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The Begonian

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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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Front cover: Begonia maculata, photo by Joe Romeo, Australia

Back cover: Joe Romeo's greenhouse in summer. Bottom left corner is *B*. Anita Sharrad, next to it is unknown Rex. Above is *B*. *listada*, and *B*. Silver Twist. Above is *B*. Supermac because it looks like *B*. maculata on steroids - having lots of hybrid vigor. Also *B*. compta var. 'Greyfeather'. To the right of B. Supermac is Joe's hybrid, 'Maria Teresa' after his wife. Top right corner is B. ' Ice on Fire' New leaves come out red and the silver spots seem to be ice melting down the leaves.

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Left: Doris Happel was presented with a special plant as a token of thanks for all her work with the 2009 Miami convention. Right: Beautiful blossoms! photos by Johanna Zinn



Ruth Pease's hybrid, B. 'Magic Carpet' Read more in Begonia Blog pg. 146 photo by Julie Vanderwilt



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Just returned from the convention in West Palm Beach and had a wonderful time. Doris and Charles really out did themselves. Everything except our return home was perfect. The seminars were very interesting and the tours fun. There is so much to see in Florida. I could write my whole message on the convention but I will let other members do that. There is one person I must thank for her generosity at the convention and that is Leslie Clark, of the West Palm Beach Branch, she paid for the lunch at the Polo Club on Thursday's tour. It was a wonderful lunch in a beautiful setting.

It has been a very busy time in ABS the last couple of months. I am sad to report that ABS has lost two more long time members, Ruth Pease and Jack Golding. I didn't know Jack Golding but had heard many good things about all the work he did being Nomenclature Editor. Ruth, I did know, and she always had a kind word and smile for me when I walked into the Westchester meeting. This branch will miss her. Please be sure and read the obituaries for the both of them in this issue.

I am also sorry to report that our Membership Chair, Donna Marsheck, resigned in early March for personal reasons. I would like to thank Donna for all the time and work she put into membership. Paul Rothstein has agreed to take over the position. Paul is busy updating membership and there will be a few changes in the way dues are collected. See the article in this issue (page 125).

It is that time of year for Holiday Ads. Wanda Macnair has made a few changes so be sure to read her article and get your ad to her by Sept. 1st.

ABS has also lost their mailing service. It seems that they just closed there doors without notice. It turns out that our new Editor, Linda Tamblyn, knew of Allen Press and has contracted with them to do the printing and mailing of the Begonian. Allen Press is taking over with the July/ Aug issue and you will see some very nice changes, all color and ABS is saving a nice sum of money by using them.

The annual business meeting, board meeting and installation of the new President and Executive Board will be at the Southwest Region Get-Together in Austin Texas, August 27th to 29th. It will be hosted by one of our newest branches, the Austin Branch. Welcome to ABS. Look in this issue of the Begonian for any updates by the Austin Branch on the Get-Together.

One last thing before I close. Be sure to vote and get your ballot to Ingeborg Foo, our Ballot Counting Chair, by July 15th. The ballot is in this issue.

> Good Growing, Mary Sakamoto



B. 'Fireworks' photo by Johanna Zinn

THE BEGONIAN

Changes in Membership

I am sorry to report that our Membership Chair, Donna Marsheck, resigned in early March for personal reasons. Paul Rothstein has taken over her position. There have been problems from the start when ABS tried to change the membership due dates for all members to December 31st, hence ABS is going back to the old way of collecting dues. You will also see some new changes in the way the Begonian is handled. This is being done because postage is getting so expensive. Following is a list of the changes.

1. Membership will renew 1 year from the date you paid dues. Example: If your dues were received March 15, 2009 then they will be due again the following March 15, 2010.

2. There will be no more back issues sent if you are late in paying your dues unless you are willing to pay for the postage. If your dues are received late then you will have a new due date. Example: If dues were due in March 2009 and Paul didn't received them until July 2009 then they will be due again the following July 2010. We are doing this because it takes over \$2 to send out these issues.

3. Every member will receive a notice by e-mail when their dues are due. Those that don't have e-mail will receive a postcard. It is very important that the Membership Chairman has correct street addresses and e-mail addresses for members. If you belong to a branch, the branch membership or President should make sure that a list of all members along with their addresses and e-mail addresses are sent to Paul Rothstein at

A Request to All Branches

Please send the names, addresses, emails, and even phone nos. of your presidents and national directors to Richard Macnair, the secretary, RNmacnair@msn.com and to Paul Rothstein, paroan2001@yahoo. com the new membership secretary. Thanks for all your help.

Wanda MacNair



Betty and Sam Kennedy came from Scotland to attend the Miami Convention photo by Johanna Zinn

paroan2001@yahoo.com If you are not a branch member, please e-mail or mail your information to Paul. Branches that are paying dues for their members will need to keep track of each renewal date if they are going to continue to make the payments. If you e-mail Paul he will send you a list of your members renewal dates.

4. Branches and National reps. will no longer be getting Begonians sent to them, again, due to the cost of postage.

5. It is also very important to send change of address to Paul as soon as you know it. The mailing company runs our file through a Post Office change of address program and they send him the results. He has 5 members that moved yet did not notify anyone plus 2 dozen addresses that they are saying will probably get returned. Please send your change of address right away. Mary Sakamoto

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Proceedings Of The Board Meeting American Begonia Society West Palm Beach, Fl May 2, 2009

President Mary Sakamoto called the meeting to order. Gene Salisbury read the Aims and Purposes of the Society. A sign-in sheet recorded 50 board member votes present.

The minutes of the board and annual meetings held in San Francisco on September 5, 2008, were approved as published in the Begonian.

Treasurer Carol Notaras presented the financial report for the period August 1, 2008, to March 31, 2009. The general fund beginning balance was \$5315.80 and the ending balance was \$11,824.74. During the period income was \$41,764.98 and disbursement was \$35,256.04. The combined general fund and seed fund totals were \$5,794.17 beginning and \$12,303.11 ending. Savings account totals were \$68,133.16 beginning and \$67,442.51 ending. Combined and savings totals checking were \$73,927.33 beginning and \$79,745.62 ending. The report was accepted.

President Sakamoto announced that Donna Marsheck resigned as the membership chair for personal reasons and that Paul Rothstein has been appointed to the position. She read a report describing current activities of the new chair. There are currently 835 domestic and 86 foreign members for a total of 921. Those members who have email addresses are requested to send them to Paul Rothstein so that he can send a dues reminder when your dues are due.

