensis*, *oxyphylla*, and *stipulacea*.

## #4, Windowsill Growing:

Long nights and short days start rhizomatous begonias blooming. John Keller (NJ) has *B. 'Erythrophylla'* in full bloom, also *Begonias 'Cathedral'* and *'Rouge'*.

Rhodora Buss (IA) has *Begonias 'Nokomis'*, *'Christmas Candy'*, *'Torch'*, and *'Chelsea'* in bloom in her south windows. She is using Greenlight Super Bloom 12-55-6 on cane cuttings; new growth started fast at the nodes.

## #2, Tuberous Begonias:

3 parts milled sphagnum moss  
2 parts vermiculite  
2 parts perlite

That's the Campbell Watts (IA) recipe for potting mix. He uses 1/4 strength Miracle Grow fertilizer with each watering.

Coleen Anderson (WI) asks if a shaded yard and sandy soil will grow good plants that bloom. Howard Siebold (WA) suggested an addition of milled sphagnum moss to her soil.

## #14, Semperflorens:

Kim Roe (UT) sent a copy of an article and pictures from the **Begonian** dated 1952\* of spiral-leaved begonias discovered in a seed tray. These plants were popular in the 1950's, then ignored. Semps can be found in garden centers as bedding plants; with new hybrids they are much hardier and make lovely plantings.

Bill Voss (VA) has been pinching and water-rooting mini-semperflorens 'Ernest K' and 'Thimbleberry'. They have been in full bloom.

## #1, General Culture:

Mary Ellen Taback (VA) cautions Marilyn Dubé (OR) not to let *B. metallica* dry out; this could cause leaf drop.

\* "Found - A Real Semperflorens Break" by Marie Minter, with photos by Tom Conaway, of a semperflorens with a double spiral that sprouted spontaneously in the greenhouses of florist Amos Mahan of San Antonio, TX. Leaf cuttings produced plants with the double swirl.

Light: how much is needed for canes and rhizomatous to bloom? Greg Sytch (FL) says canes enjoy the most light; his get about two hours of direct sun outdoors. Rex and rhizomatous prefer slightly less; to prevent sun scald let plants adjust to outdoor living gradually.

#### **#16, Eastern General:**

Mildred Swyka (DE) cut back canes in January to shorten the tall ones and to provide cuttings. She likes to have back-up plants started. Alice Nierenburg (OH) wants to see how many generations of plants can be started from one leaf. She uses her leaves until they are tiny bits and pieces. Could this be the start of a group project?

#### **#8, Tuberous Begonias:**

Taking cuttings is a favorite topic. Each member has his or her own method. One mentioned is cutting the pink sprout, keeping a piece of tuber attached, and dipping it in growth hormone powder, then planting in growing mix.

#### **#82, General Culture:**

Mike Golub (CA) uses fertilizer 20-20-20 at 1/4 strength as constant feed during winter months. He uses 10-55-10 if phosphorus is needed, alternately with Spoon-It 18-20-10. Mike believes understanding the plants' growth habits helps to know when to fertilize.

Margaret Coats (TX) is pleased that the dehumidifier had kept plants mildew-free - even Begonias 'Lucerna', *lubbersii*, and 'Looking Glass'.

Mary Simon (OH) sometimes feels she could write 'How Not to Grow Begonias' but with her plants blooming beautifully in spite of her neglect, she suggests that "Love helps when perfection fails."

#### **#12, Canes:**

Margaret Coats (TX) is waiting for a sunny day to foliar-feed everything in her greenhouse. Elaine Ayers (OH) has begun cutting back her cane begonias and putting the cuttings to root. Her canes bloomed heavily all winter, leaving her with ripening seed pods which had to be left uncut despite tall stems.

John Keller (NJ) suggests that "power twist" tubes give more intense light and are more economical to use.

#### **#16, Odd/Rare/Unusual:**

Marilyn Dubé (OR) made up terrariums using small begonias, mini-sinningias, kalanchoes, and ivies as gifts. Freda Holley (AR) grows in the enclosed porch of an old house, and also in the central heat of her home. She finds plants such as *Begonias gehrtii* and *carrieae* do better in the cooler porch, heated with a propane heater.

#### **#9, Growing Under Lights:**

Daniel Haseltine (IL) speaks of "lazy plants": that is, plants with poor root systems. These can be avoided by potting up seedlings while they are still small. Breaking a few roots will stimulate new root growth. Plants that grow too large in the prop box will have large tops supported by weak root systems.

