

*The*

# Begonian

May/June 2007

# *The* **Begonian**

ISSN 0096-8684

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.

**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) \$25., US, Mexico, and Canada. \$45. Overseas airmail except Mexico and Canada.. Added member, same household, no charge. 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 471651, San Francisco CA 94147-1651

**Membership** - Subscription, dues, circulation, inquiries, and address changes: Donna Marsheck, 5218 Brock Dr., Bartlesville, OK 74006:  
Ph: 918-333-1587; Email: dmarsheck@yahoo.com

## Cover

**Front: Rekha Morris** brings back from India this photograph of the lovely *Begonia albo-coccinea*.

**Back: Gene Salisbury** shares this photo of a long time mystery plant. Read about it on page 116.

## In This Issue

In addition to Rekha Morris introducing us to some of the specific begonias she found in India, this is a wonderful issue full of articles about specific begonias: **Mildred Thompson** describes one of my long time favorites; **Mary Bucholtz** describes one on everyone's want list; **Bill Claybaugh** describes a plant that is difficult, but rewarding; Gene Salisbury shares his mystery plant; and **Charles Henthorne** shares the details of a hybrid from Japan that is just beautiful. **Greg Sytch**'s column now has a section for beginners, and he talks about soil additives.

### Articles

Some Begonias from Peninsular India	87	2007 ABS Election Slate and Ballot	101
<i>Begonia chitoensis</i>	93	Membership Report	103
<i>B. 'Enchantment Aureola'</i>	107	Conservation Notes	104
Update on 2007 LA Convention	108	Editor's Notes	116
<i>Begonia hirtella</i>	109	Coming Events	118
<i>Begonia parviflora</i>	111	Officers' Page	119
<i>Begonia multangula</i>	112		
The Computer is the Best Method to Reach Out	115		
<i>Begonia acida</i> x <i>Begonia</i> <i>venosa</i>	116		

### Regular Features

President's Message	84
Letters to the Editor	85
In the Mailbox	96
Seed Fund	99

**Next Issue:  
Directory  
of  
Begonia Societies**

Please Check the 2006 July/August Issue; if your branch or society listing is inaccurate, please send editor correct info as soon as possible. Corrections on Listings for societies outside the U.S. are also needed.

## President's Message

By the time this issue of the Begonian comes to you our brand new shiny web site [begonias.org] should be up and running. Please check it out as soon as possible and use it regularly for adding your special shows and events, shopping and begonia information and sources. We thank **Howard Berg** for all the work that went into the site and also **Gene Salisbury** and Internet Editor **Julie Vanderwilt**. It took a great deal of research and planning to get the best web site for our needs. The designer is Jesse James of "i21 web design" and besides being a proficient web planner he is an artist with the beauty of begonias in his thoughts and efforts. Let us know what you would like on the web site. We want you to use it, enjoy it and learn from it.

It was nearly ten years ago when **Mary Margaret Rafferty** and Kathy Goetz designed our first web site. Mary Margaret has continued to host and maintain our page up to now and we will always be grateful for the wonderful pioneering work that brought the American Begonia Society into the new world of computer information. It is difficult to remember a world without web sites, search engines, blogs, etc. but it is necessary to keep up with the changes. If you don't have a computer go to your public library and get online there. We would like everyone to be able to use the site for information and for the joy of seeing beautiful and interesting begonias.

**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE:** The nominating committee has worked very hard to get a great slate of officers for the next term. It is hard to believe that voting time has come around already and I hope you will all take the time to vote for these candidates who will serve you for the next

two years. Thanks to chair **Tom Keepin, Joan Coulat and Dale Sena**. They have given you a great board representing all parts of the country to bring us together for a harmonious two years. The installation of the new board will take place at the ABS Convention, Begonias in Paradise California Style, in September and you will want to be there for that great event.

**DON'T FORGET TO NOMINATE YOUR AWARD CANDIDATES:** Many of the people who do a great deal of work for the American Begonia Society get very little recognition for their efforts. They keep us running smoothly in all kinds of ways. Now is your chance to show your appreciation for their work. Nominating takes a bit more work than voting but please take the time to do it. These awards will be given in September at the banquet and **Ann Salisbury**, Awards Chair, says this ceremony is her favorite part of the convention. But if you don't nominate she will have no awards to give. Please do your part for the very worthy and talented people who keep us going and deserve recognition.

How many times in your life do you have a chance to go to Scotland for the Ayr Flower Show, the Glasgow Botanic Garden's MacIntyre Begonia Collection, the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh, a tour of Scotland and then a month later Los Angeles for the 2007 Convention! It is going to be quite a year and I look forward to seeing most of you here or abroad. And next year, it's Brisbane, Australia for their Show held every 3 years in March, their fall season. Join the American Begonia Society and see the world!

**Johanna Kitson's** son, Captain Tom Kitson was seriously wounded in an attack in Iraq in February. He is making a good recovery at this writing and we wish him a speedy healing.

Good luck with your shows and sales. Try growing seed from the Seed Fund.

In friendly contact,  
**Janet Brown**

---

## Letters to the Editor

### Louisiana Definitely Needs a Branch

I am writing you because since your move southwards your're a fellow Louisianan, & because, too, this state is without a branch of the ABS (has it ever had one?).

I mentioned this to **Cindy Moran** sometime during our walk-around at the Aides' Nursery in San Diego (04) & she responded enthusiastically that we should do something about it. Much the same conversation last September but Cindy was much involved in her greenhouse renovation then and had no time.

I'd be happy to get the ball rolling, but I am a novice, still learning the very rudimentary steps in identification, etc. That's a pity because southern Louisiana is really an excellent environment for most types of Begonia (northern La, too, with a heated greenhouse?), coupled with the fact that New Orleans would make such an enticing spot for an ABS convention.

The question is how to proceed? I am sure there is a sufficient number of potential Begonia lovers in this city to form a branch. In its own way its a gardening city.

What do you advise?

Best Regards,  
Michael Higson,  
New Orleans, LA  
mighaelhighson@gmail.com

*Michael, I am printing your email as a letter to the editor so that all the people who might help you get a branch in Louisiana started is alerted. That means any of you in Louisiana who receive this and agree should contact Michael as well. You are right that Louisiana needs a branch as I too have come to see how well begonias grow here in North Louisiana so long as a greenhouse is available in winter (although I grew begonias for years in Arkansas by bringing them into the house in winter - and yes that became a very crowded house!), I know then that Southern Louisiana would be even better - I even saw a Begonia masoniana growing out in the ground in New Orleans and looking great. .*

### A Begonia Journey to Peru

I am making a Begonia photographic, video and seed collecting trip to Peru, taking a leave of absence from my job to spend the month of May in Peru. I am requesting my friends and fellow Begonia enthusiasts for assistance in making some Begonia dreams come true.

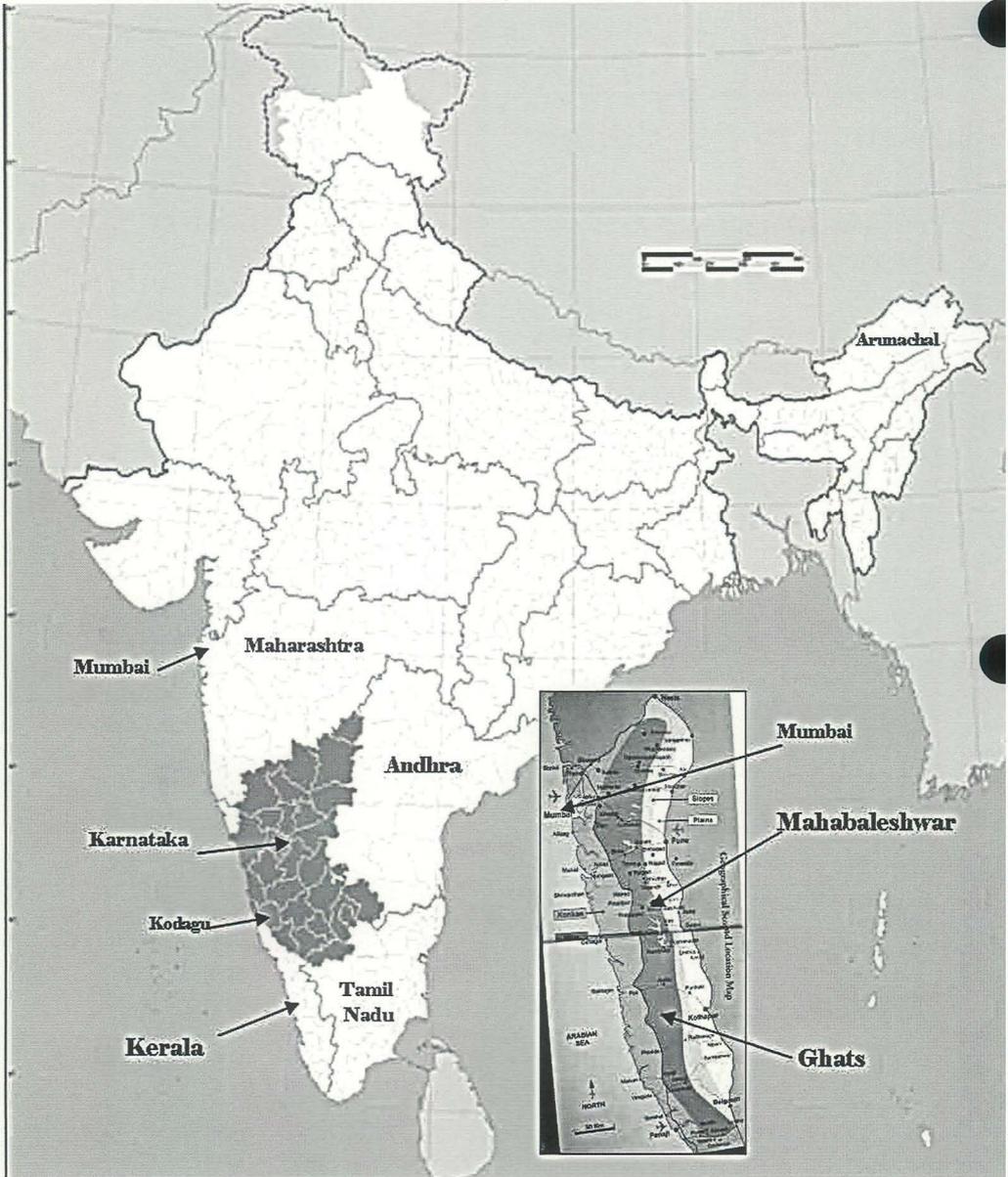
Peru has one of the most varied climate ranges of any single place on the planet. The climate ranges from humid tropical rainforest to Nazca Desert. Altitudes range from sea level to the heights of the Andes mountains. I have been researching, poring over maps of altitude, climate and rainfall. I will be there in the start of Peru's autumn. This should give the maximum possibility of seed being available.