The site of the 2010 convention

has not been determined. It will be announced as soon as one is chosen. Proposals are requested.

Past president Janet Brown reported that Julie Vanderwilt is doing a fine job with the internet website. The online convention registration was well received. She also reported that the DVD recordings of the Begonian were available and that we are working on getting the next group of Begonians recorded.

Holiday Greetings Chair Wanda Macnair announced new categories for donations to the Begonian as follows: Bronze \$1-\$50, Silver \$51-\$100, Gold \$101-\$150 and Platinum over \$150. The deadline for donations is September 1, 2009.

President Sakamoto introduced our new Begonian editor, Linda Tamblyn, who announced that we have a new printing company for the Begonian. Printing and mailing costs will be substantially reduced. Linda asked for contributions of articles to include in the Begonian.

Branch Relations Director, Mary Buchholtz announced that a newsletter was sent to National Directors in March. She is working with groups in Oregon and Michigan to form new branches. She proposed three groups for branch status, the Mid-America Begonia Society in Merriam, KS, the Rhode Island Branch in Providence, RI, and the Austin Area Begonia Society in Austin, TX. A motion to accept these groups as branches passed and charters were presented to their representatives. One branch was lost this year, the Dorothy Caviness Branch in Bartlesville, OK, but with the new branches we have a total of 37 branches and one regional branch.

Convention Co-Chair Charles Jaros reported that the convention had 178 registrants and that the plant sale took in \$13,092 Friday evening.

Grant Committee Chair Johan-

dividual donations to both these trips are requested.

Nominating Committee Chair Dale Sena announced the new slate of officers for the coming year. They are President, Cheryl Lenert; First Vice President, Gene Salisbury; Second Vice President, Doris Happel; Secretary, Richard Macnair; and Treasurer, Carol Notaras. The committee consisted of Dale Sena,



A lovely plant from the convention! photo by Charles Henthorne

na Zinn read reports from Rekha Morris and Hieu Nguyen on their recent collecting trips. Two new grant applications have been received, one from Rekha to collect in Mexico and India and the other from Hieu to collect in Laos. Currently there is \$1000 available in the research and conservation funds so the committee recommended that this amount be allocated two-thirds to Rekha and onethird to Hieu. A motion to accept the recommendation passed. Branch and inPaul Tsamtsis and Charles Henthorne.

Charles Henthorne, who is liaison representative to the Fort Worth Botanic Garden for both ABS and the Southwest Region, ABS, read

a letter from the Fort Worth Botanic Garden indicating a very positive relationship with our organizations. He reported that Millie Thompson's files have been completely transferred to the FWBG and are continued on page 131

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Remembering Ruth Illions Pease

By Thelma O'Reilly & Janet Brown

The O'Reilly's arrived in California April 1963. A few months later I attended the annual show of the Westchester Branch in Los Angeles.

That day I met the famous Ruth Pease. It was the beginning of a long and cherished friendship. How clearly I remember the many committees Ruth chaired and brought to fruition for the American Begonia Society, her judging expertise, her book "So Say the Experts", her spectacular begonia hybrids and



Ruth Illions Pease 1921-2009

beautiful begonia collection; plus the long phone calls and long, long letters exchanged over the years.

Her begonia hybrids brought pleasure and joy to many begonia growers, especially *B.* 'Magic Carpet'. Another favorite was *B.* 'Carousel' which was important to Ruth and her family, along with *B.* 'Rudy Illions' and *B.* 'Esther Illions' who were her parents. The famous Marcus Illions, Ruth's grandfather, carved the very first horses

> for the carousel that opened on Coney Island, New York many years ago.

I am so grateful, dear friend, for your final gift to me of one of your recent creations, ever blooming B. 'Pink Cloud'. Now I see another new star in the sky! *Thelma O'Reilly*

645-5907 is Ruth's phone number and one I called often after I joined Westchester and the American Begonia Society in 1991. As a new show chairman who knew nothing Ruth was a tremendous help. I discovered that she was a begonia legend, scholar, senior judge - who literally wrote the book on classification that we still use today and a prolific writer for the Begonian through several decades. A short list

continued on page 158

In Memory: Jack Golding

by Freda Holley

You may have heard it said that no one is indispensable or irreplaceable, but know that the loss of Jack Golding on April 6, 2009 left a void in the American Begonia Society that will never be filled. Ever since I have been a member, Jack was our stalwart reference point for begonia nomenclature and begonia species knowledge.

I knew Jack was an engineer and always felt that the nature of an engineer guided the precision in his work. Bego-Smithniacea. the publication sonian handbook that Jack coauthored was universally known in ABS as the "Begonia Bible".

Jack gave me a fresh, new copy when I became editor and just this year I passed on this now tattered volume to Linda Tamblyn along with a copy of the updated *Begoniacea*, *Edition* 2. These volumes bring together in one place all the known references to begonia species. In recent years, Jack kept this up to date via an email file.



Jack Golding 1918 - 2009 Photo courtesy of Jack's daughter, Marilyn

This meant that over the years he had to keep up with botanical journals all over the world.

Jack produced other publications to assist us with our work including *Seeing Begonias* and his *Pronunciation Guide*.

Jack also had the engineer's trait of not wasting or mincing words

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and he could be a stern critic as any writer who sought his review can tell you. This brusqueness was matched by an unfailing willingness to provide assistance. I never asked Jack about a species that I did not quickly receive copies of the available literature on that species by mail or email. I know many others in ABS who shared this good fortune. Jack also absolutely insisted that we use the correct nomenclature and served as nomenclature editor for the Begonian. Jack's knowledge of begonias was respected by botanists as well. From Jan Doorenbos of the Netherlands to Lyman Smith and Dieter Wassenhausen of the Smithsonian his work was highly regarded. Writers from Mildred Thompson to Rekha Morris and Mark Tebbitt today sought his counsel. No member of ABS was more respected, admired, and trusted than Jack. To whom can we now turn for such knowledge?