#### **#25, Midwest Growers II:**

Fran Hurley (IL) had fun at "Franks", finding Begonias 'Cleopatra', 'Emerald Jewell', 'Chantilly Lace', and two unnamed rexes. It is always fun to find treasures!

Marvin Kahr (IA) was pleased to have B. 'W. B. Hollander' blooming during the winter.

#### **#33, Hybridizing:**

"The purpose of growing begonias is observing their needs, caring for them, and enjoying their beauty", says Dorcas Resleff (WA).

Bill Voss (VA) is figuring out *B. rex* and who is passing on the traits to the next generation, using *B. rex* (the species) as the "F" parent in each cross. In his cross of *B. rex* x B. 'Midnight Madness' (the hybrid has solid mahogany leaves), the first six leaves were solid olive green and are now getting random spotting of silver.

#### #52, Rhizomatous/Terrariums:

For mildew, Mildred Swyka (DE) uses Schultz Rose Fungicide at 1/2 strength.

#### #46, Greenhouse Growing:

From January to June, this Robin is full of good growing information. Glennis Crouch (TX) is growing streptocarpus in Oyama Pots.

Elaine Ayers (OH) has been running an air filter 24 hours a day to prevent mildew. She also installed permanent black shade cloth to protect canes from too much sun.



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**THE AMERICAN  
IVY SOCIETY** INC.

AIS is the International Registration Authority for Hedera, provides sources for new and unusual ivies; publishes three ivy newsletters, *Between the Vines*, and one *Ivy Journal* a year with reports on research hardiness testing, life-sized photos of ivies. Each member also receives an ivy plant.  
Membership: General \$15; Institutional \$25; Commercial \$50.

Information: **The American Ivy Society, P.O. Box 2123, Naples FL 33939-2123.**

# AROUND ABS

## Notes from our Newsletters

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Knickerbocker Branch had a wonderful meeting in May when they honored their presidents, past and present, ranging in tenure from charter president Toby Lothman to immediate past president Vanessa Young. Especially noteworthy was Jack Golding, "whose love for begonias along with his enthusiasm and leadership helped save the branch in the 1970's." Jack also presented a program for the occasion, treating the members to one of his fascinating discourses on begonia research.

"The times they are a-changing," and programs at Dallas Area Branch meetings reflect the interest in conservation and organics. First, in June, members were given worm castings, blood meal, and bone meal. No., no, not as snacks! They may not sound appetizing to us, but begonias love them. Donor was speaker Pam Lee, organic grower, who explained the why and how of growing begonias without use of petrochemicals. Then in August members will bring begonias grown in recycled containers - say, fast food styrofoam. Maybe we can get some photos.

Editor Helen Spiers of the Satellite Shuttle told members that Tom Keepin would present their next program on grooming and pruning. After urging members to bring leggy plants, or begonias they didn't quite know how to handle, she hit on a problem some of us share: hating to cut back our babies. Her solution? "If pruning hurts you too badly, don't fail to bring the tylenol or whatever. Come, learn, enjoy!"

From the newsletter of the Alfred D. Robinson Branch comes a reminder that sharing may be its own reward, but it's also insurance: "I am a living example of the importance of taking cuttings from your

prized plants. One of my favorite begonias is *B. capanamae*, and I put little plants on the plant table now and then. Then my big plant died, much to my sorrow. Edalee had a couple of little plants, which were by now big plants, and gave one of them to me! How great to have it."

It must have been stupendous:

"WHAT A SALE!! WHAT A BUNCH OF WONDERFUL WORKERS!! GOOD FOR US!! I can't say enough about the members of this club! We didn't have any sign-up sheets so no one was formally committed, but did they come? YES! Did they come again on Saturday? YES! Did we make more money than we ever have? YES!...Thanks a hundred thousand million!"

'Twas South Bay Branch that held the super sale - but what will they do for an encore? From the same newsletter comes varied and interesting advice:

"Pinching and pruning begonias and other perennials makes them bushy and promotes more flower stems, but if you do it at the wrong time you may not get flowers - or they will be sparse. Here is where a garden journal really comes in handy. If you recorded the blooming time of each of your plants you can more easily figure out when to prune. Geraniums are one example: you should allow 12 weeks from pruning to bloom, and it's about the same for other plants, too.