The plan is to proceed in a logical way from sea level to the highest areas where Begonias are found. The search will include locating *Begonia veitchii* at Machu Picchu. The lower areas around Cuzco will also be combed for the many

*Continued on page 97.*

# Map of India

Showing Arunachal Pradesh in the extreme northeast, Maharashtra in the west, and the 4 states of south India: Andhra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu & Kerala.



The Ghats are the range of low hills of about 3000' which run south from Mumbai into Kerala. Inset map shows the Malabar coastal region from Mumbai south. The Ghats are in dark shading.

Some  
*Begonias*  
from  
*Peninsular India*

By **Rekha Morris**

One of the earliest begonias to be described is *B. malabarica* [1689] from India, and its species name is indicative of its origins in the western coastal region of peninsular India. Although I am familiar with this species, I wanted to explore its area of origin. Like Chile, the western coastal region of India, often referred to as the Malabar Coast, is defined by north-south running hills known as the western Ghats. Averaging about 3000' these hills are lower in elevation than those edging the Pacific coast of Chile. However, while there appear to be no begonias recorded from this hilly spine of Chile, a number of species known from south India have their origins in the western Ghats.

After exploring in Arunachal in late September and early October of 2006, I headed for Mumbai, the home of a friend whom I had known from my boarding school days in the central Himalayas. Being such old friends I had without any compunctions imposed on her to work out such mundane details as arranging for a car and chauffeur, and a place to stay in Mahabaleshwar in the Ghats above Mumbai, where at least three begonia species had been recorded, *B. concanensis* A. de Candolle, *B. crenata* Dryander, and *B.*

*phrixophylla* Blatter & McCann. I looked forward to once again spending time with Amrita, and to add to this enjoyment we had invited a third friend of the same vintage, Uma, to join us from Hyderabad. Amrita's husband balked at the idea of being with not one but two such old friends of his wife, who despite their mature years often reverted into irrepressible adolescent behavior whenever they were together.

The first three hours of our drive out of Mumbai and into the hills were disheartening as we were subjected to urban sprawl as grimly horrifying as around Mexico City. Confronted by mile upon mile of urbanization in the Ghats I wondered if any begonias had managed to survive this destructive encroachment of their habitat. About an hour from Mahabaleshwar, the landscape, although punctuated by human habitation, was no longer a dreary, mind numbing stretch of ugly concrete housing and industrial developments.

Mahabaleshwar itself turned out to be a quiet little town set among sylvan bluffs and cliffs where the cool, crisp air was instantly invigorating.

Large sweeps of ferns, species impatiens and arisaemas were clear indications of moist habitats favored by begonias.



Above is *B. dipetala*. Right above is *B. 524*.  
Below is *B. integrifolia*. All photos by  
**Rekha Morris.**



One species, *B. crenata*, flourished on and among rocks, stone and brick walls, in hollows and crevices, in fact, wherever their tiny tubers could anchor themselves in moist, sheltered pockets. Most, however, were past their prime with hardly any of their delicate pink flowers visible, and the numerous seed capsules I found turned out to be too immature to be viable. Though my uncomplaining friends tramped up and down with me among the more isolated bluffs, there was no sign of any other begonia species. I might have been disappointed but for the warmth and easy camaraderie which comes from friendship stretching almost as far back as our earliest memories. While *B. crenata* was dismayingly on the decline, a species of phlebophyllum with large bell shaped flowers in a saturated shade of myosotis blue was in full bloom. On some bluffs the profusion of their blooms created a continuous cerulean surface which blurred the distinction between earth and sky.

From the Ghats above Mumbai I headed south to the hills of Kodagu [formerly Coorg] famous for its coffee, cardamom, pepper and rice. With so many areas under cultivation, it was surprising to find begonias surviving on this eastern side of the Ghats. *B. dipetala* Graham was the most frequently encountered species thriving on steep banks, by waterfalls, and along sheltered edges of woods. There were two predominant forms: one with all green foliage and pale pink flowers, and one with leaves which were a rich burgundy on the undersides, and flowers and seed capsules a deep reddish-pink.

***On some bluffs the profusion of their blooms created a continuous cerulean surface which blurred the distinction between earth and sky.***

Sprinkled randomly among these was a form whose foliage was lightly speckled with white dots. Many of these were in bloom and setting seeds which were mature enough to dry before I left India. Whether in bloom or not, *B. dipetala* is a handsome begonia with reddish brown or greenish gray stems, and pubescent, asymmetric, lanceolate foliage. In undisturbed areas each plant grew about 30" high and almost as wide.

During a short trip into adjacent Kerala I photographed *B. albo-coccinea* W. J. Hooker in bloom, a striking red veined *B. mala-barica* Lamarck, and a curious looking species which resembled *B. mala-barica* but remains unidentified, *B. U 524*. The glabrous, peltate foliage of *B. albo-coccinea* were strikingly lustrous against the rougher foliage of various *impatiens* species and other under story jungle plants. The red and white blooms – and at this time only the male flowers with two petals and two tepals were open – held above the foliage made this striking species irresistible.

While *B. albo-coccinea* formed compact clumps, *B. malabarica* grew over five feet high in the rich, moist soil. Although there were no flowers and hardly any seed capsules left on the plants, the tall curving, red stems, and the asymmetric red veined, broadly elliptical leaves back lit by the late afternoon sun created a dramatic woodland vignette.

It was on the return trip when we took a different route through the low hills of Kerala that I saw scattered along the lower edge of a cliff 3' tall plants with

foliage reminiscent of *B. malabarica*, *B. U524*. Closer examination revealed that these 7"-8" long, asymmetric, elliptical leaves had a curious feature. In profile the shallow lobes terminated in small pointed tips which were longer and more marked on the deeply cordate basal end of the leaves. These leaves growing in pairs with their acute apices pointing downwards looked like the ears of Mr. Spock of the original Star Trek TV series. Whether this is a species or a variant form of malabarica, two appropriately descriptive epithets for this begonia that come to mind are spockii and vulcaniana.

In early December 2005 I had found a couple of small patches of *B. integrifolia* Dalzell just beginning to surface. Their tubers at this stage were so small and fragile that not a single one survived the trauma of uprooting and relocation in the USA. I had waited nearly a year to see if I would find mature plants immediately after the monsoons. Not only did I find mature plants but instead of the two or three tiny patches of juvenile plants I had found in 2005 I now found mature plants covering rocky slopes and boulders in fairly deep shade. The large 6"-8" slightly pubescent, asymmetric, broadly triangular leaves with a cordate base form trailing mats on rocky surfaces. The plant is not scandent but since it forms tubers at the nodes which root, it appears to trail.

Although there were dozens of plants on the eastern side of the Ghats, the curiously stocky seed capsules were sparse, and among all these plants I found a single nodding, white, female bell-like

flower with an outwardly flaring perianth in five segments. The plant with this single flower grew in dense vegetation at the base of a huge boulder. It was while struggling to steady myself on a mushy bank and hold aside a tangled mass of branches and vines to photograph this flower that I felt a sharp jab on my left forearm. Although there were plenty of ants, this did not seem like an ant bite.

After photographing this lovely pristine white flower, I collected a few seed capsules and headed back down to the car. Here I pulled up my shirt sleeve to apply Tea Tree Oil and was startled to discover that there were two puncture wounds turning black as also the area around them. Startled though I was I ratio-

nally ran through the toxic snakes of the region I was familiar with, and decided that had the bite been from a cobra, a krate or a Russel's viper I would be dead or in agony in the 6-8 minutes it took me to return to the car.

I had been warned that at this season there were a lot of baby Pit Vipers around, so I decided that it was one of these which had bitten me. This species, known as the Bamboo Pit Viper, inhabits areas of thick vegetation like the one I had struggled up to photograph the flower. I waited quietly for 15 minutes to monitor my reactions, but since I appeared not to be suffering dramatically, and this being my last day of exploration, I decided to continue.

It was not until a day later that I nearly collapsed in the Mumbai airport, but did not realize until my return to the USA that this weakness was the result of the venom which attacks the red blood

***These leaves growing in pairs with their acute aices pointing downwards looked like the ears of Mr. Spock of the original Star Trek televison series.***



*Rekha has photographed B. crenata above with an inset of its seed capsule. To the right is a beautiful red reverse on one form of B. dipetala. Below are the red veined reverse of B. malabarica leaves.*



cells. I was fortunate not to have been bitten by one of the other three, highly toxic snakes, and that this one had not only been a baby but had bitten in passing through thick sleeves as it slid off a limb or a vine I was moving aside.

## Acknowledgement

*For facilitating this lap of my trip to document begonias in the western Ghats in September – October 2006 I am most grateful to my lifelong friend **Amrita Abraham**. Her organizational skill and concern for making the trip to Mahabaleshwar as smooth, successful and comfortable as possible, made this brief foray to the Ghats to search for begonias a fun filled interlude between the eastern Himalayas and peninsular India. Her husband, **Abe**, and our mutual friend **Uma Jain**, were warm, witty, and ever interested companions. I could not wish for three better friends, and any future trip to document begonias without them to accompany me will seem lackluster by comparison.*

Returning to Kodagu in Karnataka to continue to search for begonias was much like a homecoming as I was returning to stay with **Vijoo Thimmaiah** and her husband **Timmy** at their home, Sylvan

Cottage. A year ago when I had contacted them to make arrangements for my stay as a short term paying guest I had no idea that I was about to meet such a warm, sensitive and thoughtful couple. On that trip as on this one they not only arranged for a rental car with a chauffeur for my trips in Kodagu and Kerala, but welcomed me as a friend rather than a customer. Since then Vijoo's love for plants and keen interest in my hunt for begonias has made her an invaluable companion and friend.