Marilyn White, Jack's daughter, provided information about Jack's early years and recent activities, only a part of which I knew and that I think you will want to know as well:

"Dad was born in Brooklyn, New York, October 16, 1918. His family moved to Kearny, New Jersey when he was five. He lived most of his life there until moving to Monroe Township, NJ in 1990. He went through the public school system and received his mechanical engineering degree after eight years of night school from Newark College of Engineering. During the day he worked at Pollack Manufacturing, a sheet metal company. He did not serve in the military, as the work he was doing was deemed important to the government. After about ten years at Pollack, he formed his own company, Golding Manufacturing Company that made precision sheet metal components for IBM, GE, Lockheed, GM and the government. His love of begonias began in the early 1960s. My parents moved to a new home that needed landscaping. There were a lot of shaded areas. He was looking for a plant that would do well in the shade and discovered begonias. Of course, Dad found out that begonias thrive better on the East Coast if they receive full sun, and the sunny areas around the house became begonia filled as well. Dad became an avid gardener, and even in recent years, he worked on his garden every day, weather permitting. In winter he worked in the basement, which he turned into a propagating greenhouse with warm and cool lights with para wedge louvers covering the ceiling. Every surface, including the pool table and most of the floor, eventually became covered with plants ... the babies, specimens he received from associates around the world, grew in their propagating (aquarium) tanks. Twentyfive years ago, as Dad was being wheeled into the elevator for his first heart surgery, the doctor was reciting the list of surgical problems that might occur, including death. Dad reached out to me and I leaned close to hear what might be his last words, which were ... "Don't forget to water the babies!" Dad also took over a spare bedroom, lined the floor with waterproof rubber and created a raised bed for his begonias. The ceiling was solid with warm and cool florescent lights, behind para wedge louvers, set with timers to simulate long, sunny days. The garden

was edged with tree stumps, the walls were mirrored. Paths wound through the garden to a waterfall edged with begonias growing from lava rocks. Wanting to increase his knowledge, Dad joined The Knickerbocker Branch of the American Begonia Society and then discovered The Indoor Light Gardening Association. He eventually served as president of both groups. He made many life long friends, fellow begoniacs, traveled with Mom (Dorothy, his wife of 67 years), always stopping at botanical gardens and attending flower shows wherever they went. Combining his hobbies of growing begonias with photography, he took a multitude of lovely, detailed Begonia photos. He was one of the first people I know who had their own computer as early as 1960. The first one was so large that it filled a closet in his garden room. His ease with the computer and his quest to keep learning, led to his work in maintaining the species list and study of begonia nomenclature. In order to do so more effectively, he learned botanical Latin, Spanish, German, a bit of Russian and I don't know what else. Above all Dad was always interested in talking with people, sharing his knowledge, while learning



Begonia "Jack Golding" photo by Julie Vanderwilt

what they had to teach him. During his last illness there were many ups and downs. But he never failed to talk about his love of begonias to the doctors, nurses and physical therapists. He had printed information about growing begonias that he would hand out to any one who was interested. He was admired for his kind spirit, wisdom, determination and strength. His last "dictation" to me, the day before he died, was a bit difficult to understand, but the gist of it was that he wanted to "commend the American Begonia Society and research associates for all the good work the society is doing." Jack, we will forever miss you.

Procedings Of The Board Meeting continued from Pg. 127

secure and well organized for locating information on Begonias. There are plans to make files available on the computer. FWBG is building a new library where the files will eventually be located. A new greenhouse for Begonias was constructed. The exhibition area for Begonias is being remodeled. Donations are being requested from all sectors for these activities. An agreement with FWBG to require Begonia files to be turned back to ABS if and when they are no longer desired by FWBG has been reached.

The 2009 Convention Show had 258 entries.

The ABS annual business meet-

Charles Jaros for a U-number assignment.

Since the Research and Conservation funds are so depleted, a motion was made to transfer up to \$2500 from the general fund to the conservation fund. The motion passed.

A second motion to combine the research and conservation funds into one fund and place any donations received for either of these funds during the fiscal year into the combined fund passed.

Another motion to take necessary steps to prevent any financial account from falling below the minimum amount that would incur bank fees passed.

> Respectfully Submitted, Richard Macnair, Secretary

ing will be held in Austin, TX, during the SWR Get-Together, August 27-29, 2009.

Unidentified Species Project Co-Director Mary Buchholtz reported assigning five additional numbers recently which brings the total assigned numbers to 36 since she became Co-Director. She requested anyone growing potentially new species to contact Co-Director



Mike Flaherty, Dan Heim and Maxine Zinman kept everyone entertained at the Awards banquet on Saturday night at the 2009 Miami Convention. photo by Johanna Zinn

<u>B. rex Putzeys</u>

The chameleon among Indian begonias

B. rex Putzeys

April marks the onset of the summer

monsoons in the eastern Himalayas of India. Travel to and within the northeastern state of Arunachal Pradesh is highly restricted, and once the rains begin, movement within this remote and hilly state is difficult and hazardous even for its experienced inhabitants. All the major rivers and the countless minor streams and tributaries which feed into them overflow, bridges collapse, tracks and paths through the hills either become muddy quagmires or are washed away in the countless hill slides which make this state impassable until the monsoons end around October. Well aware of these hazardous conditions, which impose further constraints on travel within this state, I nevertheless could not resist taking advantage of my first opportunity to visit this region, considered one of the world's 18 'hotspots' of biodiversity, in April 2005.

Article & photos by Rekha Morris

The rains had preceded me, and for days a steady drizzle interspersed with torrential downpours kept me confined indoors. During the rare breaks from these downpours I'd make hurried, often aborted forays into the hills to document begonias. On one of these occasions as I walked along the base of a ridge in an opalescent shroud of mist and fog trying eagerly but unsuccessfully to find bego-



Red flushed B. rex

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B. rex P with B. xanthina

nias hidden amongst the moisture laden shrubs and ferns bent and matted into near impenetrable swathes, I found myself enveloped in a light fruity fragrance. Unable to see much beyond a few feet, I continued along the slightly winding path upwards hoping to find the source of this fragrance, which neither increased nor diminished in strength. Reaching out to steady myself among the slippery, algae covered rocks, I grasped and pulled sideways on the frond of a large fern revealing a sprinkling of pale pink flushed white flowers barely visible in the lush undergrowth. Clearly these belonged to some diminutive begonia whose foliage was smothered beneath the tangle of plants, ferns and vines. As I began pushing aside some of this green camouflage I caught my first glimpse of the silver and green foliage of *B. rex* Putzeys.

Although wet and shivering in the rain, which had replaced the heavy mist, I found myself scrambling up the hillside to get a better look at the first flowering begonias I had seen that day. They grew not in small clumps or groups but in thick colonies scattered along the ridge as far as I could see. Moss covered boulders, narrow clefts, fissures and larger concavities in the cliffs were draped in a sumptuous medley of silver, green, garnet, pale pink and white.

I could not believe what I was seeing and wondered whether this was a mirage or a waking dream? By this time, the light drizzle had turned into a steady rain with thunder echoing through the surrounding hills. Distraught at having to leave without a single photograph, I consoled myself

by memorizing the approximate location of this habitat of the legendry begonia, which had not been seen in the wild for decades, and was considered by many to be extinct.

