

THE

BEGONIAN



November/December 2014

The Begonian

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.



B. thiemei at the Ft. Worth Botanical Garden
Photo by Tom Anderson

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B. 'Dream Lover' pg.212



Begonia froebelii pg.224



Ft. Worth Botanical Garden pg.230

Front cover: *B. 'Christmas Cheer'* Photo by
Craig Boyjijan
Back cover: A variant of an Andean begonia,
B. serotina, see pg. 224

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President's Message

Happy Holidays to all our members! Enjoy the time spent with family, friends, and our beautiful plants "in friendly contact."

Once again, gaps in our committee chairs have been filled. Please welcome Doug Byrom (Austin Branch) as Business Manager; and Sandra Threadcraft (Atlanta Branch) as Historian. Freda Holley has been appointed acting chair of a new committee, the Publication Committee. Additionally, a Nominating Committee for the 2015-2017 slate of officers has been selected. They are Richard Macnair (Buxton branch), Linda Lawson (Barkley branch), and Carol Orozco (Alamo branch).

In other business, the Executive Board voted to discontinue to \$2 fee for a hybrid registration. So send in those registrations! Two of Walter Dworkin's great plants appear in this issue. I know there are many great plants that have not been registered. (Ok, *B. Virginia Jens* is one of them. Oops!) Let's keep Priscilla feeling loved and needed. Download the paperwork from the ABS website and send your registration in.

Three new branches were welcomed at the annual meeting! They are Florida West Coast, Clearwater; Louisiana branch (covers the entire State); and the Louisiana E-branch.

National Directors should remember to check their group page for updates. Members-At-Large may want to start sharing those cold weather tips on their group page. I am in awe of those of you who live in the "frozen north" (that is located anywhere north of Orlando). Good luck during the next few difficult growing months.

Virginia Jens, ABS President

Your Digital Copy of The Begonian

Please note that the email link for your online *The Begonian* will be coming from Brightcopy and not the ABS. Be sure to check your spam filter or add brightcopysupport@allenpress.com to your contacts so you don't miss getting your copy!

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ABS Holiday Greetings



PLATINUM
Astro Branch
Austin Area Begonia Society
Begonia Society of the Palm Beaches
Bob Brooks
Buxton Branch
Frances Drescher
Houston Satellite Branch
Long Beach Parent Chapter
Mabel Corwin Branch
Richard & Wanda Macnair
Margaret Lee Branch
Carol & Peter Notaras
Potomac Branch
Rudolf Ziesenhenné Branch
Southwest Region, ABS

GOLD
Alamo Begonia Club Branch
Fred A Barkley Branch
Brad Neugebauer & Liliya Huseynova

San Jacinto Branch
South Bay Branch

SILVER
Janet Brown
Thomas Cootz & Stephanie Rose
Joan Coulat, Sacramento Br.
Doug Frost Branch
Cheryl Lenert
Mid America Begonia Society
Orange County Branch
San Francisco Branch
San Gabriel Valley Branch
Westchester Branch

BRONZE
Bruce & Tamsin Boardman
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Proceedings of the Annual Business Meeting - ABS

Fort Worth, Texas August 22, 2014

The meeting was called to order by President, Virginia Jens. The Aims and Purposes of the Society were read by Janet Carpenter.

The Proceedings of the May 24, 2014 board meeting in Shreveport, LA were read by the ABS Secretary. The minutes were published in the September/October *The Begonian*.

Financial Report: Treasurer, Carol Notaras, submitted three financial reports. The first report was for May 1, 2014 to July 31, 2014. The income for those three months was \$9,037.76. Disbursements totaled \$11,927.50. Our beginning balance in the checking account was \$11,003.33. Ending balance totaled \$8,113.59.

The Annual Fiscal Report for August 1, 2013 to July 31, 2014. The entire income for the year was \$55,114.25. Disbursements totaled \$65,921.24. The financial report for both the seed fund and general fund combined: beginning balance \$19,802.05. Ending balance \$9,304.96. Seed fund: beginning balance \$881.27. Income was \$1,809.90. Disbursements were \$1,500.00 and ending balance of \$1,191.37. Savings account: beginning balance was \$266,125.05 and ending balance of \$258,486.47. The combined totals of checking and savings accounts had a beginning balance of \$285,927.10 and an ending balance of \$267,791.43. The report is filed for auditory review.

President Jens emphasized that the Morris Mueller's Endowment Fund can only be utilized for conservation, research and education. It cannot be used for *The Begonian* or the ABS website and it is not being replenished.

Next week, ABS will be rolling out the September/October digital *The Begonian*. ABS members will receive both digital and paper copies for at least a year. You can now enjoy *The Begonian* on your computer, iPad, and Smart-

phone. Be sure to keep your ABS membership up-to-date.

Proceeds from the Tampa, Florida Convention totaled \$2,296.76. The Executive Board has asked the Tampa Branch for further accounting of expenditures.

The following recommendations on behalf of the Executive Board were presented for approval:

The Executive Board recommended funding of a \$1,000 grant from the Morris Mueller Endowment Fund for Steven Haba from Ohio State University. Approved.