This trip to India in September-October 2006 would not have been possible without the generous financial support from various chapters and members of the American Begonia Society. I extend my appreciation to **Janet Brown**, president of the ABS, **Joan Coulat**, **Normand Dufresne**, **Charles & Leora Henthorne**, **Antoon Hoefnagels**, **Tom Keepin**, **Lulu Leonard**, **Morris Mueller**, **Carol & Peter Notaras**, **Thelma & Tim O'Reilly**, **Ann & Gene Salisbury**, **Johanna Zinn**, the Astro Branch, The Atlanta Branch, the Alamo Branch, the Begonia Society of Palm Beaches Branch, the Bessie Buxton Branch, the Dorothy Caviness Branch, the Potomac Branch, the San Jacinto Branch, the Begonia Society of Austin, and the Melbourne Begonia Society of Australia.



**WORLD FAMOUS**  
*Antonelli Brothers*  
Over 70 years of  
Specializing in Tubers, Plants and Seed.  
Over 1000 varieties of fuchai's  
Catalog Available by Request  
See Web Site (or mail us )  
407 Hecker Pass Rd. Watsonville, Ca 95076  
**Phone 888-423-4664**  
Local : (831)724-6367 \_ Fax (831)724-7729  
Visit Our NEW Web Site at :  
[www.antonellibegonias.com](http://www.antonellibegonias.com)

# *Begonia chitoensis*

## Tang-Shui Liu & Ming-Jou Lei

by Mildred L.

I received seeds January 24, 1984, from **Yi-Shan Shui**, a horticulturist in Taiwan. These seeds from their native habitat in Taiwan were: *B. chitoensis*, *hayatae*, *formosana*, *formosana* var. *albomaculata*, *taiwaniana*, *taiwaniana* var. *albomaculata*. Prior to this time these species probably had not been grown in this country. The *B. chitoensis* seeds germinated quickly without any difficulty. Soon I was able to send small plants and cuttings to various Begonia enthusiasts and botanic gardens.

When Yi-Shan Shui and her family visited The Thompson Living Museum of Begonias in the fall of 1985, we were pleased to show her mature plants of all the species that she sent to us. She commented that they were growing well in our growing environment.

The specimen No. 1785 collected in Taiwan, Nantou: Chitou by **Ming-Jou Lai** was designated as the holotype.\* It was also collected in Taichung: Pahsien-shan. The authors named the species *B. chitoensis*\*\* for the place where it was collected: Chitou. The original citation for *B. chitoensis* was written by Tang-Shui Liu and Ming-Jou Lai and was published in 1977 in *Flora of Taiwan* Volume 3, pages 793-794.

For botanical classification *B. chitoensis* is placed in the section *Platycentrum*. At the present time, one hundred

ten species have been placed in this section. These Asian species have been collected and are being collected in India, China, Indo-China, Taiwan and Malaysia. Species placed in this section are rhizomatous or with upright stems or with rhizomes with upright stems. Other Begonia species placed in this section that are presently in cultivation are: *B. cathayana*, *circumlobata*, *decora*, *deliciosa*, *diadema*, *emeiensis*, *formosana*, *formosana* var. *albo-maculata*, *hatacoa*, *hatacoa* var. *rubrifolia*, *hatacoa* var. *viridifolia*, *hemsleyana*, *limprichtii*, *pal-mata*, *rex*, *sizemoreae*, *versicolor*, and *xanthina*.

*B. chitoensis* is classified for horticultural purposes as rhizomatous, rhizome jointed at or below the soil with erect stems. In the early stages of growth, like many rhizomatous Begonia with this type of growth habit, it appears to have only creeping rhizomes; however, as the plant matures, the upright branching stems appear. Upright stems can grow up to two feet in their native habitat. *B. chitoensis* is a full plant even though the leaves have long petioles 4" to 5" in length. The medium green glabrous leaves are obliquely ovate-orbicular 6" to 8" long and 4" to 6" wide; the apex is either acuminate or acute and the base is unequally cordate. Leaf margin is den-

tate. The leaf has eight to ten main veins palmately arranged. Brilliant pink flowers appear in dichotomous cymes\*\*\* with thin peduncles. Male flower has two broadly ovate tepals and two smaller tepals; female flower has five fairly equal tepals and two bifid styles. Ovary has three unequal wings; one protruding wing is much larger than the other two.

The native habitat for *B. chitoensis* is Taiwan, an island off Southeast China. Nantou and Taichung are in the eastern portion of the middle part of the island. Summers are hot and humid, and winters are warm to hot. Rainfall is 40 inches or more; the mountainous areas receive much more rainfall and lower temperatures. From this information it is evident that this species will grow well in a warm not hot humid environment.

Similar to other species from Taiwan that are rhizomatous with erect and branching stems *B. chitoensis* is not difficult to grow if the necessary conditions are provided. During the summer months, *B. chitoensis* is placed where there is light filtering of the sunlight whereas during the winter months the amount of sunlight is increased; the amount of sunlight is relevant to the geographic location where this species is grown. However, if there is not sufficient sunlight it will grow favorably but the amount of flowering will diminish. With too much direct sunlight the foliage becomes pale. As indicated from the information about the climatic conditions in the native habitat, the relative humidity should be at least 55%. Cooler temperatures are tolerated, but it is best when the temperature range is between 58 and 62 degrees. When the temperature is too warm, it responds negatively, but it survives. Additionally it is advantageous to provide a good circulation of air to prevent rotting of the leaves particularly since this is a full plant at maturity

Even though the stems are upright and branching it is seldom necessary to stake the plant. Preferably it is best to grow this species in a clay pot or a moss-lined wire container; this will produce a more symmetrical plant. The regular potting mix that you use for other *Begonia* would be satisfactory unless, of course, your growing environment necessitates growing *B. chitoensis* in the contained atmosphere of a terrarium because sufficient humidity can not be provided, and then it is best to use the long fiber sphagnum moss/perlite growing mix. Regular fertilizing is essential because the foliage has a tendency to fade if this is not done. Careful watering is crucial to prevent rotting of the rhizomes and the general health of the plant. *B. chitoensis* is a beautiful addition to any collection of *Begonia* species.

The following growers in different geographic locations have shared information about the growing environment where they grow *B. chitoensis*. **Normand Dufresne** (Rhode Island) grows *B. chitoensis* best in his home where there is air conditioning in the summer months. He found that it does not do well in his greenhouse because there is no air conditioning in the summer. **Freda Holley** (Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana) wrote that *B. chitoensis* grew huge and best when she lived in Ozone, AR at an elevation of 2000 feet because it was cooler at that elevation and more humid whereas in Oklahoma it was not possible to grow this species because of either the heat and/or the lack of humidity. **Morris Mueller** (northern California) wrote that he grows *B. chitoensis* under fluorescent lights. He found that in the house where the temperature is always 70 degrees, the plant did not do well; whereas when growing it in the garage where the temperature is variable and generally cooler, it grows more satisfactorily. Morris concludes that



*Mildred Thompson's photos give us a view of the full plant to the left, a detail of two female blooms left middle, and a plant below in bloom. Inset, below right is a female bloom close-up.*



the cooler temperature is more important than the amount of humidity. **Gene Salisbury** (Oklahoma) wrote that he has been growing *B. chitoensis* for several years successfully in the greenhouse where there is controlled temperature and humidity. In this growing environment he has found that *B. chitoensis* becomes semi-dormant in late summer and then in mid winter it starts actively growing again. Linda Shires (northern Texas) wrote that *B. chitoensis* has grown in very rigorous conditions at Fort Worth Botanic Gardens in the greenhouse and it is still alive. In their growing environment *B. chitoensis* thrives in a cool and humid environment. However, the excessive heat the last two years in northern Texas has created some problems.

My thanks to Normand Dufresne, Freda Holley, Morris Mueller, Gene

Salisbury and Linda Shires for sharing information about their growing environment for *B. chitoensis*. I would also like to thank Jack Golding for his comments and generosity in sending me the original citation of *B. chitoensis*.

\*holotype is the specimen designated by the author(s) of a species as the nomenclature type: the name with which the species is permanently associated.

\*\*—ensis is a Latin suffix which usually indicates the place of growth or origin.

\*\*\*cyme is a flat or convex flower cluster; center flowers usually opening first.

---

## In the Mailbox

by Greg Sytch, Horticultural Correspondent

The summer season is just around the corner, so your begonias should have awakened from their winter slumber and be in full spring growth now. California experienced one of their worst freezes and cold snaps in recent memory, so it should be interesting to see how begonias fare from such adversity.

**Q:** My husband left my begonia bulbs (tuberous) in the car overnight, and I just purchased them for planting later this spring. This is Ohio and it was 25°F overnight. Are they okay to plant?

**A:** There is a simple test to do to check their health. Use your thumb and press against the bulbs. If they give and appear soft, chances are they have begun to show cold damage. If

they are still firm, you are okay. The car stays warmer, so the bulbs should be ok, but use this test to make sure. When you are planting, feel free to add 1/2 tsp of baking soda to a gallon of water when you moisten the bulbs up. This will help with some fungal issues.

### Begonias For Beginners - Using soil additives in growing Begonias.

This will be a three part series on using soil additives to grow begonias (and any other fibrous-rooted plants).

It is designed to show you how to use some natural, or almost natural, means to fertilizing and keeping the health of your plants.

**BONE MEAL-** Living in Tampa Bay, I grow my begonias outdoors in my back yard under shade cloth. I also use them in the shadier parts of the landscape. Fertilizing is a constant issue, but just using time-release granules does not

always do what I need them to do. Bone Meal will help.

Bone Meal will assist your plants in blooming, because its high Phosphorus ratio (usually 1-12-0) encourages blooming and breaks down slowly. I add a pinch of bone meal to my 6" potted plants just prior to setting in the plant from repotting. My larger canes, set in 3 gallon or larger pots, will use a small handful. At this stage, feel free to mix the bone meal in more readily.

Bone meal is excellent when used for the stubborn canes, such as *B. 'Sophie Cecile'*, which while looking beautiful, generally are not known for their ever-blooming qualities. It is also useful for enhancing the blossoms of those canes, shrubs and rhizomatous that already bloom easily. When Begoniacs come through my collection, their reactions to the profusion of flowers on my begonias should be enough to encourage you to follow this tip.