The ambiguous circumstances under which *B. rex* Putzeys was introduced into Europe in the mid nineteenth century, and its multitudinous progeny of hybrids and cultivars since then has been so fully described by Dr. Mark Tebbitt [Begonias, 2005, pp. 201- 204] as to eliminate the necessity of recapitulating these details here. However, there appears to be a general misconception regarding this species which requires clarification in the light of what I first recorded in April 2005, and have confirmed through my trips to Arunachal since then.

Returning to the hills where I had my first, rain sodden encounter with *B. rex* Putzeys, I realized albeit with some disbelief that in addition to the well known green and silver form of this species there



Three forms of B. rex

were two other forms: one with all light, apple green foliage with red veins, and one with foliage in deep, wine-purple shades of semi-ripe damsons. Quite fortuitously I have one photograph from 2005 showing all three forms growing in proximity on a steep escarpment. Since then I have taken dozens of photographs of all three forms, however, since subsequent trips to Arunachal were between late October and the second half of December, most of the plants which had not gone dormant in this drier season grew in scattered little groups with foliage deeply pitted and destroyed by insects.

On this last trip to Arunachal in January – February 2009, I once again saw and photographed *B. rex* Ptuzeys growing in wide, undulating swathes across the rocky slopes, within shallow, vertical depressions in the cliff sides, and festooning moss covered boulders and the base of tree trunks. They grow



B. rex in habitat



Flowers and capsule of B. rex Putzeys

in full light on east facing hillsides from 3000' to 5500', and fortunately this time there was neither mist nor rain to hinder my enjoyment or my photography. The long, arching fronds of some magnificent ferns defining the crest of the hillside, or the foliage of BU 526, which grows in profusion in and among B. rex in some sections, provides some dappled shade, but for the most part they bask in full morning and early afternoon sunlight. By late afternoon mist from the valleys below drifts upwards and swirls around these slopes, which by 4.00 or 5.00 p.m. are enveloped in a pearl-like shimmer of moist opacity.

The variations in foliar color in shades of green and carmine-maroon is as prevalent as the silver banded green we generally associate with *B. rex*. One interesting feature I noticed for the first time was the occurrence of some plants with leaves which were in an intermediate stage, i.e., plants with green leaves which at the same time had one or two leaves showing the initial, faint emergence of the silver band which is such a predominant characteristic of this species in cultivation. All

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF 2009-2010 TRIP TO INDIA TO DOCUMENT BEGONIAS

Rekha Morris is planning her next trip to India to continue her documentation of the begonias of India, which she started in 2005. Until her trip

B. rex Putzeys continued from page 136

these variations in the foliar color of this species including some in which the silver banded leaves are flushed a deep pink, are clearly illustrated in the accompanying photographs.

It is this intrinsic variability of B. rex, which has no doubt contributed in part to its propensity to hybridize readily and with so many mutations. However, although there were at least two other species, B. hatacoa and BU526, growing in close proximity to B. rex I have yet to find a natural hybrid. In a single isolated colony I found B. rex growing with B. xanthina and B. roxburghii, but here again I failed to find any natural hybrids. This may be due to the lack of overlap in the bloom cycles of these species. While B. rex blooms in late March and April, B. xanthing blooms in October, B. roxburhgii had just begun its bloom cycle at lower elevations in January, so it is possible that this species finishes its cycle about the time that B. rex begins to bloom. I have yet to find BU526 in bloom but for one or two isolated male flowers, and B. hatacoa begins blooming in Late April and early May. Perhaps on a future trip to Arunachal I may yet find a natural hybrid of B. rex Putzeys, the matriarch of an ever-growing tribe of some of the most colorful and popular hybrid begonias.

in 2008-2009, she had been concentrating on two areas: the Western Ghats of Karnataka and the eastern Himalayas of Arunachal Pradesh. In late December 2008 she was able to include a third area of exploration, Khasia and Jaintia Hills of Meghalaya. Meghalaya was part of Assam, the region where so many of the begonias we know of as Indian including *B. rex* Putzeys, were documented by 19th century botanists.

During this 2008-2009 trip she was able to document 8 species in Meghalaya. In the Western Ghats of Karnataka in early Dec. 2008 she unexpectedly discovered a small colony of the rare and endangered B. aliciae, which had never before been recorded for Karnataka. In Arunachal in Jan. 2009 she continued exploring the areas she had visited before but was also able to include a brief exploration of a new area, Dibang Valley, where she recorded 5 species, 2 of which remain Among the 27 species unidentified. documented by her on this exploration of the eastern Himalayas of Arunachal Pradesh, 10 remain unidentified.

For the next exploration trip of 2009-2010 Rekha Morris plans to return to the Western Ghats of Karnataka to explore the last 2 unexplored districts of this state, to try and visit the Garo Hills of Meghalaya, to explore Dibang Valley in greater depth, and to include an entirely new section of the eastern Himalayas, Sikkim.

These trips to document the begonias of India, a total of 5 to date, have been

continued on page 145

March 24th, 2009

Begonias in the North Country

I live in the Adirondacks of upstate New York. The winters are very long and very cold. I moved here in 2002 with my small collection of begonias from Northeast Connecticut. We put up a 50-foot greenhouse for the farm business I was starting. At the time fuel oil was still reasonably priced, so for the first two winters I was here I kept the greenhouse heated

year round. The begonias thought this was great after



B. partita Would you believe that this plant spent the winter in my basement with hardly any light, temps that would dip into the low 40's, and hardly any water!

spending years crowded on a windowsill. My collection grew considerably and it included over 50 begonias. I probably don't have to tell you that walking into the greenhouse after wading through 3 feet of snow was like walking into heaven. I lavished all kinds of attention on them and they rewarded me with health and vigor.

I still remember my *B.* 'Madame Queen', OH, it was lusty! (Yes, if you saw it you would use that word too!) I had all of an unused bedroom. It breaks my heart to say that I now own only 24 begonias, and that lusty *B*. "Madame Queen" I spoke of is now in begonia heaven.

Before you think, boy this is a depressing story, let me talk about the bright side. Those 24 remaining begonias are the hardiest, most neglect-proof plants I've ever owned! These lone survivors, among them *B*. 'Dream Lover', *B. partita*, and *B*. 'Cathedral', put up with awful conditions

the Begonias set out in their appropriate groups on the benches. Rhizomatous here, canes there, and so on. They say all good things come to an end though.