The Executive Board recommends changes to Article IV-Committees, Section 6e, of the ABS Constitution and bylaws related to the Publication Committee. Copies were distributed outlining corrections. Freda Holley was appointed Acting Chair of the Publication Committee. Approved.

The Executive Board recommends the following revisions to the ABS Constitution and bylaws. Revisions were published in the May/June 2014 issue of *The Begonian*:

1. Under Article III, Section 1a: That the term "Department Heads" be deleted from this article and all other references to this title within the Constitution of the American Begonia Society. Approved.

2. Under Article I of the bylaws: That the duties of the second vice president be redefined and voted on at the next Board of Director's Meeting of the ABS. Approved.

The board recommends the appointment of Sandra Threadcraft, from the Atlanta Branch, to fill the Historian's position. Approved.

Nominating Committee: The board appointed a committee to search for candidates for the next ABS Board. The committee consists

of Linda Lawson, Carol Orozco, and Richard Macnair. Approved.

Awards Committee: Cheryl Lenert recommends the deletion of the phrase: "and no more than fifteen" wording of the Alfred D. Robinson Award. Hybrids have to be established for three years in general population. Approved.

Registration of hybrids: Priscilla Purinton is working to simplify the registration process. Cheryl Lenert proposed that all fees be removed from the nomenclature process of registering new hybrids. Motion passed and was approved.

Annual reports of the Executive Board:

ABS Website: 1st Vice President, Mike Flaherty commended Julie Vanderwilt for updating the ABS website. Branches are encouraged to submit their upcoming special events and convention pictures.

Unidentified Species (U Numbers): Charles Jaros reported that four new U numbers have been assigned to begonias collected by Rehka Morris. They are U628, U629, U630 and U631. Three U numbers have been identified: *B. U031* is *B. maculata* Raddi, *B. U083* is *B. reniformis* Dryand and *B. U405* is *B. callosa* Kollman, a new species from Brazil. Ludovic Kollman has previously identified and described *B. U014* as *B. rubriflora*. He also has determined that *B. U132* is not *B. kunthiana* as was previously identified.

Reports of Officers and Branch Directors:

Tom Keepin, Branch Relations Director, announced that three new ABS branches have been chartered. They are the Florida West Coast Begonia Branch, the North Central Louisiana Branch, and the Louisiana E-branch. This branch will encompass the entire state of Louisiana and will meet once a year. New branches received copies of their constitution and bylaws on parchment paper, a \$35 check from ABS, and a check for \$100 from the Astro Branch in honor of the Tom Keepin Branch Start-up Fund.

ABS branches were urged to send in their

Holiday Greetings donations to Frances Drescher by September 15.

Annual reports were received from the Alamo, Astro, Austin, Buxton, Delaware Valley, Fred Barkley, Joan Coulat, Santa Clara Valley, Southwest Region, West Palm Beach, Westchester and Whittier Branches. Reports were read by Charles Jaros and branch directors in attendance.

Tom Keepin announced that the 2015 Southwest Region Get-together will be held in Houston, TX in April or May 2015.

Wanda Macnair announced that the Begonia Revolution 2015 and ABS Annual Meeting will be held on July 23–Aug 2, 2015 in Natick, MA. Branches are encouraged to grow and donate terrarium and rainforest plants for the plant sale.

Martin Delgado, 2nd Vice President, proposed that the 2016 ABS Convention be held in the Southern California area. Motion passed.

Kay Jennings, Kenny Wilkerson, and Henry Painter, current Director of the Fort Worth Botanic Gardens (FWBG), presented updates on the Fort Worth Botanic Garden project and the future goals to protect the begonia species bank. Setting up an endowment fund or a dedicated fund campaign created specifically for the begonia collection was discussed. A letter writing campaign to the Mayor and Fort Worth City Council addressing the significance of the collection was suggested. Debbie Garrett added that they have applied for the National American Plant Collection Registry, which is part of the American Botanic Gardens Association, and they will be inspected in September. Tom and Jane Anderson from the Astro Branch presented gift cards to Kay Jennings, Bobbie Price, and Debbie Garrett.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the August 2014 Annual Board Meeting of the American Begonia Society stood adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Saenz, Secretary

ABS Welcomes Three New Branches

Tom Keepin, Branch Relations Director

On August 22 and 23, 2014 the Annual Business Meeting of the American Begonia Society was held in Fort Worth, Texas. There were 42 American Begonia Society members attending. The business meeting was held on Friday, September 22, 2014 at Fort Worth Botanic Gardens after a tour of the Begonia Collection housed there. As business meetings go this was a pretty tame one, but there was one highlight that pleased all members attending. Branch Relations Director Tom Keepin stole the show by introducing not one but three new Branches to the American Begonia Society and presented their Charters. When a Branch is chartered it is a very memorable moment not only for the new Branch, but for everyone attending its



introduction. When a new Branch is chartered they are given their official American Begonia Society Charter, a copy of their constitution and by-laws printed on parchment paper just like the Charter, a check for \$35.00 from the American Begonia Society as start-up money and, new this year, \$100.00 from the Tom Keepin Branch Start-up Fund sponsored by the Astro Branch.