For indoor growers, or greenhouse

growers, worried about a "smell" or other creatures being attracted to the plant, I have not noticed any issue with this. Anyone who has followed this advice has not mentioned these issues, either.

**Magnesium Sulfate** - When trying to "greenup" begonias that may not look as lush as they could be, Magnesium sulfate is an excellent additive that encourages their lush growth. You can add a couple of pinches in the pot, or simply allow it to be absorbed in water that is used later. The exact amount to use is really based on the size of the plant, and experimenting a little will help you realize the appropriate amount. You do not need much to help your begonias green up!

Always feel free to email me any questions or concerns regarding begonias. My email is: [gsytch@cs.com](mailto:gsytch@cs.com). Snail Mail is Gregory Sytch, 6329 Alaska Ave, New Port Richey FL 34653. (727\_841-9618.)

---

*Continued from page 85.*

species that are not currently in cultivation. A guide/translator has already been contracted to help me through the morass of local customs and attitudes. He will be accompanying and teaching me the customs of the friendly local people. Collections will also be made of fern spores, and seeds of other interesting shade loving plants unknown in the United States.

Every aspect of the plants habitat, in mass and close-up, will be photographed and video taped, capturing the living aspect of the plants. A detailed survey will be made of altitudes and soil types and general conditions for each Begonia collection. Later, DVDs of the trip will be made as well. This will result in a number of articles for the Begonia Society Journal, the *Begonian*, talks to interested begonia groups and others in an effort to promote

begonias.

There are many references in old books to unnamed begonias, often in passing, i.e., "we waded through lush patches of Begonias" or "the area had never seen rain in the memory of man yet the ground was moist from the daily heavy fogs and the begonias grew everywhere." That is where I want to be, to go, to see. The journals have many begonias listed only as "species". The blood pounds as I imagine finding a plant unnamed or unseen for a century or more. There are surely new species to be found as well.

There are at least five locations where the tuberous species *Begonia octopetala* can be found growing in a warm area, at sea level. The possibility of using it to create heat-tolerant hybrids keeps me up at night.

In conjunction with my lifelong interest in begonias I am currently a visiting scholar at the University of California Santa Cruz Arboretum and am in the process of establishing a world class Begonia collection at the arboretum. We are discussing the establishment of greenhouses and shade areas for the best growing conditions possible. The Curator of the U.C. Santa Cruz Arboretum is **Dan Harden**. He has fifteen years experience in collecting plants in Vietnam and was the man responsible for bringing Hieu Nguyen to the United States to study Begonias.

A second trip is planned in the Peruvian spring time to collect cutting material and photograph and video tape more plants and flowers.

The time is drawing near. Please consider helping with this Begonia journey as soon as possible. All donations are tax deductible and can be sent to our ABS treasurer and please be sure to indicate "For Patrick Worley" or "Patrick to Peru"— any amount will help. Send to: **Carol Notaras**, 2567 Green Street, San Francisco, CA 94123

Approximately \$6,000 dollars will be needed for the whole month, flight, car rental, gasoline, food, lodging for me and my guide/interpreter. I have a more detailed break down if you would like to see it. You may email me at [pworley@ucsc.edu](mailto:pworley@ucsc.edu). If you have any questions or comments or have information on locations in Peru to search, or people that I may contact there, please call me or email me. My new address is:

Patrick Jesse Worley  
400 Casserly Road  
Watsonville, CA 95076  
831-206-8461

Thank you most sincerely,  
**Patrick Jesse Worley**

## On Mallets

On page 57 in the current [March/April 2007] *Begonian* you discuss mallet. For mallet cutting see pages 46 and 47 in *Begonias: the Complete Reference Guide*. There you will find a drawing of the mallet cutting. This type of cutting is excellent for the thin-stemmed shrub-like species like *B. amphioxus* as well as those mentioned. It is also a way of getting more cuttings and plants from a mature stem.

As for the term cane-like, Mallet type, I would be guided by the coloring and guess that somewhere far back in their ancestry you would find the same type parents as used in original Mallet type.

Happy *Begonia* growing,  
**Millie Thompson**,  
Email: [Mied34@aol.com](mailto:Mied34@aol.com)

---

## Show Season is Beginning

This issue brings an advertisement for the 2007 show/sale of the Westchester Branch. Many of you will also be having shows in the coming months. If you want your show/sale advertised on the Coming Events page, please send me a notice on the due date for the next issue to the editor's address on that same page. I do not begin work on the next issue until that date and items sent too early may get lost on my computer and items sent too late may not find room in the calendar so the due date for the next issue is just the right time (the due date for the next one is always the first day of the first month of the current issue). Please observe the way the dates are entered in the calendar and set up your event in the same way to make it easier to enter.

Thank you all!

~ FH

# CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND LISTING

The Margaret Lee Branch, San Diego County, CA

The seed fund is a service to members only. It is a privilege of your membership.

The seed fund inventory has exhausted the supply of seeds of *B. dregii* and *B. rex*.

Please self pollinate your species begonias and collect seeds to send to the seed fund. When sending seeds wrap them carefully in a dry paper packet *folded* on all four sides and sealed with tape. It is important that the packet is folded on all four sides so that the seeds will not escape and get stuck in the sealing tape. Do not use plastic envelopes because the seeds adhere to the plastic. Glassine envelopes can be used if the open side is folded twice before sealing.

In this issue thanks for featured seeds described below go to **Thelma O'Reilly, Anne and Gene Salisbury, and Skee Ziesenhenn**e for his contribution from Rudy's seeds,

***B. carrieae*** Ziesenhenn (Sect. *Gireoudia*) [Mexico]. Branching rhizomes; large, lime green, rugose, lobed leaves; white blossoms in late winter to early spring.

***B. grandis*** Dryander var. *grandis*, (Sect. *Diploclinium*) [China, Japan]. Erect, yellowish green hairless stems to 2 feet; medium green leaves with purple veins narrowing towards pointed tips; bulbils that form in the leaf axils drop to the ground to grow new plants in the spring. This species is quite hardy. The tubers in the ground can

withstand temperatures below freezing for an extended period if well mulched. This offering is the cultivated variety 'Alba' which has white flowers.

***B. lyman-smithii*** Burt-Utley (Sect. *Gireoudia*) [Mexico] Creeping rhizome; dark red, hairy petioles 3-10 in.; leaves dark green, ovate, with sunken palmate veins and very narrow dark margin, abundance of tiny white hairs on most parts of the plant; pink flowers in spring. Grows in limestone hills in Oaxaca

***B. plebeja*** Liebmann (Sect. *Gireoudia*) [Mexico, Central America]. Thick, branched, succulent rhizomes up to 1 foot tall; obliquely cordate green leaves, 3"-6" long, broadly ovate with long drawn-out tip, dull green above; brownish, tomentose underneath, irregularly toothed, ciliate, pilose underneath, long petioles; white flowers in forking cymes; autumn or winter.

Four different collections of a *semperflorens* type from Indonesia collected by **Scott Hoover**.

***B. U103*** [Bolivia] Seed distributed by Rudy Ziesenhenn. Tuberous, stems green, succulent, 2-3 ft. high, slender requiring support; leaves medium green, glabrous 1 in. across; male flowers have 4 tepals, female flowers have 6 tepals; capsule has 4 wings and 4 cells.

***B. U319*** This unidentified begonia is a *B. cucullata* type, tall with large attractive white flowers.

Send orders, comments, or suggestions to:

**Edgar A. Bates**  
**13232 Ocean Vista Road**  
**San Diego, CA 92130**  
**e-address:**  
**epb888@san.rr.com**

Packets of seeds of species and U numbers are \$1.50. All packets of cultivars (including open pollinated) seeds are 50¢ per packet. **Very rare seeds and newly collected seeds will be \$2.00 or more per packet.** California residents please add 7.75 % sales tax. All orders must be accompanied by check or money order, **payable in US funds ONLY**, to **The Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund.**

Please send your order with payment to:

**AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY**  
**CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND**  
**Edgar A. Bates**  
**13232 Ocean Vista Road**  
**San Diego, CA 92130**

**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; **37-48** (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.

**DISCLAIMER:** The seeds distributed by the seed fund are identified as received from the donors. The species names (in italics) reported here are correct based on the latest information from **BEGONIA-CEAE**, Ed. 2; Golding, and Wasshausen. Hybrid names are made consistent with the *ABS Check List of Begonia Hybrids* edited by Howard Berg dated 9/13/2005.

**It's finally here!**

**The new update:**

***Unidentified Species Listing***  
***Update March 2007***  
**by Freda Holley**

Printed in two sizes: 8 1/2 x 11 for the bookshelf \$ 7. incl. postage  
and 7 x 8 1/2 to carry with you. \$ 7. incl. postage

Only 25 of each is available, order one or both today, from:

**Ann Salisbury,**  
**P.O. Box 452**  
**Tonkawa, OK 74653**  
**geneann@sbcglobal.net; 1-580-628-5230**

**All proceeds go to the Thelma O'Reilly Reprint Fund of ABS**

# American Begonia Society Election 2003

## About the Candidates

### For President

**Mary Sakamoto** has been a member of ABS for 20 years. She has been Chairman and member of the Awards Committee, Co-Chairman of the 1992 ABS Convention, Plant Sale chairman for 2 ABS conventions in 1995 and 1999. She is a Senior Judge and serves as Convention Advisor. She has been Treasurer for the Orange County Branch for 10 years and National Director of the Orange County Branch for over 10 years.

### For 1st Vice President

**Cheryl Lenert** was introduced to ABS when she went to a Houston Astro's meeting in a private home and was astonished to see the different varieties of begonias. It was not long in 1992 before she joined ABS. Over the years she has held a number of offices in the Astro's, including President. She has given many begonia programs each year in the Houston area and through out the US. Currently, she is Bookstore Chairman for ABS. She is an ABS judge. Her husband Charley is an engineer in the oil and gas business. His only hobby is traveling and because of that they have visited ABS members and botanical gardens all over the world and exchanged begonias.