When oil prices shot through the roof, I could no longer afford to heat the greenhouse. So into the house went the collection. A lot of plants went into the basement to be forced on to semi-dormancy, others got crammed into

Thank You!

A parcel on my doorstep! Franked in Huntington Valley, PA, just 5 days before – over 7,000 miles in such short time: the modern miracle of communications! Excited, unwrapping something obviously precious in a cocoon of bubble plastic and waterproof sheets, and there in my trembling hand a glorious plaque from the American Begonia Society, framed in walnut and glass and bearing magic words:

'The American Begonia Society presents the Eva Kenworthy Gray Award to Peter Sharp'

I suddenly find myself numbered amongst a galaxy of such well known and revered members of the ABS, begonia growers whom I have known over the years through the pages of our Journal, *The Begonian*, and whose work has so often inspired me in my endeavours, people who have contributed so much to our better understanding and appreciation of Begonia. I feel both elated and very humble and question whether I really deserve such a prestigious award.

Thank you to the American Begonia Society for conferring on me such a singular honour – I shall cherish it above all things.

Peter Sharp, Sydney, Australia.

(including my own extreme forgetfulness) and they continue to thrive. They have emerged from another winter in the chilly house better than ever! Currently they are enjoying the greenhouse now that it has warmed up outside. Every spring I cut them back hard, place them in the greenhouse, and root the cuttings. They respond to this treatment well by throwing up lush new growth. I sell the cuttings at farmer's markets where they are a big hit!

In the beginning of June I place them on benches in the shade. They seem to love the fresh air and summer rain. It's also a good time to fertilize with fish emulsion, which they LOVE, and it won't be stinky in the house. Just when the begonias think they have it made, fall comes and back into the house they go!

I think this is a testament to how hardy these plants can be. I became a "begonia addict" in 1997 when I was 20 years old. They have been a constant source



B. Dream Lover only 4 weeks after a hard pruning --- look at that new growth!

of joy ever since! In an area where the nights commonly dip below 0 degrees in the winter, it is nice to take solace in the tropical beauties I grow on my windowsills. I prove year after year that it doesn't matter where you live to be able to grow these enchanting plants.

"Bewitched, Bothered and

Begonia'd"

2009 ABS CONVENTION SHOW RESULTS 255 ENTRIES 62 EXHIBITORS

MILLIE & ED THOMPSON SHOW IS SHARING AWARD 32 entries

Doug Pridgen

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD B. U555 Exhibitor – Harmony Foliage

FRANCES HUNTER AWARD FOR BEST DESIGN "Be-Enchanting" Syble Boozer

HYBRID OF DIS-TINCTION B. 'Silver Splendor' Exhibitor – Dan Heims,

> Terra Nova Nursery

Another beauty from the show table photo by Charles Henthorne

BEST OF SHOW

B. egregia Exhibitor - Doug Pridgen

SWEEPSTAKES

27 Blue Ribbons Doug Pridgen



Julie Vanderwilt with her Rudolf Ziesenhenne Award



Begonia 'Fragrant Beauty' one of Doug Pridgen's knockout plants! photo by Helmut Besser

Division Awards Division A - Cane-Like, Superba B. 'Lana' Exhibitor - Doug Pridgen Division AA - Cane-Like, All Others B. maculate Exhibitor - Doug Pridgen Division B - Shrub-Like B. bedomeii Exhibitor - Doug Pridgen **Division** C - Thick-Stemmed B. 'Boomer' Exhibitor - Doug Pridgen **Division E – Rhizomatous** B. 'Mirage' Exhibitor - Doug Pridgen Division EE - Rhizomatous Crested and/or Spiral B. 'Mad Hatter' Exhibitor - Suellen Solodar Division F - Rex Cultorum B. 'Fireworks' Exhibitor - Doug Pridgen **Division G – Tuberous**

B. dregeii Exhibitor - Doug Pridgen Division H - Trailing-Scandent B. 'Morocco' Exhibitor - Doug Pridgen Division I – Contained Atmosphere B. polilloensis Exhibitor - Mary Bucholtz **Division J – Species** B. egregia Exhibitor - Doug Pridgen Division JJ – Unidentified Species ("U" Numbers) B. U497 Exhibitor - Doug Pridgen **Division K – Heritage Begonias** B. 'Corallina de Lucerna' Exhibitor - Doug Pridgen **Division L – Hanging Container** B. bedomeii Exhibitor - Doug Pridgen **Division M – Novice** B. 'Dale Sena' Exhibitor - Brenda Skaggs

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The elegant showroom at the 2009 convention photo by Helmut Besser

Division MM – Juniors B. 'Holley Moon' Exhibitor – Valentina Arrigunaga Division N – Florida Hybrids B. 'Miniperba' Exhibitor - Doug Pridgen **Division S – Commercial Growers** B. U555 Exhibitor - Harmony Foliage Division V - Artistic Photographs of Begonias B. bogneri Exhibitor – Charles Henthorne Division VV - Photographs, Computer Enhanced B. leprosa Exhibitor - Charles Henthorne **Division WW - Crafts** Begonia Patch Quilt Exhibitor – Leora Henthorne **Division X – Companion Plants** Lycopodium calvata Exhibitor - Charles Jaros **Division Y – Special Exhibits** "What is a Begonia" Exhibitor – Johanna Zinn

Division Z – Artistic Designs "Be-Enchanting" Exhibitor – Syble Boozer

Cultural Awards

Linda Marshall B. U002 ('Manaus') – 96.3 points Norma Grimm B. hatacoa var. meisnerii – 95 points Sandra Arlund

B. 'Kit Kat' – 96.3 points

Mary Bucholtz B. polilloensis – 95.3 points

- B. lyniceorum 95 points
- B. limprichtii 95 points

Doug Pridgen

- B. 'Miniperba' 99 points
- B. egregia 98.3 points
- B. bedomeii 98 points
- B. 'Boomer' 98 points
- B. 'Mirage' 98 points
- B. 'Fireworks' 98 points
- B. 'Panasoffkee' 98 points
- B. U402 97.5 points
- B. salicifolia 97.5 points
- B. 'Lois Burks' 97.3 points
- B. 'Corallina de Lucerna' 97.2 points
- B. maculata 96.6 points
- B. 'Looking Glass' 96.5 points
- B. 'Splish Splash' 96.2 points
- B. U402 96 points
- B. 'White Ice' 95.8 points
- B. U497 95.66 points
- B. 'Fragrant Beauty' 95.5 points
- B. hernandioides 95.5 points
- B. 'Lana' 95 points
- B. 'malabarica' 95 points
- B. 'Morocco' 95 points
- B. 'Anna Christine' 95 points

A Trip To Paradise

As part of the 2008 Begonia Conference, we visited Joan Taylor's property. We nearly didn't go, the sky was overcast so someone rang ahead and heard it was raining at Joan's place. We decided to push on.