The New American Begonia Society Branches are:

Florida West Coast Begonia Society

This branch was founded by Greg Sytch (pictured top with Charles Jaros). They meet the first Monday of the month in Clearwater, Florida. They do not meet in July or August. They have been meeting for little over a year now to make sure they were ready.

North Central Louisiana Branch

This branch was founded by Freda Holley (pictured bottom with Tom Keepin). They meet the second Sunday of each month in Ruston, Louisiana at 2:00 P.M.

Louisiana E-Branch

This branch was founded by Freda Holley. This is not your typical branch. This branch meets electronically 11 months out of the year. Articles and plant information are e-mailed to members and members can e-mail comments and/or questions in return. This Branch encompasses the entire state of Louisiana. The branch will meet one month a year in a city (to be determined) somewhere in the state of Louisiana with easy travel for all members.

A very warm and heart felt welcome and congratulations to our new branches and their members. We are very glad to have you.

Request for Rainforest Plants from Buxton Branch

By Wanda Macnair

At each of our convention sales, people swarm the tables with terrarium or rainforest plants. Besides the fact that most of these plants are attractive, many of them are endangered species due to the vanishing rainforests, and some of them might be growing only in a small area in the world. One thing we can do is grow these plants and pass them on.

We are asking for your help not only to spread these plants, but to help the ABS with revenue. We are asking for donations of rain forest plants by members who will be attending, or who are willing to mail these plants. The donated plants can be placed in Ziploc bags, using a straw to provide a cushion of air for transporting. Sometimes it helps to add a bit of medium.

The 2015 convention will help pay for a one-way baggage fee if you bring them with you in an additional suitcase, or the cost of mailing them in boxes. At the West Palm Beaches convention, we had 600 donated terrarium plants. We are aiming for more than this, not only to add more funds for ABS, but to distribute these plants.

Correction

B. 'Cracklin' Rosie'

Our apologies to Walt Dworkin for the omission of the apostrophe in the name of his new hybrid registration in The September/October *The Begonian*, pp. 168-169.

"I was so thrilled to see my B. 'Cracklin' Rosie' in *The Begonian*! There was only one tiny problem in that the apostrophe was left off the end of Cracklin' - it was named after Neil Diamond's song "Cracklin' Rosie."

Best regards, Walt Dworkin

Southwest Region Get-Together

May 21-23 2015

The Houston Astro's are inviting you to join us in Houston for a big time in the big city. We will be posting the tours for Thursday and Friday with a great line-up of seminars and workshops.

The Sheraton Brookhollow rates are \$89.

We are planning a full day judging school for Wednesday, May 20, if we can get the necessary response. Student judges will be the clerks for the actual Friday morning judging.

If you would like to attend judging school, we will need have to have your response right away in order to commit to the necessary arrangements.

Cheryl Lenert, lenert@flash.net, 281-255-9004

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Glabrous v. Arachnose?



Are these leaves glabrous or arachnose?
Photos by Tony Pinto

Watch for the answer in your next *The Begonian*
brought to you by A Word With You!

Last month's answer to Picture Quiz
September 2014 issue, page 171 – *Begonia hispida* var. *cucullifera*
Adventitious v. Acaulous?

And the answer is... **ADVENTITIOUS**
Adventitious describes growths that develop in places they're not expected.
See *The Begonian*, January/February 2013 p.14



Experiments with Begonias

By Jem Wiseman, Haysville, KS

The seeds that grew these begonias were planted on the same day, with exactly the same light, temperature, fertilizer, potting mix, and water. The seeds came from the same seed packet. The only difference was the container. The larger plants (on left) were sown in a community container while the smaller plants (on right) were grown in a 2 ounce disposable cup. The plants are shown about 3 months after the seed was sown.

This is a non-identified *Begonia* species from Parati, Rio de Janeiro State. The seed was listed as *Begonia* sp. Parati and was obtained from Mauro Peixoto at Brazilplants.

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B. 'My Special Angel' and *B.* 'Dream Lover'

Official International Registration 1008

Begonia 'My Special Angel'

Seed parent: *B.* 'Ben's Back Yard'

Pollen parent: unknown



From Priscilla Purinton, Hybrid Registrar

rity. Leaves are narrow, pointed at both ends with one main vein. Measuring 9 inches long by 2.5 inches wide the medium green, slightly scalloped leaves have a smooth surface heavily covered with silver spots. The underside of the leaf is a paler green. Petioles are hairless, green to light pink and 1.75 inches long. Stipules are 1.5 inches long by .75 inches wide and are apple green.

The shell pink flowers are oval with 4 male tepals and 5 female tepals. The abundant floral clusters contain 16 (male) to 19 (female) flowers on a 3.75 inches peduncle. Spring/summer bloom time.

The combination of the medium green on

Propagated more than 100 times. Originator is Walter Dworkin, 8 Rugby Road, Westbury, NY.