"Another factor that makes it even more confusing is that each of us lives in a different climate zone. And each of us has mini-climate zones right in our own yards. Smaller enclosed yards may be many degrees warmer than an open yard. That's why you need to keep your own records of blooms and such, because your bloom time may be earlier or later than the one in the books...

“Have you ever wished you had your own nursery? Well, just remember there is a lot of work involved, and you are at the mercy of Mother Nature. But you can have your own nursery on a smaller scale. You can set aside an area in your yard, probably the back, where it can't be seen. There you can raise your cuttings and your seeds, but you can also use it as a hospital for plants that don't look really top notch. Good nurseries pull their straggly plants out of sight and keep them under special care until they are presentable again. If you don't have a greenhouse with nice moist conditions, you can take an old table and drape a plastic sheet over it and put your plants there until they are better. Be sure to keep any plants that have diseases or “bugs” away from seedlings and cuttings. And if your hospital gets warm lift part of the cover until it cools off...”

The Crystal Bridge at Myriad Gardens (the cover of the July-August **Begonian** was taken amongst their begonias) received a big gift of - what else? - more begonias! Barkley Branch members Ann and Gene Salisbury and Dorothy Caviness donated 25 specimen-sized begonias, beauties all. Meanwhile, Effie and Howard Clemens, Bob Dodd, and Diane Horne did an educational exhibit for the Will Rogers Garden Center's annual “Growing Affair”. Is it any wonder this is a branch that's getting new members each month?

The much-travelled poem below is from Pup Talk, V. 2, No. 2, Feb. 1995, Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Society, San Juan Capistrano, CA. It appeared in Cactus Comments, June 1983, and The Commentary, Bromeliad Society of Broward County, FL, and was picked up by Fort Lauderdale Branch newsletter editor Janice Koza.

## Husbands Versus Plants

by Charles Craig

My wife is in the cellar  
Working on her plants  
While I'm sitting in the kitchen  
Sewing a button on my pants.

The sink is full of dishes  
And the house is full of dust,  
These things are unimportant  
But the plants, they are a must.

She used to mix up cakes and pies  
That made me idolize her,  
But now I eat those T.V. meals  
While she mixes fertilizer.

In our house there is no chatter  
Or stimulating talk,  
She has no time for things like that  
She has to go re-pot.

And then to cap the climax  
And add to my lonely woe,  
She calmly said, as I bowed my head,  
“I'm going to work at  
the Spring Flower Show.”

# 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.

Stewart Sylvester, Pres.

34 Waterton Way

Cooloongup WA 6168

##### New South Wales Begonia Society, Inc.

Shirley Sharp, Pres.

2/283 Jersey Rd.

Woollabra 2025

New South Wales

##### 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

7 Springwood Close

Thurgoland

Sheffield S30 7AB

England

### 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

### Netherlands

#### Begonia Werkgroep Nederland

Beatrice Huckriede van der Laan, Pres.

9 Gaelstraat

Wanengingen 2291 SG

### Scotland

#### Scottish Begonia Society

c/- 260 Bellfield Rd.

Coalburn, Lanarkshire

Scotland M11100NQ, UK

## AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

### REGIONAL GROUP

#### Southwest Region

Leora Fuentes, Director

13747 Wilderness Point

San Antonio, TX 78231

### BRANCHES

#### CALIFORNIA

##### Alfred D. Robinson

2nd Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.

Homes of members

Eileen Clause, Pres.

5658 Linda Rosa Ave.

La Jolla, CA 92037

##### Doug Frost Memorial

1st Wed., 7:30 p.m.

12860 Euclid St.

Garden Grove

Ed Vogel, Pres.

9811 Oma Place

Garden Grove, CA 92641

##### East Bay

3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

Northbrae Com. Church,

941 Alameda, Berkeley

**Long Beach Parent Chapter**

3rd Monday, 1 - 3 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.  
 Bob Bailey, Pres.  
 5130 Mission Blvd. #30  
 Riverside, CA 92509

**Sacramento**

3rd Tuesday, 7:15 p.m.  
 Garden Center  
 3330 McKinley Blvd.  
 Sacramento  
 Joan Coulat, Pres.  
 4111 De Paul Court  
 Sacramento, CA 95821

**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  
 Elaine Baxter, Pres.  
 2333 Treelane Ave.  
 Monrovia, CA 91016

**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 Ziesenhenne,  
 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  
 John Anderson, Pres.  
 14211 Jefferson Ave.  
 Hawthorne, CA 90250