Arriving at Joan's property everything was wet and we saw the rainforest. Our hostess met us and directed us into the Rainforest Walk to admire her begonias. A wall of green confronted us, a lot of it was begonias, taller than me, with leaves bigger than any I had seen. A break in the wall revealed a path that meandered through the undergrowth. Following the path was like walking the yellow brick road. At every step I came across

Article & photos by Joe Romeo, Australia

beautiful plants, multi colored coleus that sparkled in the dappled sunlight. In other directions grew all manner of tropical foliage plants that one would only see in a book of tropical plants, crimson cordilines provided splashes of colour interspersed with Rex begonias, 'Little Brother Montgomery' I believe. Large superba type canes towered over me with large bunches of flowers and leaves. In lighter areas grew carpets of what looked to be some type rhizomatous species of begonias with bunches of delicate white flowers held above the leaves. Where the sunlight got in, were planted many kinds of rhizomatous begonias in among the leaf litter, interspersed with colour-



One of Joan's Rex creations



The artificial lake

ful bromeliads. Rexes sparkled like jewels among the wet plants.

Bursting out of the trees we came upon the center piece of the property, an artificial lake constructed by the Tay-

lors by damming a little creek that runs through the property. It was filled with water lilies and fish, lined with tree ferns and cannas with a path from which to admire it.

At the edge of the forest were stands of cane begonias resplendent with large bunches of orange flowers. Following the path up hill I see a carpet of begonias with attractive colours and interesting leaf shapes. A striking patch appears to be *B*. 'Silver Jewel', very hard to grow in South Australia, growing as though it belonged there. I began to get more excited as I followed the path to the top of the property, the reason being more frequent plantings of Rex begonias.



One of the canes in the garden, which I believe, was hybridized by the host, Joan Taylor.

Joan chose just the right spot to put them because they looked healthy and flourished, with leaves that sparkled. Crimson and silver with large swirls helped to make some very handsome plants. Canes with bold silver and green patterns caught the eye showing off their prolific pink blooms. Some parts of the garden were wall to wall begonias leaving little room for anything

else. This was Begonia Paradise. The path led me to what I considered Begonia Heaven. Ahead was Joan's growing house where she grew all her own hybrids, this was the Holy of Holies of Rex begonias. I entered with reverence to worship these jewels of her creation. All manner of beauty abounded here. Leaves bigger than dinner plates. All manner of leaf shapes were present from large fiery swirls to striking pointed segments. I felt like I was present at the creation of the Universe. Every where one looked was a plant to astound the mind and senses. Plants even spilt onto the ground and grew beautifully under the benches when room ran out on the top.

The beauty of the gardens was only surpassed by her generosity. Thank you Joan Taylor for an experience I will always treasure.

Annoncement continued from pg 136

made possible by generous donations from the ABS Grants Committee, several of its chapters & individual ABS members as well as several Australian begonia societies. Due to the limited funds at the disposal of the ABS Grants committee this year, contributions to the 2009-2010 trip from ABS chapters and individuals will more then ever enable Rekha Morris to continue her research on the begonias of India which were last studied systematically in 1879. All such welcome contributions should be sent to Carol Notaras, Treasurer of the ABS, and will be gratefully acknowledged by Rekha Morris through distributions of seeds and plants she is able to document and bring back.



A wall of begonias in Joan Taylor's garden.



By Julie Vanderwilt Santa Barbara, California

We have several topics this month. Can you believe it's summer already? Though it may be a little late for advice on pruning your begonias, Michael Ludwig gave the Rudolf Ziesenhenne Begonia Branch a fascinating talk on pruning and sprucing up all your begonias in the spring, and I'm going to give you some of the tips he gave that I have never read anywhere else.



First Mike discussed appropriate tools to use for pruning your begonias. Thickstems often need an ax, loppers are good for canes. For shrubs like *acuminata*,

Holiday Ad Requests

It may seem very early, but it is time to consider showing our support for the *Begonian* in the way of holiday greetings. We have a deadline of September 1; so that the editor has all the information in time for the November-December issue, and we wish to give you a sufficient amount of time to discuss this with your branches. Please remember that any amount is appreciated and we would like to involve more individual members, as well.

In the holiday issue, the magazine devotes its pages to Begonias with a special notation that the issue comes through the greetings and support of holiday donors. There will be a one-page ad, listing branches and individual donors in the following categories:

iono ming e	accounce,
Bronze	\$1 -\$50
Silver	\$51-\$100
Gold	\$101-\$150
Platinum	Over \$150

Costs of printing and postage are continuing to increase. Our current membership dues used to just about cover four issues. The other two issues are brought to members through support of the annual convention, commercial ads, and such

donations as this.

We hope you will lend your support to make these issues possible. Please send your branch and individual checks made out to ABS with a notation

"For holiday greetings," by September 1, to:

Wanda Macnair Holiday Greetings Chair, ABS 59 Walker Street Cambridge, MA 02138

Thank you. Wanda Macnair

Richmondensis and Concord, use hedge clippers. Just cut them down to about six to eight inches, and they will come back bushy and full of flowers.

When taking cuttings, always use a bypass pruner or a razor blade. Blades on the bypass pruner pass each other making a clean cut on your plant. Anvil pruners have a flat surface that can smash part of the stem if the blade is not extremely sharp. He also suggests dipping the pruners in a mixture of 1/2 water, 1/2 chlorine bleach between plants. Dry the blades and begin on the

next begonia.

To set up your area, Mike suggests a long covered table with a stack of newspapers next to your work area. Then when you are pruning out old canes or rhizomes and taking top cuttings, lay them down in a newspaper, roll it up, write the name of the plant on the newspaper and set aside. Then when (if) you have time, you can start cuttings, and you'll know what begonia it is. This is a problem I often have. I want to prune, but I think I

must save the cuttings, and I don't have a system, so I end up not pruning anything! This year I used his technique, and ended up with a bunch of rolled up newspapers with named begonia cuttings waiting for me! I think this is progress.