Developed in 1991 and first distributed in 1992. First mentioned in *Begonia Hybridizing: By the Hybridizers*, by Freda Holley, published in March, 2013.

Registration applied for January 17, 2014. Approved September 26, 2014.

Begonia 'My Special Angel' is a cane reaching about 19 inches in height at matu-

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the surface of the leaf and the lighter green on the reverse side really makes the silver spotting stand out on 'My Special Angel'. When you add in the shell pink flowers.... oh, my! This lovely plant has another interesting characteristic - some of the leaves have double lobes. A smaller point will often grow to the left of the main point at the top of the leaf. The leaves are strikingly angular.

This cultivar has been tested by Logee's Greenhouses of N. Danielson, CT. It is available from Taylor Greenhouses, Portland, NY and Gardino Nursery, Delray Beach, FL.

Official International Registration 1009

Begonia 'Dream Lover'

Seed parent: *B.* 'Lana'

Pollen parent: unknown

Propagated more than 100 times. Originator is Walter Dworkin, 8 Rugby Road, Westbury, NY.

Developed in 1990 and first distributed in 1991. First mentioned in *Begonia Hybridizing: By the Hybridizers* by Freda Holley, published in March, 2013.

Registration applied for February 20, 2014. Approved September 26, 2014.

Begonia 'Dream Lover' is a cane begonia with pointed leaves of a dark bronze color.

Mature leaves can be 8 inches by 4 inches with small to medium silver spots covering the entire leaf surface which is smooth and glossy. The leaves have a red sinus and maroon underside. There is one main vein. Petioles are red, hairless and 7.5 inches long. Stipules are $\frac{3}{4}$ by $\frac{1}{2}$ inches and are pale green. Leaf margins are slightly scalloped and wavy. Both male and female flowers are pink and measure 1.25 inches in diameter, with a lavender tinge when grown in strong light. Ovaries are also pink. Free flowering with clusters of up to 24 female flowers projecting out from the foliage on 4.5 inch peduncles.

This darkly handsome superba-type angel wing can reach 3 feet tall at maturity.

This cultivar has been tested by and is available from Steve's Leaves, Lewisville, TX.



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The Begonias of Ecuador: 2nd Expedition

May 29–June 20, 2014

Article & photos by Jacky Duruisseau, Bois France

Why a second trip to Ecuador? In 2012, we were in this wonderful area in March, the rainy season. The volcano tops were in the clouds and the begonias were in blossom - without fruits! So, the goal of this second trip was twofold: first, see the Cotopaxi and Chimborazo mountaintops which are more than 6000m (19,600 ft.) at the highest point and, second, find begonia seeds, especially from sections Gobenia and Eupetalum. It was expected that June, in the dry season, would be a good time for the mountains tops and for the seeds. But Mother Nature chose another way - but only about the weather forecast. The rainy season had no end to it and there were many rains during the first two weeks! And the mountaintops weren't any more visible than in 2012! But the begonia fruits were in a meeting ...

Talk about the extraordinary biodiversity in Ecuador! Of course, the reason is the topographical variety: two mountains ranges, the Western Cordillera that gets rains from the Pacific, and the Eastern Cordillera that gets the Amazonia ones. Between, is a plateau at an altitude of about 2000m (6,500 ft), the "allée des volcans" (Volcano Alley). The result is an important variety of altitudes: in this trip we moved from sea level at Guayaquil, to 3500m in the Cordilleras. Consequently, there were many different climates: equatorial, hot and damp, on the western and eastern ranges, from 500 to 2500m; fresh, and even cold and damp in the Andean cloud forests, from 2000 to 3500m (11,500 ft.). We saw all the intermediate ones!

Lita area (May 31) Lita is a small town north of Quito, near the Columbia border, about 200 km from the capital. Here, we are in the West Cordillera, a broken area, warm, with a very damp rain forest under rains from the Pacific. Many streams run down from the mountain. We again found the giant of the Begonia genus, *B. parviflora*, which is sometimes 350m (11.5 ft) tall! Difficult to grow in the living room! Chantal and Jean Louis have the first "Begonia-trip" and this begonia is a revelation... It is in blossom!

We'll meet it in all the damp forests of Ecuador at a middle altitude. Its many small white flowers (hence its name) allow it to be seen from afar on the forests slopes (Fig. 1). We visit two streams and find a species we had not seen in 2012 (Fig. 2), an epiphytic one on trunks and rocks near the road. Perhaps it belongs to the Gobenia section. Sebastian, our guide, falls into the water! Chantal, who wishes celebrate the baptism of her first begonia in situ, falls in the stream, too. The rocks are slippery but the water is not cold...

Baeza area (June 1–2) We cross the Eastern Cordillera by the col de Papallacta (4000m or 13,000 ft) in the rain! Páramo landscape: peat bogs, Andean plants and moor at altitude; it is cold and there no begonias here... of course! We arrive now in the Amazonia area. Streams go down furiously towards... the Amazon River. Baeza is the north Amazonia door of Ecuador.