### For 2nd Vice President

**Johann Zinn** has been an involved and very active member of the American Begonia Society for many years. In 2006

*Ballots must be received by July 21.  
Votes will be counted on July 22.*

*The ABS Bylaws Article VII - Elections Section 5 state: "The Committee shall invalidate any ballot containing any writing other than the marks necessary to register votes for candidates nominated under the procedures provided for under these Bylaws..."*

*The Ballot Counting Committee reminds members that the ballot is voided if personal remarks or additions are made on the ballot.*

*Please do not invalidate your vote!  
Comments may be made on a separate sheet of paper.*

## Official Ballot American Begonia Society Election 2001

### For President:

**Mary Sakamoto**

### For 1st Vice President:

**Cheryl Lenert**

### For 2nd Vice President:

**Johanna Zinn**

**For Secretary:**

**Richard Macnair**

**For Treasurer:**

**Carol Notaras**

**Mail to:**

**Ballot Counting Chair  
Ingeborg A. Foo  
1050 Melrose Way  
Vista, CA 92083-6504  
USA**

*Clip & Mail: Must be received  
by July 21, 2001.*

Johanna received the Herbert P. Dykman Award, is currently serving on the ABS Grant Committee, is a Senior ABS Judge and has served on ABS Nominating Committee 2 or 3 times. Johanna will be an asset to the American Begonia Society as 2nd Vice-President as she will bring a lot of new ideas to the table and work tirelessly to help keep our organization moving ever forward and on the right track. Johanna does not waiver in the face of adversity, just rolls up her sleeves and digs in.

**For Secretary**

**Richard Macnair** is currently serving as ABS Secretary. When you read his notes, you feel that you have attended the Board Meeting he records, so thorough are his notes. He is very active in the Buxton Branch of ABS, and has served as its President. He is a diligent behind-the-scenes worker for ABS. He never fails to support both the annual conventions and the ABS Board in every way possible. He works with his wife Wanda to make many plant sales successful.

**For Treasurer**

**Carol Notaras** has been our treasurer for the past twelve years. She has also served two terms as President of ABS. She is an active member of the San Francisco and Sacramento Branches and was ABS Convention Chair in 1989. She also grows award winning begonias and contributes photographs for the *Begonian*.

*The Official Ballot is to the left.. Just clip and mail it in. The Ballot Counting Committee reminds you that the ballot is voided if personal remarks or additions are made on the ballot. Please don't invalidate your vote! Comments may be made on a separate sheet of paper.*

# Membership Report

by Donna Marsheck,  
Membership Chair

As of March 1, we are sending the *Begonian* to 798 addresses inside the USA and 91 outside the USA.

I have had to remove **526 mailing** addresses whose dues are now delinquent. Hopefully dues will continue to come in.

## Membership report from November 10, 2006 to March 3, 2007

We celebrate three new Life Memberships: **Robert Clark**, November 2006; **Johanna Zinn** and **Stewart Hammer** in January 2007.

We have two new members from The United Kingdom, one each from England, Scotland, New Zealand, Italy, France, and Indonesia.

New members joining branches: Astro 3; Buxton 5; Dallas Area 1; Delaware Valley 4; Doug Frost 3; Fred A. Barkley

1; Houston Satellites 1; Long Beach Parent Chapter 1; Mabel Corwin 2; Mae Blanton 2; Leslie Hatfield Monterrey Bay Area 2; Orange County 2; Palm Beaches 6; Palo Verdes 3; Joan Coulat Sacramento 4; San Jacinto 2; Rudolph Ziesenhenn 2; South Bay 4; Tampa Bay 3; and Westchester 4.

New Members not in a branch: Arizona 1; California 7; Connecticut 1; Florida 6; Georgia 2; Hawaii 1; Iowa 1; Indiana 1; Kansas 1; Kentucky 2; Louisiana 1; Maryland 1; Missouri 1; Montana 1; New Jersey 2; New York 4; Pennsylvania 1; South Carolina 1; Texas 2; Vermont 1; and Wisconsin 1.

**Come on Everyone!  
Get those Dues  
to Donna today.**

### THE NORTH AMERICAN LILY SOCIETY, INC.

A Society to Promote the Culture of Lilies



We would like to invite you to add the Genus *Lilium* to your garden--the true Lilies. Join us by sending annual dues of \$20 for 1 year or \$55 for 3 years.

Send to: **Dr. Robert Gilman**  
NALS Executive Secretary  
P.O. Box 71, Owatonna, MN 55060  
For further information: [www.lilies.org](http://www.lilies.org)



The Association for plant & flower people who grow  
in hobby green houses and windows!

Quarterly Magazine and Newsletter \* Growing & Maintenance Help & Advice  
Dues: USA \$28/yr, Canada/Mexico \$30/yr, Overseas \$31, (US. funds/bank, MO)  
Sample magazine \$3.50, *Directory of Greenhouse Manufacturers & Distributors* \$2.50

**Hobby Greenhouse Association**  
8 Glen Terrace, Bedford, MA 01730-2048  
<http://www.hobbygreenhouse.org>

# Conservation Comments

by **Bill Claybaugh**  
Conservation Chairman, ABS

## Costa Rica Exploration Trip Cancelled

For the past year, the Ohio State University (OSU), USDA and ABS members have been planning an exploration to Costa Rica to collect begonias. Major funding was to have been supplied by the USDA with ABS covering travel costs for our members. OSU is the location of the Ornamental Plant Germplasm Center, funded by USDA, and has the long range mission to preserve seeds and/or plant parts of commercially important ornamental plants. Begonias are one of the six such genus selected for preservation. The first field trip to add to the collection was to have been to Costa Rica.

On February 14, 2007 we finally received a complete set of requirements from the Costa Rica authorities for the adventure. Included were very strict regulations on final disposition of the collected material. In essence, the Costa Rica government required (1) negotiated control over transfer of everything collected, (2) negotiated control over every use of the material, and (3) payment for the long-range benefits derived from the collected material. Needless to say, these terms were unacceptable to the USDA and the ABS so the trip was cancelled immediately.

There is one benefit that had developed from the planning for this trip, however. This is the development of some new tools to help identify Costa Rican and Central American begonia species. Over the past year, the ABS Conservation Committee (**Jack Golding, Mildred**

**Thompson, Rekha Morris, Tom Keepin,** and myself) developed and/or organized several important elements necessary to identify those species that were anticipated to be found in Costa Rica. This information has been put on a CD and can be made available to everyone. The CD contains the following

1. A listing of 45 begonia species known to be found in Costa Rica or Central America.
2. Relative physical characteristics of the Sections of these begonia
3. Probable location of many of the species in Costa Rica.
4. A Key to help identify the species.
5. Color pictures of more than half of the species; plants, leaves, and flowers
6. Pictures of the Type Specimens for each species from the Smithsonian Begoniaceae Ed. 1 and 2.
7. Complete listing of all species and their synonyms along with literature references.
8. Citations of most of the species in Latin, English, German, etc.
9. A selection of descriptions of the species in English.
10. And other information.

This CD has been sent to several ABS members who are reviewing and commenting on the contents. After changes and/or comments are incorporated, the CD will probably be sold to ABS members for a nominal fee, with proceeds going to the ABS Conservation Fund.

Begonias plus fragrant and flowering tropicals!

**LOGEE'S GREENHOUSES**

**141 North Street**

**Danielson, CT 06239**

Phone toll free: **888-330-8038**

Or visit our website: [www.logees.com](http://www.logees.com)

*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 \$.42 tax.) Mail to: National Fuchsia Society, 11507 E. 187 St., Artesia CA 90701

**LURAY OF SALISBURY**

Begonias, Gesneriads, Orchids

Cacti & Succulents

432 Undermountain Road, Rt. 41

Salisbury, CT 06068-1102

Call ahead (860) 435-2263

2007-8 Catalogue \$2

<http://www.luray.com>

**Plan Now to Discover  
LA in 2007!**



**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 \$20; Institutional \$30; Commercial \$50.

Information: **American Ivy Association, P.O. Box 2123, Naples, FL 34106-2123**

**Pacific Horticulture**

*a quarterly journal about plants and gardens of the West*

PUBLISHED BY THE NON-PROFIT PACIFIC HORTICULTURE FOUNDATION

MAKES A FINE GIFT FOR GARDENERS

SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE \$20/YEAR USA, \$23/YEAR CANADA AND MEXICO, \$25/YEAR OTHER COUNTRIES.

SEND CHECK, VISA OR MASTER CARD TO:  
PHG, Box 485, BERKELEY CA 94701-0485

**Bonnie's Greenhouse**

We grow Angel Wing Begonias, perennials and hardy ferns.

Begonias:

Tom Ment \$4.	Torch \$3.
Lynda Dawn \$3.	Maurice Amy \$3.
Don Miller \$3.	Lois Burke \$3.
Benigo \$3.	Ming Fern \$4.
Autumn Fern \$4.	Foxtail
Japanese Painted Fern \$4.	Asparagus \$4.

Ferns are in 4" pots. Begonias are in 3 1/2" deep rooting pots. More begonias soon.

Shipping by priority mail.

Call toll free: 1/888/799/8202

Bonnie's Greenhouse

5498 Orchard Lane

Waco, TX 76705

email: [bonnied@flash.net](mailto:bonnied@flash.net)

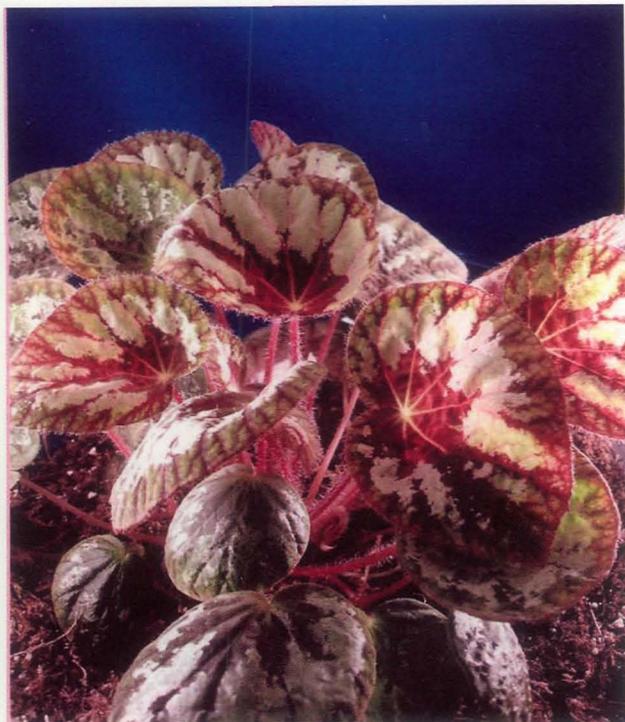
**Advertise in the Begonian!**

**Contact:**

**Ann Salisbury**

**580-628-5230**

**Email: [geneann@cableone.net](mailto:geneann@cableone.net)**



*Charles Henthorne's photos catch the amazing variation in leaf color on this new Japanese hybrid.*



## B. “*Enchantment Aureola*” by Charles Henthorne

Japan! Whenever I hear that name, I immediately think of a “land of enchantment”. I have always dreamed of seeing Japan, visiting its famous places, and absorbing myself in its culture. As I got older I realized I probably would never have a chance to visit that great nation. However in the early part of June of last year, I received an offer from **Akira Tanaka**, who is well known to many of our ABS members. He asked about the possibility of obtaining some leaves of my *B.* ‘Shaun Henthorne’, *B.* ‘Shaun’s Fantasy’, and *B.* ‘Shaun’s Dreams. In exchange he offered a few leaves of some of the Japanese hybrids.