When repotting thick stems, after pruning off some of the old bottom roots, place the plant lower in the pot with the nodes underground to encourage new bottom growth. Semi-tuberous begonias like *dregei* need to be kept dry in the winter. Then in the spring, just open up the plant a bit. Not much pruning is needed.

Canes need a more aggressive pruning. If a cane is old and brown, cut it right down at the soil level. Green (new) shoots can be pinched. On last year's canes, trim the tops a bit. Then remove any dead canes, doglegs and crooks, knock off some of the old roots and either repot in the old container or move up to the next size pot. Put the plant one to



Michael Ludwig

two inches lower in the pot to get growth buds below the soil and encourage new bottom growth.

And for my favorite tip, Mike recommends walking around your garden with a glass of wine in hand surveying your domain. This is something I enjoy greatly, and the glass of wine reminds me to just enjoy the garden and not reach for the pruners to do some deadheading.

Next let's talk about cyberland.

On our Yahoo Begonia group, we've had some lively discussions this month. One recently began with our friend and



puzzle maker Kingsley Langenberg from Waukegan, IL. Kingsley wrote:

Kingsley Langenberg "I've been reading a good book about what a rich language English is. As a

up playful names for hybrids. Here's a start:

B. 'Yootiful', B. 'Mine Valentine', B.'Meupscotty', B. 'Yes', B. 'Bop-a-lula',B. 'Witching'

How about some more?" he wrote.

Well, our group came through with flying colors. Many people joined in, and here are more ideas for whimsical begonia names:

B. 'Optimistic', B. 'Ming', B. 'Purr', B. 'Musing', B. 'Ting', B. 'Reft', B. 'Devil', B. 'Bee', B. 'Attitude'

Lloyd Traven of Peace Tree Farms gave us The Incredible Lightness of B. 'Ng', and Paul Tsamtsis had a

fine closing for us regarding attending the convention:

B. 'There' or

B. 'Square'

To all those going, B. 'Safe' and B. 'Happy'...

TheRudolfZiesenhenneBegoniaBranchhada wonderfultourofMadameWalska'sLotuslandinApril.

Lotusland is a 37-acre estate

in Montecito, California, not far from Mike Flaherty's popular Gazebo Plants and Flowers. The gardens were created by Madame Walska, who owned the property from 1941 until her death in 1984. Before her death, she established



B. 'Rameriz'

the nonprofit Ganna Walska Lotusland Foundation, which now preserves this unrivaled botanical treasure.

Tours are always on the agenda when there is an ABS convention in southern California, so many of you

have

а

of

aloes,

probably

exotic

cacti,

been there. It is

wonderland

plant species,

many of them

endangered,

includingcycads,

bromeliads,

ferns, and, of

course, begonias.

horticultural



B. 'Carousel'

The begonias are large, beautiful and diverse.

I'd like to say some words about dear Ruth Pease, who died at age 87 in April 2009. She was the granddaughter of Marcus Illions, a brilliant woodcarver famous for his exquisite carvings of carousel horses. She was many things in the begonia society. She held many posts in ABS, and I'll let others talk about all she did for the society. I'll tell you what I knew about her.

She was a very smart lady, so intelligent about begonias and other



B. metallica

plants, generous with her knowledge and profuse with her praise. I knew and loved her as a dear, kind person



B. 'Pink Cloud'

who treated me like a daughter. She was extremely generous with her knowledge and her begonias. And she was a very down to earth person who took me under her wing and made me feel welcome



B. 'Carol Pease'

when I started in the begonia society back in 1999. She and her dear husband Walter were at my home many times. She was a great friend of Rudy Ziesenhenne, though their opinions on judging issues were often at friendly odds with each other.

She was a superb hybridizer of



Ruth Pease with her hybrids

begonias, each one always easy to identify in my garden. I take that as a mark of great artist, only releasing unique hybrids. Some of my favorites are B. 'Carol Pease'



B. 'Raindrops'

with the scalloped-edged flowers, the well-known B.'Carousel', named in honor of her grandfather, B. 'Raindrops', a very floriferous cane, and my favorite, B. 'Pink Cloud'. I have B. 'Pink Cloud' on my porch and it never stops blooming.

The first time I saw her hybrid B. 'Magic Carpet' (*metallica x hispida var. cucullifera*) at Rudy's nursery, I wasn't sure what to think. It looked a bit alien with growths coming out of the leaves. It took me about three visits to Rudy's to view it before I finally bought it.

She named two of her hybrids with the Illions name, B. 'Rudy Illions' after her father, and B. 'Esther Illions' after her mother. I haven't been able to find either of them, however. If anyone still has one, please contact me at vanderwilt@cox.net.

Well, that's it for this issue. If you have any comments or questions, please email me at vanderwilt@cox.net or drop me a line at 720 Mission Park Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93105. I'd love to hear from you. See you next time!

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.

We were not able to meet all requests. We NEED seed.

Contributions of seed from the membership make the Seed Fund more diverse. Please self pollinate your species begonias, collect the seeds and send them to the seed fund. We depend on your contributions.

Remember the Jan/Feb issue lists all species we have available at the beginning of the year. If we receive seed in an amount to small to fill at least 10 orders, you may not see it listed in the Begonian. Therefore, you may ask us for a species you do not see listed. If we have or can locate the species, we will notify you. If you have seed not listed, please send us some to share with others.

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

Dean Turney

467 Fulvia Street

Encinitas, CA 92024

e-address: dean@deansmail.us

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 **BEGONI-ACEAE**, 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.

OFFICIAL BALLOT ABS ELECTION 2009

For President Cheryl Lenert

For 1st VP Gene Salisbury

For 2nd VP Doris Happel

For Secretary Richard Macnair

> For Treasurer Carol Notaras

Mail to: Ballot Counting Chair Ingeborg Foo 1050 Melrose Way Vista, CA 92083-6504 USA

Ballots must be received by July 15th. 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. Comments may be made on a separate sheet of paper.



For President

Chervl 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 Begonia. It was not long in 1992 before she joined the 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 throughout the US. Currently she is 1st Vice President for the ABS. Cheryl is also an ABS judge. Her husband, Charley, is an engineer in the oil and gas industry. His hobby is traveling and because of that they have visited ABS members and botanical gardens the world over - trading begonias at every opportunity.

For 1st VP

Gene Salisbury has served two years as ABS President. The latest challenge that Gene as taken on is that of Nomenclature
Director and the responsibility of registering new cultivars. With his wife
Ann, he received the Herbert P. Dyckman Service Award in 1998. Gene also grows
outstanding "Best in Show" begonias. Recently he served as Director of the Southwest Region ABS. He also received the Gene Salisbury Horticultural Award from ABS in its originating year.