After Baeza, the road follows a pipeline (Ecuador has petroleum and an economic growth of about 6%) and leads to the San Rafael waterfall (unfortunately, they are closed because of high water levels of the Quijos River). Several interesting places in this area: after El Chaco, in a forest remnant, we find *B. parviflora*

Fig. 1 *B. parviflora* - Lita Fig. 2 *B. sp.* (section **Gobenia**?) - Lita Fig. 3 *B. sp.* (section **Gobenia**) - El Chaco Fig. 4 *B. sp.* (section **Gobenia**) - Malo waterfall Fig. 5 *B. consobrina* - near Baeza



1



2



3



4



5



(of course!), *B. glabra*, and an unidentified species of the *Gobenia* section (Fig. 3) but no flowers or fruit on this very nice creeper (which was in blossom in 2012); we'll often see this epiphytic species (Fig. 4) until San Rafael and especially near the Malo waterfall where it grows in large quantities on mossy trunks, with very high humidity because of the spray of the waterfall. Here too, no fruit! On the descent from Baeza, we take a sideroad and find again a species seen in 2012. I thought it was *B. tiliifolia*; but in fact it is *B. consobrina* (Fig. 5): the leaves of these two are alike, entire, asymmetric, hanging, the *B. tiliifolia* blades broader than the *B. consobrina* ones; the flowers distinguish the two species: *B. tiliifolia* inflorescences are white, axillary and unisexual; the *B. consobrina* ones are pink, hanging and bisexual. Curiously, the Lyman B. Smith and Wasshausen's *Flora of the Ecuador: Begoniaceae* does not talk about that. Yet it is important!

Misahualli-Puyo aera (June 3–4) The reference cited above gave notice of begonias some kilometers from Baeza, near Cosinga: information too vague and we find nothing!

On the other hand, we drive on a road along the Oritayacu River and again see the section *Gobenia* species we had found at the Malo waterfall. I think it is the same!) Colette locates a wonderful orchid in blossom, a *Lycaste*. Later, on another path, the previous begonia grows on all the stumps. (So there used to be a forest here!) It is in the full heat of the sun and the flowers are red! (Fig. 6). Further up, we find it again in a forest remnant. Leaves are brown! (Fig. 7). Is it the same species? No flowers to compare.

Then, we burst into the Antisana Ecological Reserve but we must stay in the car under a torrential rain. After some kilometers, there is a begonia by the roadside with red flowers. What a color! It is *B. urticae* (Fig. 8). In 2012, I thought this species was *B. longirostris* of the Casparaya section. Fruits have a strong beak - a feature of the section; flowers and fruits are present and we get seeds.

In the evening, we reach Misahualli, a small Amazonia town along the edge of the Napo River, an Amazon tributary. The warm and damp air is completely different from the Andes, in its listlessness. Monkeys walk in the town center and we must be careful because they are thieves!

We stay at the "Auberge Espagnole," described on the Internet as a nice hotel that looks out onto the Napo River. Yes, we can perceive the Napo, but it is in back of sheet metal roofs.

We eat at a restaurant and Sebastian orders ... beetle grubs! Colette tastes them...not convinced! We choose Tilapia, a fish from the Napo river, with manioc, tomatoes and onion. Delicious!

The next morning, in the garden of the hotel, there is a begonia! We can see flowers, fruits (with seeds) and plantlets together. Certainly an annual, which will be confirmed. It is *B. humilis* (Fig. 09).



Fig. 6 & 7 *B. sp.* (section *Gobenia*) - near Misahualli **Fig. 8** *B. urticae*-near Antisana Park **Fig. 9** *B. humilis*-Misahualli **Fig. 10** *B. maynensis* with silver stains-Jatun Sacha **Fig. 11** *B. maynensis* without silver stains-Jatun Sacha



12



13



14



15

We look again for begonias the next morning on the road towards Puyo. We are still on the Amazonia side. On the border of the Jatün Sacha reserve, we find a marvel: *B. maynensis*. We know and we grow this begonia as *B. longimaculata*. Mark Tebbitt confirms it is the same species. The blade is very variable, with silver stains between nerves more or less large and even sometime absent (Figs. 10 and 11). Few flowers but mature fruits. We get few seeds because they are already almost gone. In this place, we also meet a very nice Gesneriaceae (Fig. 12) and other very interesting plants such as a spectacular *Aracea*.

A visit to the botanical path of Puyo allows us to find another begonia *B. buddleiifolia* (Fig. 13) of the Pilderia section. I didn't know this one. It is in bloom, with red flowers on a terminal peduncule. We can get seeds. Great day!

In the evening, we stay at the Altos del Pastaza Lodge near Puyo: a wonderful view of the Pastaza river running 200m below (Fig. 14).

Baños area (June 5) This day would be the one of a very interesting discovery: a rare species, *Begonia hitchcockii* of the Gobenia section. We explore, in vain, paths and streams near the road. Nothing, except the species we had already found - *B. parviflora*, *B. consobrina*, *B. urticae* and *B. buddleiifolia*. We often see another species, *B. fischeri*, which we can classify as a ruderal one because it grows on the waste grounds, the ruins, near habitations and on the paths that lead to them. At Rio Verde, we visit "El Pailon del Diablo" (the Devil's Caldron), a very big waterfall (Fig. 15) on the Pastaza river. Very high humidity and a nice place to see *B. foliosa*. Unfortunately, few fruits and, of course, few seeds!