**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 90045-  
 1150

**Whittier**

1st Friday, 7 p.m.  
 Room 1, Civic Center  
 7630 Washington Ave.  
 Whittier  
 Shirley Real, Pres.  
 5214 Coringa Dr.  
 Highland Park, CA 90042

**CONNECTICUT****Connecticut**

4th Monday  
 homes of members  
 Priscilla Beck, Dir.  
 312 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  
 255 SW 87 Terr.  
 Plantation, FL 33324

**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  
Bob Cochran, Pres.  
951 SW 99th Ave.  
Pembroke Pines, FL 33025

**Palm Beaches**

2nd Monday  
Horticultural Center  
531 N. Military Trail  
Elizabeth Mateus, N. Dir.,  
2353 Carambola Rd.  
West Palm Beach, FL  
33406

**Pinellas County**

3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall, Church of  
Christ  
6045 Park Blvd.  
Pinellas Park  
Risa Young, Pres.  
7811 1st Ave. S.  
St. Petersburg, FL 33707

**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.  
Alan Drew, Pres.  
10 Middlesex Ave.  
Wilmington, MA 01887-  
2714

**MINNESOTA****Minnesota**

2nd Wed., 7:30 p.m.  
Homes of members

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

**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****Western Reserve**

contact Alice Nierenberg  
5829 Birchwood Dr.  
Mentor, OH 44060

**OKLAHOMA****Fred A. Barkley**

3rd Sunday, 2:30 p.m.  
Will Rogers Garden Cntr.  
3400 NW 36th St.  
Oklahoma City  
Effie Clemens, Pres.  
1621 Cruce  
Norman, OK 73069

**PENNSYLVANIA****Edna Stewart Pittsburgh**

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

**William Penn**

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

**RHODE ISLAND****Roger Williams**

3rd Monday night  
Homes of members

**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.

## BEGONIAN MINI-ADS

*Mini-ads are a service to our members. The charge is \$1.25 per line per insertion with a minimum of \$5. Payment must accompany order. Make checks payable to ABS and mail to:*

Cynthia Bishop  
P.O. Box 247  
Macdoel, CA 96058

*Questions? Write to address above or call (916) 398-4023*

**Deadline for next issue is Sept. 15**

### **BEGONIA CUTTINGS AND PLANTS.**

Send \$2 for expanded 1995 list. Kay's Greenhouses, 207 W. Southcross, San Antonio, TX 78221.

**SOUTHWEST REGION, ABS:** Annual Get-Together, show, sale, newsletter. Membership \$10, family \$15, commercial \$25. 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), P.O. Box 247, Macdoel CA 96058. (916) 398-4023.

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

**BEGONIAS, GESNERIADS, RARE FLOWERING PLANTS.** 1995 catalog \$2.00, free to A.B.S. members. KARTUZ GREENHOUSES, 1408 Sunset Drive, Dept. B. Vista CA 92083-6531.

**BEGONIAS,** Tropical Plants - "We're Back!" For our 1995 Descriptive Catalog (free to all A.B.S. members, send to: SUNSHINE STATE TROPICALS, P.O. BOX 1033B, PORT RICHEY FL 34673. (813) 841-9618.

### **BEGONIAS, ORCHIDS, RARE PLANTS**

(Peperomias, Episcias, Hoyas, Ferns & more). Send \$2.00 for list or come visit. Daisy Farm, 9995 S. W. 66th St., Miami, Florida 33173. (305) 274-9813.

### **COMMEMORATIVE CLOISONNE PINS**

for conventions, fund raisers, or ? Your design! SASE for brochure to: Nicki, 168 Shamrock Dr., Ventura, CA 93003.

# Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting

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May 19, 1995

President Gene Salisbury opened the meeting at 2:00 p.m. at the Seven Oaks Inn in San Antonio, Texas. Margaret Lee led the flag salute and read the Aims and Purposes.

Twenty-six Board members attended.

The Minutes of the January 28th meeting were read by Acting Secretary Margaret Fisher. They were approved as read.

Carol Notaras read two Treasurer's reports. Checking, for the last week in January: beginning balance \$4,397.85; income \$4,813.66; expenses, \$13.34; ending balance \$9,198.18. Savings balance \$45,550.88

Report for Feb. 1 to April 31: checking beginning balance was \$9198.18; income \$10,659.34; disbursements, \$15,063.34; ending balance \$4,794.18. Savings balance \$44,539.25.