I immediately responded and sent him those begonias that he requested along with several others I thought he would be interested in. Within 10 days I had received a treasure box containing leaves of some beautiful hybrids from Japan. Not knowing the cultural requirements of those specimens that he had sent was one of the problems that I faced as I prepared to place them in my environment here in Plano. I wanted to make sure that I did not lose a single one of the prized leaves that I had received. One in particular stood out above all the others. This was the one that I decided to concentrate my efforts, in order to make sure that it survived. I knew that it would be a fantastic plant.

I prepared a container with sterilized perlite, moistened, and about 2 inches deep. I then removed the leaves from their protective bags, which Akira had shipped them in. I removed approximately 2 inches of the petiole, and placed the leaves in the barely damp perlite. I placed the covered container on the top of a shelf that had an

artificial light on the bottom side. This provided some heat for the rooting container. There also was a light above the containers to give light to those precious leaves while they were forming new roots.

Without going into a great deal of technical information on the plant, I will only say that it has exceeded my wildest expectations. The photos that I have included do not do justice to its beauty. Within three weeks I had noticed small leaves coming from the mother leaf. I watched it for the next 3 weeks, and as it got bigger I decided to leave it in its terrarium environment when I placed it in its new home. I transplanted it into a container that was approximately 8” in diameter. The plant itself by this time was 2.5-3.0” in diameter. By the time the plant was 4 months old it was ready to go into a larger container. With its large mottled leaves and its widely varied variegations it had developed into a great specimen plant. It reminds me of *B. sizemoreae*, and also of *B.* ‘Muntaz’, with its colors and shapes of the leaves.

**Ashizawa**, of Japan, developed the plant. It is a low growing rhizomatous begonia that one would want to grow for its leaves. *B.* ‘Enchantment Aureola’ has unknown parentage, and has never bloomed for its Japanese growers. I have sent photos of it to Mr. Tanaka and am awaiting his comments on my cultivation of this extremely desirable plant. I am happy to report that I have made numerous new plants from the original leaf. It seems to be very hardy in the terrarium environment, and thrives in the 90-100% humidity that a closed container provides. We use our normal potting medium that is used on all

our terrarium plants, and which has been described in many previous articles in the *Begonian*. The medium is acid in content and the begonia is thriving. Its height is approximately 8" and its diameter is approximately 14".

The beauty, size, and shapes are striking to the general observer. I anticipate many, many good comments, in the future, when we are able to show it at the ABS and SWR gatherings. I cannot think

of a better representative for Japan than this wonderfully colored begonia. Every time I look at it I find myself thinking of its home across the miles.

Thanks, Mr. Tanaka for sending this small piece of your country to me. I'll treasure it always.

---

### **Update on the September 5 thru 8, 2007 ABS Convention "Begonias in Paradise" to be held at Ayres Hotel, Manhattan Beach/Hawthorne/LAX, CA**

We are excited to announce that the Pre-convention garden tours on Tuesday September 4, 2007 are as follows:

**South Coast Botanic Garden** in Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA is a unique 87-acre garden environment. The garden was once a landfill and now has over 150,000 beautifully landscaped plants and trees. Some of the more diverse plants include flowering fruit trees, redwoods, ginkgos and pittosporum. For months, the garden has been planting more begonias for the enjoyment of convention attendees.

**Will Rogers State Historic Park** located in Pacific Palisades, CA between Santa Monica and Malibu. This was once Will Rogers private ranch and grounds. Willed to the state of California in 1944, the 168-acre estate is now both a park and a historic site, supervised by the Department of Parks and Recreation.

**Julie Newmar's private garden**( the original Cat Woman in Bat Man TV Series) in Beverly Hills, CA. Julie was a friend and customer of **Rudy Z** and with the help of our banquet MC and fellow member, **Mike Flaherty**, who was instrumental in helping to arrange this once in a lifetime opportunity. Kudos to Mike.

Ayres Hotel is now offering a website for booking reservations for the convention: Steps to book online:

GO TO - [www.ayreshotels.com](http://www.ayreshotels.com)

Choose Hawthorne or Manhattan Beach Location

Enter Dates of check-in and check-out

Put in the Code GRPABS in the box where it says Corporate/Promo Code

Rates and availability will show up.

Margaret Fisher,  
Convention Chair

# *Begonia hirtella*

I always been fascinated by the *Semperflorens* species. At one time or another I have grown and set seed on many of them; although I do not replant these each year, I do occasionally plant the seed out to refresh them. *Begonia hirtella* is one of these that I planted this spring and have a number of them about. I know that most growers will regard these as either not worth growing or even as a noxious weed, but I think they are missing out.

At a begonia program for a garden club here this year, I took one of the little 1 ounce portion cups in which I begin seed. I had transplanted everything out except a hirtella seedling which was about 2 inches high. The fascination to those at the meeting were the dainty little white blooms that already decorated this begonia. Kids love these as well.

Mine have always grown well in the winter inside, but usually disappear in the heat of summer. I really do not know then if these are annual or just lacking in heat resistance.

I know of no hybrids and think I will try cross-pollinating it this year, just to see what if anything I can get. Doorenbos attributes 34 or perhaps 36 chromosomes to this plant and places it in the limited (only 8 species) section of *Doratometra*. I also have to admit that I am usually confused between *B. hirtella* and *B. humilis* and keep referring back to the icons in *Begoniaceae* to try to see which is which. At any rate they may well be able to take the pollen of species in the section *Begonia* with 34 chromosomes: *B. cucullata*, *B. fisheri*, *B. mollicaulis*. More interesting, however, would be crosses with trailing-scandents in section *Wageneria* such as *B. fagifolia*, *glabra*, and *convolvulacea*

When I had this extra page this month, I looked for an interesting article

to fill this page and found this one by *Carmel Browne* in Australia's *Queensland Begonia Society, Inc. Journal*, Vol No. 62, Autumn 2004. My thanks to the Journal and to Carmel for her article below and for inspiring me to put together the above thoughts on this begonia.

~FH

---

## *Begonia hirtella* by Carmel Browne

This *semperflorens* species was found in 1822 and is native to Brazil, Peru, and the West Indies. It has small, soft, green, hairy leaves and many white flowers with lots and lots of seed pods.

*B. hirtella* self-pollinates and the seeds germinate very readily - so much so, that many people consider it a "weed." Unwanted plants are very easily removed. Could this be one reason some begonias are facing extinction. Too easy to grow, so nobody wants them!!

The leaves are very soft-textured and in a cool shady greenhouse mildew can be a problem. However, in my experience, the little plants that pop up in spots where they receive some direct early morning sunlight have no problems with mildew, and are very strong compact little plants covered with flowers and seed pods.

Recently, I bought from an English seed merchant for 3 pounds 40 pence, seed listed as *Begonia* species seed ex Sabah. I was hoping I might get just one of these beauties pictured in the Kew magazine. But no....just heaps and heaps of *B. hirtella* to add to my thousands of the same. Never mind, they are are hardy, low maintenance and never die out.



*Mary Bucholtz* photographs both the beauty and uniqueness of *Begonia parviflora*. The lithograph is a lovely one. **Charles Jaros** stands beside a large plant below which gives perspective on leaf size and bloom.



# *Begonia parviflora* - The Gentle Giant

by Mary Bucholtz

*Begonia parviflora* - this seems to be a little grown begonia. I have only seen it in cultivation twice. The first time was in the conservatory of the Atlanta Botanical Garden in 1998. My second encounter with this "gentle giant" was in **Mary Sizemore's** Deland, Florida greenhouse.

*Begonia parviflora* was small at Mary's, though sprawling through other plants on the bench. At that time, I didn't know its name, only that Mary had collected it in Ecuador. It has since been identified.

**Scott Hoover** brought back seeds in 1967 and they were offered through the Seed Fund. Scott collected the seeds on the road to Buenaventura Valle, Colombia.

*Begonia parviflora* was first described by Poeppig and Endlicher in 1835, being found Colombia to Bolivia. It is placed in the section Scheidweileria.

I would classify *Begonia parviflora* as thick-stemmed, though **Mark Tebbit** in *Begonias, Cultivation, Identification, and Natural History*, refers to it as tree-like. The stems are herbaceous, succulent, and glabrous, having red nodes. The leaf blades are lobed, glabrous, medium thick, firm, yet soft to the touch. The leaf size in my photograph is forty inches plus. Venation is palmate. The surface is slightly reticulated. Petioles are glabrous.

Peduncles are herbaceous, red at branching, and contain many panicles and raceme. The inflorescence are white, reminding one of a shower of stars. The size

of the mature blossom cluster on *Begonia parviflora* is quite an event as shown at left with **Charles Jaros** standing beside it. This cluster covers a twenty-four to thirty-six inch area.

As the plant grows the weight of the leaf can pull the stem downward. At each node a root emerges and finds its way to the soil, thereby starting another plant.