We arrive at Baños. The hotel for this night sits at the foot of a famous active volcano: the Tungurahua. We hope it will keep quiet tonight!

To be continued...

Fig. 12 A nice Gesneriaceae-Jatün Sacha **Fig. 13** *B. buddleiifolia*-Puyo **Fig. 14** The Pastaza river at evening near Puyo **Fig. 15** The "Pailon del Diablo" to RioVerde, near Baños

Growing Begonias in New England

By Buxton Branch, with thanks to Gloria Utzig and Sally Savelle for compiling and editing the information and providing photos

Growing begonias can be a challenge in New England where we experience four distinct seasons each year. Our extremes in outdoor temperatures range from average winter lows of 20 to 25 degrees to average summer highs of 85 degrees. We have to contend with temperature, light, and humidity variables for each season.

While a few of us in Buxton have greenhouses, aside from our terrarium plants, most of us grow our plants by windows or on artificial light shelves in our homes. We have success growing in terrariums because the humidity levels are kept constant, there is less need to water, and there is little chance of encountering powdery mildew since there are no spores in a self-contained environment. This article, however, focuses on Buxton's collective learnings on growing non-terrarium plants at home.

As winter sets in, plants are moved to any bright window, and those under light fixtures running 10–12 hours per day may be increased to run 14 hours per day. During cooler winter months, some choose to run lights at night to provide extra heat.

Maintaining adequate humidity is an art when growing begonias in New England. Heating our homes in winter drops our indoor humidity to incredibly low levels, in some cases, less than 16% humidity! Some of us keep our plants on top of trays lined with felt or capillary matting or filled with pebbles with water to keep plants moist and to add humidity to the air surrounding the

plants. To maintain humidity for taller plants, some of us enclose these in plastic dry cleaning bags or put the plants into pop-up mesh laundry hampers wrapped in clear plastic. For larger groupings of plants needing more humidity, we wrap entire plant shelves, with or without lights, with painters' drop cloths closed with binder clips.

For both light and humidity, some of us wrap Mylar blankets or Mylar bubble wrap (available at Home Depot) around our light shelves so that extraneous light reflects back to the plants, and to keep in humidity. Some have found easy-to-use reflective Mylar with a sticky surface so that seams are easily made around the shelves.

Rhizomatous plants seem to do well by a bright window or under artificial lights for us, with or without additional humidity. But the rexes and the canes give us the most problems when grown at home. The taller canes sit by windows as these are more difficult to fit under lights, and the rexes require considerable humidity. We have learned to live with bare cane stems from lack of light until the spring when we cut them back, propagate them or set them by a brighter window. The rexes pose a problem with cooler nighttime temperatures, as these can cause brown edges and ultimate leaf drop, or have issues with powdery mildew. Plain Lysol spray has been used to fight powdery mildew and other fungi that might be a problem. A few of us use fans to keep the air circulating and prevent mildew. A constant feed method of 1/4 teaspoon of a 10-10-10 fertilizer to a gallon of water with

(continued next page)



Fig. 1 *B. iridescens* looking especially beautiful against a snowy backdrop. Fig. 2 A combination of natural and artificial light sources are a must for begonia growing in colder climates. Fig. 3 *B. 'Jim Wyrzten'* in full bloom in the winter garden. Fig. 4 A plastic clothes hamper and plastic sheeting create a tropical environment. Fig. 5 *B. 'Green Angelwing'*

one plain water watering a month seems to be an ideal year-round fertilization plan.

Once the danger of frost passes, we bring non-terrarium grown plants outdoors for spring and summer. We have to take care that the plants are getting enough water given that they are in small pots and the soilless mix will dry much quicker outside than indoors. While we can place begonias in the shade and under trees so they do not get

(continued next page)





B. 'Flamingo Queen' happily resides in a window in New England.

exposed to direct sunlight, the added exposure to garden bugs, chipmunks, squirrels, and bunnies is a risk.

As summer ends, we watch weather reports closely to determine when night temperatures are dropping. We make the transition period from outdoors to indoors as early as possible so the plants are better able to adjust to indoor temperatures and humidity. If we are not paying attention to weather conditions, oftentimes a cold spell will suddenly be announced and we enlist all of our family members to rush outside and bring in plants for the night. Our family members have become tolerant of giving up house space to plants stands, to mobilizing on short notice to haul plants indoors, and to tolerating the occasional stray frog hopping around the house after being carried in on a plant pot.

We have to debug plants before bringing them in by checking and/or spraying for aphids, mealy bugs and thrips. Some of us

have resorted to the use of a systemic pesticide in the pots of all indoor plants to keep bugs away. Alcohol is used for mealybugs or a more aggressive application of Marathon (heeding their instructions) is used. Neem and pyrethrum-based insecticides can also be used at

home. Most use insecticides in powder vs. liquid form, as the shelf life of powder is significantly longer.