Treasurer's reports were accepted as read.

## **Committee Reports**

Awards - Mary Sakamoto made a motion that we use the die to have the ADR Medals produced as at cost of \$800. Approved.

Ballot Counting - It was decided that Shelley Andros would remain as Ballot Counting Chair as there was no contested race.

Reports from Book Store, Back Issues, Conservation, Convention, Long Range planning, Research & Research Library, and Seed fund were received. Several branch reports were given by attending National Directors.

## **Old Business**

Advertising costs and benefits were discussed. A committee is being formed to look into ways to advertise.

Scott Hoover has returned from his collecting trip to Sumatra. He climbed 13 volcanic mountains and has collected 30 or more species from altitudes of 150 to 3000 feet.

In response to a letter sent in February regarding insurance for shows, only 6 branches indicated an interest. No action will be taken on insurance at this time.

## **New Business**

The Western Reserve Begonia Branch in Cleveland, OH has been approved. They have 17 members.

"The Barkley Begonia Collection: A Preservation Organization" was approved contingent upon changing their name to avoid confusion with the Barkley Branch in Oklahoma.

Southwest Region will co-host the 1997 ABS Convention in Houston, TX.

Beth Castellon (Knickerbocker Branch, New York Botanical Gardens) has been approved as the new Seed Fund Director.

The meeting was adjourned.

A big thanks to Margaret Fisher for representing me at this Board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Arlene Ingles,  
Secretary

The next Board Meeting will be at the Convention in Irvine, CA on Friday September 1, 1995, 5 to 6:30 p.m.. The place will be announced at the convention. There will also be a short Board meeting following the banquet. Installation of officers will take place at the banquet.

Note: Minutes are condensed because of space limitations. Complete Minutes are available through the Secretary. Complete financial reports may be requested from the Treasurer. Self-addressed stamped legal size envelope appreciated.

### **Elected Officers**

President..... Ann Salisbury  
P.O. Box 452, Tonkawa OK 74653  
(405) 628-5230  
Past President.....Gene Salisbury  
P.O. Box 452, Tonkawa OK 74653  
1st Vice-President...Bruce C. Boardman  
P.O. Box 69, Bluff Dale TX 76433  
2nd Vice-President.....Shelley Andros  
740 Lamat Rd., La Habra Heights CA 90631  
3rd Vice-President.....Michael Kartuz  
1408 Sunset Dr., Vista CA 92083  
Secretary..... Margaret P. Fisher  
7552 Danube Dr., Huntington Beach CA 92647  
Treasurer.....Carol Notaras  
2567 Green St., San Francisco CA 94123

### **Appointed Chairmen and Directors**

Audit.....Paul Tsamtsis  
1630 F St., Sacramento CA 95814  
Awards.....Mary Sakamoto  
6847 E. Sycamore Glen Dr., Orange CA 92669  
Ballot Counting.....Shelley Andros  
740 Lamat Rd., La Habra Heights CA 90631  
Book Store & Back Issues.....Betty Benningfield  
P.O. Box 969, Anahuac TX 77514  
Branch Relations.....Mary Bucholtz  
1560 Lancaster Terrace #1008, Jacksonville FL 32204  
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.....Martha Chesnut  
3232 N. W. 47th, Oklahoma City OK 73112

Convention Chairman.....Herb Wilkinson  
16281 Mercier Lane, Huntington Beach  
CA 92647  
Entries/Classification.....Leora Fuentes  
13747 Wilderness Point, San Antonio TX 78231  
Historian.....Norma Pfrunder  
3135 Severt Lane., Eureka CA 95503  
Horticultural Correspondent....Greg Sytch  
P.O. Box 1033., Port Richey FL 34673  
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.....Kelton Parker  
3220 Botanic Garden Dr., Ft. Worth TX 76107  
Round Robin.....Virginia Hamann  
Rt. 1, Box 10, Chester IA 52134  
Seed Fund.....Beth Castellon  
Propagation Range, New York Botanic  
Garden, Bronx, NY 10458  
Slide Library.....Charles Jaros  
200 Maureen Dr., Sanford FL 32771

## **OPENING: Begonian Editor**

### **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, P.O. Box 247, Macdoel CA 96058  
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*

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## ***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.

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## ***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.**

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**American Begonia Society**

157 Monument

Rio Dell, CA 95562-1617

Address correction requested

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Permit No. 3735  
Dallas, TX