For 2nd VP

Doris Happel

Doris Happel is a retired IT executive who moved to Florida with her husband in 1999. She is a master gardener and a member of several plant societies. She has been president of the Begonia Society of the Palm Beaches as well as holding several other officer positions. She has

FROM THE EDITOR

We have a new publisher, Allen Press, and part of that change means we will be able to offer an abundance of color photographs. Part of the allure of the begonia hobby is the astounding beauty and amazing colors we enjoy. - so let's see more of them!

In order to have the best photos for printing there are a few guidelines for submitting them. For publishing the photos should be high resolution (300dpi) and in tif or jpeg format. Please don't be intimidated by this if you don't understand. Just submit your photos by attaching them to an email or mailing me a disk and we'll work from there.

Please send your articles, tips, tricks, personal experiences and especially photos with captions. **Next deadline - July 28!** Thanks ! Linda



Richard stays very active in the Buxton Branch of the ABS, and he has served as President its and is currently Treasurer. Along with his wife, Wanda, Richard works hard with all the ABS conventions and plant sales as well as supporting the ABS in any way he can.

B. U521 photo by Johanna Zinn

a hobby business growing and selling begonias and is a frequent speaker at local garden clubs and botanical gardens.

For Secretary

Richard Macnair is currently serving as ABS Secretary. When you read his notes, you feel that you must have attended the board meeting – he's very thorough.

For Treasurer

Carol Notaras has been our Treasurer for the past 16 years. She also served as President of ABS in 1992-1993. She is an active member of the San Francisco, serving twice as President, and Sacramento Branches and was ABS convention chair in 1989. She grows award-winning Begonias and contributes photographs for the Begonian.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMING EVENTS

July 18

Westchester Branch - Golden Anniversary Show & Sale 1959-2009

We are dedicating our show to the memory of our Charter Member, Ruth Illions Pease The only judged show in Southern California. Begonias and other shade loving plants for sale. Hours: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm., Place: Covenant Presbyterian Church, 6323 W. 80th St. North west corner, Sepulveda & 80th, Los Angeles, CA 90045 Ample, easy and free parking. Admission free.

Contact: Janet Brown, Show Chairman, 310-670-4471 & FAX, email: begoniabrown@yahoo.com

LAURAY 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.lauray.com Association of Australian Begonia Societies Convention 2011 Sydney, N.S.W.

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



THE BEGONIAN

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMING EVENTS

August 14 & 15 The Rudolf Ziesenhenne Branch Begonia Show.

This will be in association with Gazebo Plants and Flowers. Email gazebo.flowers@ verizon.net or Gazeboflowers@gmail.com. phone # 805-969 4367

Aug. 23 Palos Verdes Begonia Society Show and Sale

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. South Coast Botanic Garden, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes Peninsula 90274.Contact: Carol Knight 310-833-3466 or cknight@lausd.net



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

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a quarterly journal about plants and gardens of the West Pubished by the NON-Profic 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



THE AMERICAN IVY SOCIETY INC ALS is the International Registration Authroity 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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMING EVENTS

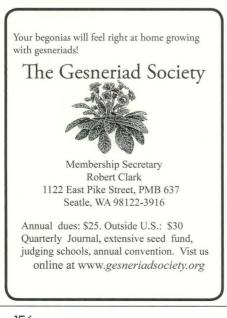
August 27-29

Southwest Region Get Together & ABS Board Meeting Hosted by the Austin Area Begonia Society Branch

Registration will start Wednesday, the day of arrival. From the airport attendees can call for a Complimentary airport shuttle or there will be complimentary parking at the hotel, where there is complimentary high speed wireless internet, a 24-hour business center, a fitness center and spa, a coffee shop, and a grill. The special rate of \$99 per room is available until Thursday, August 6.

Call 1-800-THE-OMNI (512-383-2621) soon to make reservations by telling the hotel that you are with the Begonia Get Together. The address is Omni Austin Hotel Southpark, 4140 Governor's Row, Austin, TX 78744-1891. The hotel is located off Interstate 35 and Ben White just south of the Colorado River in this capital city, where history, music, and gardens combine to make this a jewel in central Texas.

Austin is an exciting capital city with many places to visit--The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, The Bob Bullock Texas



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ABS members can contact me to get a registration packet which hopefully will be ready by late June.

Valerie Morris 802 Great Britain Blvd. Austin, Texas 78748 1-512-282-0940 valeriemorrisrn@hotmail.com

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Ruth Pease continued from page 128

of her accomplishments:

•"So Say the Experts" written by Ruth Pease July, 1966 •Classification Guide to over 500 Begonias 1967 •President Westchester Branch 1967-1969 •Senior Judge and Judging Course Chairman •Eva Kenworthy Gray Award 1970 •Book Review Columns in the Begonian •Innumerable articles in the Begonian over many years

Ruth has been registration and classification chair for our annual Westchester show for many years. This year, our 50th Anniversary Show, she will not be at my side doing the entries and registration. But I will have the knowledge she gave me for 18 years of shows including Westchester's ABS convention in 1999. We honored Ruth and Walter Pease at our Show in

2006 but we can never thank them enough

VOTE FOR ABS Officers Ballot on page 152

Editor: Linda Tamblyn, 5635 Woodward, Merriam, KS 66202 Ph: 913-231-1020. Email: begoniaskc@yahoo.com Consulting Editor: Jan Brown. Nomenclature Editor: Quick Tips: Dianna Wilkerson, 15356 Pheasant Run, Choctaw, OK 73020, E-mail: b2writer@cox.net for all they have done for Westchester and the American Begonia Society.

Ruth was a magnificent grower and hybridizer. Many of you visited here garden at the 1999 convention in Los Angeles. Some of her hybrids are B. 'Magic Carpet', 'Raindrops', 'Waltana' and probably her most famous, B. 'Carousel' named for her grandfather Marcus Illions. One of his carousel horses is in the Smithsonian.

We hope to register posthumously my favorite B. 'Pink Cloud', one of her recent creations. It is an ever-blooming, ever lovely shrub begonia.

Ruth will be missed by her beloved Walter, her children – Carol, Michael and Richard, her daughter-inlaw Gennie, her grandchildren, Skye and Aysia, and by me her loving friend.

Our show this year, Westchester's Golden Anniversary, will be dedicated to our Charter Member, Ruth Illions Pease forever an inspiration to all who love and grow begonias.

August/September closing date for the Begonian: JULY 28 Please send your articles, photos and events!

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