The lithograph (21" x 14 1/4") is from a large book of botanical prints published for the Royal Family of Spain at the turn of the nineteenth century. There are eight to ten other drawings of begonias in the book. I have been able to add five of them to my collection of botanical prints, including this print of *Begonia parviflora*.

In conclusion, pull up your chair, grab your *Begonian* and a lemonade, and enjoy reading in the shade of *Begonia parviflora*.

**Show Your Support:**

**Be Sure  
to  
Vote!**

# *Begonia multangula*,

## An Interesting Javan Begonia

by Bill Claybaugh

In the spring of 2003 at the ABS Convention in Oklahoma City I purchased several species begonias for my collection. Somewhere during the mad scramble of selecting and purchasing and then transporting the plants home, I lost one nametag. Nevertheless, I liked the looks of the little plant so decided to grow it anyway, hoping that someday I would be able to identify it.

It has now been over three years and to my great pleasure, the plant finally bloomed in October of 2006 and I was able to identify it as *B. multangula*, a species in Section *Sphenanthera*, from western and central Java.

The plant is large, spreading over three feet in width and height, rhizomatous, has moderately lobed, glossy green glabrous leaves about 8 to 10 inches in length with a cordate base, and an inflorescence that originates at or near the axis of the leaves. The primary peduncle of the bisexual inflorescence is about six inches in length and the flowers are arranged in a cymose structure. The initial peduncle is terminated by one male flower with one arm on either side, each one inch long. These arms are in-turn terminated by a single male flower with a single arm, it terminated by one male and one female flower. This inflorescence structure can be described as dichasial at the base and monochasial at the apex; male flowers basal and female flowers distal.

The flowers appear to me to be the real attraction of this species. The male flower has four large tepals, each about

three-fourth inch in width and length, white in the interior and rosy pink around the margin. The tepal edges are or may be ruffled or crenate (I still cannot be sure) and especially attractive, particularly when wet. The androecium's, the collection of stamens, is large (almost three-eighths inch in diameter) and round (actinomorphic) which is typical of many Asian plants such as *Begonia rex* and its derivatives. The male flowers mature early and fall off long before the female flower opens; i.e. it is proterandrous.

The female flower has the same shape and color of tepals as the male flower, except there are five present. The unique feature of the female flower is the ovary i.e., the soon-to-be seed-pod. This ovary is unlike any I have seen before, being thick, triangular, "fleshy", with small fat ridges where the wings should be. I have not cut open the ovary to observe the placenta and seeds (I am setting seeds on the plant so have conserved each flower) but **J. Doorenbos** describes the Section as having bifid placenta and seeds between the branches.

In the course of identifying this species, I translated from Latin, with help from **Jack Golding**, the original 1827 description of *B. multangula* by the species name author, Blume, which is as follows:

*B. multangula*: new species.

Somewhat woody Begonia, with erect, almost glabrous stem; with ovate leaves, acumi-



*Bill Claybaugh's photographs catch both the scale of this plant below and the unique growth he found at a leaf umbo.*



nate, unequally cordate, deeply angled, denticulate, hirsute on both sides; inflorescence with a peduncule arising on nodes outside an axis; capsule triangular, lateral, slightly unequal. (akin to *B. grandis*, Dryander.) Growing on the summit of mountain Burangrang, Patuhoe Western Java. Herbaceous perennial.

The above is interesting from an historic viewpoint, plus it is a useful description. I did, however, find one difference with my plant, namely the leaves are glabrous, not hirsute (hairy) on the upper and lower surfaces. The only hairs on the leaf are on the denticulated margin where each projection has one minute, but clearly visible hair.

A further search of the literature gave me another interesting description of the plant by **J. Doorenbos** in a 1980 *Begonian* article (Vol. 47, p213). Doorenbos described two species from Java that had only recently been brought back into cultivation, *B. robusta* in 1974 and *B. multangula* in 1977. He wrote that the leaves of *B. robusta* were "coarsely pilose", but that *B. multangula* leaves were "glabrous or nearly so". My plant is in agreement with that of Doorenbos.

One last surprise is still developing on this plant, namely an adventitious growth at a leaf umbo. Below a large leaf in the top center of this plant a turnip shaped growth has developed. It is approximately 5/8 inch in diameter and 1/2 inch in length and has minute, dark red scale or hair scattered around. On the upper surface of the leaf, just at the umbo, there appears to be a minute plant forming. As of today, this growth is only 1/4 inch high, but it appears to have all the components of a plant with the exception of its root system. So far, this is the only leaf on the plant with this unusual growth.

***One last surprise is still developing on this plant, namely an adventitious growth at a leaf umbo. Below a large leaf in the top center of this plant a turnip shaped growth has developed.***

Such adventitious growths are not unusual for begonias, but are always a pleasant surprise. In some future article I will describe the final outcome of this growth and whether it yields a vi-

able plant.

Finally, I must conclude *B. multangula* is not for everyone. It requires lot of space, an inordinate amount of time, plus some exacting growing conditions to get a mature, blooming plant. It's also not very attractive compared to other begonias. Regardless, I hope to get some seedlings in the next year and distribute a few to some enterprising growers who want a long-term challenge.

# The Computer is the Best Method to Reach Out to Others

by **Bernie Wiener,**  
**Deleware Valley Branch/ABS Publicity/National Director**

I am the publicity person for the Delaware Valley Branch and I am learning how to reach an unknown audience with the use of my computer.

Placing press releases with the local news papers can be a problem since they only print the release if the event/meeting is being held in their coverage area. Then when you finally get a release printed it is using very brief information and the features are deleted. As a relative new branch we try in every way to acquaint people that there is a begonia branch in their area.

Beside the newspapers, I look for invitations to do begonia presentations at garden clubs and circulate flyers announcing our meetings at key places like garden centers. I was fortunate to do a begonia presentation at The Philadelphia Flower Show on March 9, 2007 where visitors have a place to sit among the different displays and hear presenters give growing culture on all types of plant material. I made up a good number of bonus bags which includes a good size *Begonia scharffii* and begonia growing information with of course membership forms for both local and national.

You are promoting events/meetings that take place at a precise date and time which is visible for readers to see a certain amount of time. Now, why not start a website with a number of different web providers on the internet and have your story in view for a longer period of time. I am far from being a computer expert and I managed to open two different sites. One is Yahoo GeoCities which gives you means to start a "Home Page" and

it allows you to tie in with four different links. I picked ABS sources, therefore each reader is learning that a local branch exist and facts on ABS. The other provider is Garden Web which gives you means to announce your events/meetings plus have a website.

Again, as young branch (charter dated 2001) we are interested in learning from the branches who have a good number years to develop with more experienced growers and know the different techniques to attract members. I am referring to the new and wonderful website from Palm Beach Branch. Here you have means to read their newsletters (even previous issues). I receive hard copies of the local branches' newsletters where I can pick up some helpful pointers. My hope is to entice more branches to start a website or place their newsletters on the internet. The technology is now available to communicate with a wider audience and it takes a short amount of time.

---

**Remember!**  
**Send nominations for**  
**ABS Awards (see March/April**  
**issue, p.72-3) by July 1, 2007**  
**to Ann Salisbury at address**  
**on p.119. Email nominations**  
**accepted, but only one**  
**nomination per page please.**

# What is Its Name?

*Begonia acida* x *Begonia venosa*

by Gene Salisbury

I have been growing this plant for 15 or more years. I have no recollection of when or where it came from, but would like to know and also who the hybridizer is. I am certain that it had the tab. *B. acida* x *B. venosa* in it.

It's growth became so large that I put it in the ground in my greenhouse a year or two before **Freda Holley** moved to Stillwater, Oklahoma. It grew very well there. Freda liked this plant and checked it out each time she visited.

In a few years it was getting so large that I dug it up and divided it and the picture here is one of the results.

As *B. venosa* does, it grows well in the direct sun, but also as *B. acida*

does it also does well in semi-shade. The plant *B. venosa* give it plus for Oklahoma weather.

As to outward appearances this plant does not resemble either parent to great degree; however, as you compare more closely there are blends of both.

I have not worked on propagating this begonias as there has not been very much interest in it. I enjoy watching it grow so I keep it growing here.

I enjoy watching each plant day by day. Don't you all?

*See Gene's plant in his back cover photo, page 120.*

---

## Editor's Notes

A big thank you to all those who sent articles about specific begonias for this issue. I love these articles and I think this issue will be a member favorite as well.

Remember it really is not difficult to submit an article about *your* begonia. It can be handwritten, typed, or on a file. Any way you send it, it will be welcomed. If you don't have a photo, I have many photos that have never been used because there was no article to go with them and may have one of your favorite plant.

At long last, the revised edition of the *Unidentified Species Listing* is available. When I had finally retrieved my zip disk file from Stillwater, I found that the last edition had been completed in December 2001. It's amazing how fast time flies when you are moving about the country! The ad for this edition is on page 100 and as usual the proceeds will go to the

Thelma O'Reilly Reprint Fund. Only 25 copies of each size of this edition are being published as I have now passed the baton for the upkeep of this file to **Charles Jaros** and **Mary Bucholtz** and I'm sure they will issue more frequent updates. Remember to send any photos or information about the unidentifieds to them.

**Julie Vanderwilt** and I have been discussing possibly using the photos submitted, but which I am unable to use with the stories because of limited space on the web as teasers for these articles in the *Begonian*. Please let me know what you think. **I will ask that in the future that if you do not wish us to use the photos in this way that you let me know when you submit photos.** Julie will see that you receive credit there for the photos. I would love to use every photo that comes in, but as you know we are limited in the number of color pages. ~FH

## Southern Burner Co.

Vented Greenhouse Heaters.

Specialists  
in the heating  
needs of the  
hobby grower  
since 1923.



Model A-1 25,000 BTU  
Vented

Dependable vented orchid house heaters.  
Economical heat on natural or LP gas.  
"No Electricity Required."  
Millivolt controls available with "Setback"  
thermostat for day & night temperatures.  
For literature and prices, give us a call or drop us a line.

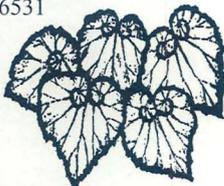
### Southern Burner Co.