If plants have doubled in size while being outdoors, this is a good time to cut back plants that are too large to be housed indoors, and we propagate the cuttings. We find, however, that propagation is faster when starting cuttings in spring and summer.

As New England growers with less than ideal growing conditions, we have learned to be more tolerant of ourselves. We lose plants for a variety of reasons. Often after trying and losing a plant multiple times, we accept the fact that the plant and our growing environment are simply not compatible and move onto the next victim, oops, we mean begonia.

For the intrepid New England begonia grower, in the middle of winter while being confined in the house during a big snowstorm, there is nothing in the world cheerier than seeing one's lovingly grown begonias producing new leaves and new blooms while under our care!



Begonia lubbersii

Bob and Dee Stewart, Stow, MA

Photo by Craig Boyajian

We got this plant from Lauray of Salisbury (Judy Becker) many years ago and we have had absolutely no trouble growing it. I was therefore quite surprised when Wanda wanted to bring visitors to see it who thought that it was a very rare and difficult plant.

I looked it up in the Tebbitt book and found that he has a possible explanation. He says that it is susceptible to root rot and should be grown in a rather small well-drained pot with 50% humidity. We grow the plant in a greenhouse, and though the humidity fluctuates, it is definitely higher than usual indoor humidity (though not as high as in a terrarium). Also we are used to growing epiphytic gesneriads which also can suffer from root rot and want a small pot with well-drained soil, so we naturally tend to pot things that way. Apparently our "ordinary" conditions just happen to be what this species wants.

The leaf is "peltate". This means that the petiole joins the blade in the center rather than at an edge. The word comes from Latin "pelta" meaning "shield", because a soldier holds his shield by a handle at the center.

The leaf coloring is quite striking. There is a white dot where the petiole joins the blade. The regions along the veins are somewhat reddish. Between the veins the leaf can develop silver spots, depending on the light and the age of the leaf.

The flower is white and is quite large. It is also somewhat fragrant.

Unusual Variants of Two Andean Begonias

Article and photos by Dr. Mark C. Tebbitt,
California University of Pennsylvania, PA

This past January, while on an ABS funded expedition to Ecuador, I observed some unusual individuals of both the tuberous *B. froebelii* and the thick-stemmed *B. serotina* that I would like to share with you.

Begonia froebelii (Fig. 1) is a striking plant with large scarlet flowers. It was first cultivated in 1874 at the Swiss nursery of Otto Froebel, though plants in modern-day gardens likely originate from more recent seed collections made by Scott Hoover and others in the 1980's and 1990's. They would have found *B. froebelii* growing wild in the western Andes of central Ecuador. Despite being restricted to this small region, in certain places the species is locally abundant and whole hillsides are dotted with its beautiful scarlet flowers (Fig. 2). In one of these large populations I was surprised to spot a cluster of six plants with pure white flowers (Fig. 3). The next day I found an even more remarkable variant of this species. It was growing 3000 feet below the previous population, at the lowest elevation at which *B. froebelii* has even been recorded. Along the margin of a beautiful wooded gorge, on a heavily shaded and very large rock slab (Fig. 4), there was a small group of *B. froebelii* composed entirely of dwarf plants, with each plant just one-fifth of the species' normal size (Figs. 5 and 6). In fact, so different were these plants in size and so unusual was the habitat compared to what is typical of *B. froebelii*, it took me a few minutes to realize which species I had found. This is remarkable since *B. froebelii* is usually one of the most easy to recognize of all tuberous begonias. The plants were probably dwarf, because at this unusually low altitude, the species must have been at the very limit of where it could survive in nature.

I must have been lucky that day because later on I

encountered an unusual variant of *B. serotina* further down the same mountain. Unlike the plants of *B. froebelii* that I had seen earlier, *B. serotina* is a plant of Ecuador's coastal lowlands and low Andean foothills and was growing here at an elevation typical for its kind. *Begonia serotina* has, I suspect, never been cultivated, but would probably be easy to grow. It has beautiful umbrella-shaped leaves that are usually plain green. However, at this particular location I found a dozen plants with leaves shaded purplish-brown between their veins creating a stunning effect (Fig. 7).

Fieldwork is an important part of the taxonomic research that I conduct on begonia; it can lead not only to the discovery of new begonias but also, as discussed here, to an increased knowledge of previously named species. For the past seven years I have been working on a taxonomic research project focused on the wild tuberous begonias of Andean South America. My goal is to produce a monograph – a book that contains everything known about this particular group of begonias. As part of this research I am documenting each of the tuberous species as they occur in nature, describing their natural variations, distributions, abundances, and habitats. Whenever I go out into the field and study these plants I learn something new and, as shared here, sometimes I get a welcome surprise.

Acknowledgements:

This fieldwork was possible because of the financial support of the ABS and its members. I also wish to thank Mr. Álvaro J. Pérez Castañeda (QCA) for logistical support and Mr. Adolfo Jara Muñoz (ANDES) and Ms. Cristina Toapanta (QCA) for help in the field.