P.O. Box 885 · Chickasha, OK 73023  
(800) 375-5001 \* (405) 224-5000  
FAX: (405) 224-0500

*Begonias - Gesneriads*  
*Rare Flowering Plants & Vines*

## Kartuz Greenhouses

1408 Sunset Dr., Dept. B  
Vista, CA 92083-6531  
760-941-3613



Catalog:  
\$3.00, Free to  
ABS Members

<http://www.kartuz.com>

## LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL FERN SOCIETY

**INVITES YOU TO JOIN**  
GROW HARDY AND TROPICAL FERNS  
MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES:  
SUBSCRIPTION TO LAIFS JOURNAL  
(6 issues) WITH FERN LESSONS, SPORE  
STORE, BOOK STORE, SUPPLY STORE,  
LENDING LIBRARY,  
GENERAL MEETINGS HAVE LARGE  
PLANT TABLES  
DOWNEY STUDY GROUP  
SOUTH COAST STUDY GROUP  
PLEASE SEND YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER OF  
\$25.00/USA, Canada, Mexico; or \$33.00 Other International  
payable in US dollars to:  
**LOS ANGELES INT'L FERN SOCIETY**  
P.O. BOX 90943  
PASADENA, CA 91109-0943

## The **VIOLET BARN**

*Home of Rob's Violets*

*Shipping quality plants since 1985.*

### ***Gesneriads too!!***

Our own 'Bristol's' strep hybrids  
and **MANY** other genera

**10 different streps, our choice \$35**  
**Add \$12 per order for shipping**

We'll ship to anywhere at anytime  
(Ask us about winter delivery)

***SAFE DELIVERY GUARANTEED!***

**FOR FULL-COLOR CATALOG, SEND \$2**  
**[WWW.VIOLETBARN.COM](http://WWW.VIOLETBARN.COM)**

**PO BOX 696, NAPLES, NY 14512**  
**PHONE: 585-374-8592**

Your begonias will feel right at home growing with gesneriads!



### ***The Gesneriad Society***

Annual dues: \$25. Outside U.S.: \$30  
Quarterly Journal, extensive seed fund,  
judging schools, annual convention  
Visit us online at: [www.aggs.org](http://www.aggs.org)

Membership Secretary  
Robert Clark  
1122 East Pike Street, PMB 637  
Seattle, WA 98122-3916

## COMING EVENTS

**July 7, 2007, Westchester Branch of the American Begonia Society 48th Annual Show & Sale, Covenant Presbyterian Church, 80th & Sepulveda, Los Angeles, CA 90045. 9-5.** This year we are honoring **Robert Golden** and will have a display of his beautiful new begonia hybrids. Bob has won Best In Show at Westchester many times. Contact: **Janet Brown**, 310-670-4471, [begoniabrown@yahoo.com](mailto:begoniabrown@yahoo.com).

### **2007 American Begonia Society Convention<sup>A</sup>: Scotland!**

Contact Janet Brown for more information at [jbbrown@yahoo.com](mailto:jbbrown@yahoo.com) or 310-670-4471.

**2007 American Begonia Society Convention<sup>B</sup>, Los Angeles, CA, Palos Verdes Branch hosting.** See page 108

**March 22-26, 2008, Association of Australian Begonia Societies Convention in Brisbane, Australia.** Begin you plans! More information to come.

**Deadline for the July/August issue  
will be May 1, 2007.**

---

### *The Begonian*

**Editor: Freda M. Holley**, 251 Pylant Road, Choudrant, LA 71227; Ph: 318-251-2296.

Email: [fredaholley@bellsouth.net](mailto:fredaholley@bellsouth.net)

**Consulting Editor: Jan Brown.**

**Nomenclature Editor: Jack Golding,**

33 Ingram Drive, Monroe Township, NJ 08831-4641, E-mail: [JGBEGNOM@verizon.net](mailto:JGBEGNOM@verizon.net)

**Quick Tips: Dianna Wilkerson**, 15356 Pheasant Run, Choctaw, OK 73020, E-mail: [begoniafiend@cox.net](mailto:begoniafiend@cox.net)

**Advertising Staff:**

**Display Ads: Ann Salisbury**, P.O. Box 452, Tonkawa, OK 74653, Ph: 580-628-5230.

Email: [geneann@sbcglobal.net](mailto:geneann@sbcglobal.net)

**Plant Society Ads; Holiday Greetings:**

**Wanda Macnair**, 59 Walker St., Cambridge, MA, 02138, Ph: 617-876-1356, Email: [wmacnair@msn.com](mailto:wmacnair@msn.com)

**Send inquiries about address changes, missing copies, dues, subscription and circulation to Donna Marscheck**, 5218 Brock Dr., Bartlesville, OK 74006; Ph: 918-333-1587; Email: [dmarscheck@yahoo.com](mailto:dmarscheck@yahoo.com)

## ABS Elected Officers

**President**...Janet Green, 7825 Kentwood Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90045-1150; Ph: 310-670-4471; [begoniabrown@yahoo.com](mailto:begoniabrown@yahoo.com)

**Past President**.....Howard Berg, 16 Highview Terr., New Canaan, CT 06840; Ph: 203-966-7693; email: [howber@optonline.net](mailto:howber@optonline.net)

**1st Vice-President**.....Mary Sakamoto, 9682 Featherhill Dr., Villa Park, CA 92861; Ph: 714-637-8787; [m.sakamoto@sbcglobal.net](mailto:m.sakamoto@sbcglobal.net)

**2nd Vice-President**...Cheryl Lenert, 13014 Chavile, Cypress, TX 77429, Ph: 281-897-0155; [lenert@flash.net](mailto:lenert@flash.net)

**Secretary**.....Richard Macnair, 59 Walker St., Cambridge, MA 02138; Ph: 617-876-1356; [RNMacnair@msn.com](mailto:RNMacnair@msn.com)

**Treasurer**.....Carol Notaras, 2567 Green St., San Francisco, CA 94123; Ph: 415-931-4912; E-mail: [cnotaras@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cnotaras@sbcglobal.net)

## Appointed Chairmen and Directors

**Audit**.....Paul Tsamtsis, 1630 F St., Sacramento, CA 95814-1611

**Awards**.....Ann Salisbury, P.O. Box 452, Tonkawa, OK 74653, Ph: 580-628-5230. Email: [geneann@sbcglobal.net](mailto:geneann@sbcglobal.net)

**Back Issues**.....Donna Marsheck, 5218 Brock Dr., Bartlesville, OK 74006, Ph: 918-333-1587, [dmarsheck@yahoo.com](mailto:dmarsheck@yahoo.com).

**Ballot Counting**.....Ingeborg Foo, 1050 Melrose Way, Vista, CA 92083; Ph: 760-724-4871

**Book Store**.....Cheryl Lenert, 13014 Chavile, Cypress, TX 77429, Ph: 281-897-0155; [lenert@flash.net](mailto:lenert@flash.net)

**Branch Relations**.....Mary Bucholtz, 1560 Lancaster Terrace #1008 Jacksonville, FL 32204; Ph: 904-353-9111

**Business Manager**.....Gene Salisbury, P.O. Box 452, Tonkawa, OK 74653; Ph: 580-628-5230; [geneann@sbcglobal.net](mailto:geneann@sbcglobal.net)

**Conservation**.....Bill Claybaugh, 1702 Country Club Dr., Crosby, TX 77532, Ph: 281-328-5133; [absastro@hotmail.com](mailto:absastro@hotmail.com)

**Convention Advisor**.....Mary Sakamoto, 9682 Featherhill Dr., Villa Park, CA 92861; Ph: 714-637-8787; [m.sakamoto@sbcglobal.net](mailto:m.sakamoto@sbcglobal.net)

**Convention Chair**: Margaret Fisher, 7552 Danube Dr., Huntington Beach, Ca, 92647, Ph: 714-847-1889.

**Entries/Classification**...Vacant

**Grants Committee**: Cheryl Lenert, 13014 Chavile, Cypress, TX 77429, Ph: 281-897-0155; [lenert@flash.net](mailto:lenert@flash.net)

**Internet Editor**...Julie Vanderwilt, 710 Mission Park Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93105, Ph: 805-687-8033, email: [vanderwilt@cox.net](mailto:vanderwilt@cox.net)

**Historian** ....Jeanne Jones, 1415 Via Margarita, Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274-2143; Ph: 310-378-7527

**Horticultural Correspondent**...Gregory Sytch, 6329 Alaska Avenue, New Port Richey, FL 34653-4301; Ph: 727-841-9618; [GSytch@cs.com](mailto:GSytch@cs.com)

**Judging**...Maxine Zinman, 2770 Kimble Rd., Berryville, VA 22611; Ph: 540-955-4555; [begonia@visuallink.com](mailto:begonia@visuallink.com)

**Members-at-Large**...Sandy Boyd, 5 Walnut Circle, Chico, CA 95973; Ph: 530-891-5760

**Membership**...Donna Marsheck, 5218 Brock Dr., Bartlesville, OK 74006; Ph: 918-333-1587; Email: [dmarsheck@yahoo.com](mailto:dmarsheck@yahoo.com)

**Nomenclature**....Gene Salisbury, P.O. Box 452, Tonkawa, OK 74653; Ph: 580-628-5230; [geneann@sbcglobal.net](mailto:geneann@sbcglobal.net)

**Parliamentarian**...Linda Lawson, 525 Terrace Place. Norman, OK 73069-5034, Ph: 405-364-2425

**Public Relations**.....Virginia Jens, 4398 Evelyn Place, Lake Worth, FL 33463, 561-964-8871; email: [virginiajens@hotmail.com](mailto:virginiajens@hotmail.com)

**Research**.....Howard Berg, 16 Highview Terr., New Canaan, CT 06840; Ph: 203-966-7693; email: [howber@optonline.net](mailto:howber@optonline.net)

**Save Our Species Coordinator**...Rekha Morris, 318 Woodland Cir., Pendleton, SC 19670; [shivavana@juno.com](mailto:shivavana@juno.com)

**Seed Fund**.....Ed Bates, 13232 Ocean Vista Road, San Diego, CA 92130-1862, Ph: 858-703-4154, Email: [Hortbeg@san.rr.com](mailto:Hortbeg@san.rr.com)

**Slide Library**.....Charles Jaros 200 Maureen Dr., Sanford, FL 32771; Ph: 407-328-0618.

Visit Today!

[www.begonias.org](http://www.begonias.org)