Fig. 1 *Begonia froebelii* typically has large scarlet flowers.

Fig. 2 A healthy population of *B. froebelii*.

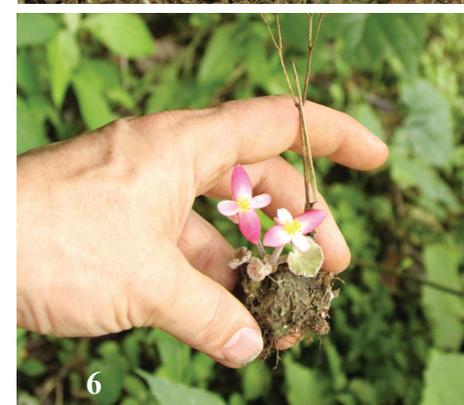
Fig. 3 A rare white-flowered form of *B. froebelii*.

Fig. 4 A population of dwarf *B. froebelii* growing at low elevation in heavy shade.

Fig. 5 One of the dwarf *B. froebelii* in flower.

Fig. 6 So small is this *B. froebelii*, it took me a moment to realize what species I had found.

Fig. 7 A beautiful dusky-leaved form of *B. serotina* (also see back cover).





Recent Australian Hybrids

Article and photos by Bernard Yorke, Park Ridge, Australia

As I have been hybridizing begonias for over 40 years, I welcome the opportunity to share with you some of my hybrids, new and old, as well as a few from other hybridizers.

About 40 years ago, I met up with two other growers/collectors in Australia, and after a lot of enquiries, we could find only about 16 varieties in Australia. It was then that we felt we had to create some new varieties. I have always been interested in hybridizing various plants, having already ‘done’ double gerberas, and later on, cannas.

One of my first experiments 40 years ago was hybridizing the large cane *B. aconitifolia* with the little annual pink *B. semperflorens*. Lo and behold, the seed

germinated in abundance and produced lovely small bushy canes which appeared to flower all year. At that time, I resided on a suburban block and didn’t have the room to grow too many. Anyway, this small bushy cane with oval green foliage with slight red edges, produced pink and white flowers in abundance. Further, they would grow in semi shade as well as full sun.

I decided to take one around to a local wholesale nursery and he said he would experiment with it. Several months later, he turned up at my home with a magnificent specimen in a large pot with absolutely hundreds of blooms. He was so impressed that he wanted to buy more, so innocently, I sold the remaining dozen for five shillings (50 cents) each. As he



The seed parent for *B. 'Belinda'* (pictured right) was *B. aconitifolia* (pictured left) and the pollen parent was *B. semperflorens*. Though this plant was an early experiment in hybridizing it remained a popular nursery plant for many years afterwards.

was leaving, he enquired as to what I was calling it, and as we could hear our youngest in her cot crying at the time, I said to call it 'Belinda' after her. Little did I know what lay ahead.

Several months later, there was a two page spread in an Australian newspaper on this new small cane begonia which flowered most of the year.. and yes, it was called 'Belinda' and this particular nursery had sole rights! Well, this one turned up in abundance in all nurseries and chain stores in Australia for quite some years. Unfortunately, it was sterile but propagated up well by cutting or division. I still have it and smile when I think of the modern day entitlements pursuant to plant variety rights. Strangely enough, when I crossed the small cane species *B. plagioneura* [syn. of *B. cubensis* – Nom. Ed.] with a *B. semperflorens*, the seedlings were just about exactly the same as 'Belinda' and hard to differentiate.

This is a most rewarding hobby and has created quite a few friends. There are a few of us who meet for lunch at each others homes in turn, and we all travel with a tray of potting mix, etc., in our cars in order that cuttings and leaves given to us are planted immediately and not left to dehydrate in transporting them to our homes.

A Word with You: Leaf Base

By Claudia Goodridge, New Haven, CT

Word association – what do you think of when someone mentions the *base*? I use a “*base*” when cooking. The “*base*” is home to soldiers. A “*base*” looks great under flower designs. My thesaurus lists “headquarters,” “bottom,” “foundation,” and “pedestal” as synonyms. Mr. Webster says *base*, from Middle English, is “the bottom of a thing, considered as its support, or the part of a thing on which it stands or rests.” Webster also says “in botany, the part of a leaf next to the stem: opposed to the apex.” *Base* in Botanisppeak wouldn’t have triggered my word association list. But it is a foundation, one of the fundamental parts of the leaf – the connecting location of the petiole to the blade.

Thompson doesn’t list the term separately in its glossary, but does include it under *leaf base*. Tebbitt uses the term in his begonia descriptions, but not in his glossary, which implies to me that it’s totally clear. And I guess it is. One has to love those monosyllabic words. But then we get to those pesky distinctions among the leaf *bases* – *acute* and *obtuse* being two. Last time we visited acute in the apex and found it was an angle of less than 90 degrees and that the obtuse apex was greater than 90 degrees. It’s the same at the *base*. Less than and greater than 90 degrees.

A begonia with an *acute base* is *B. rubronervata*. *B. molleri* has an *obtuse base*. I wish I had better names for my own begonias, because I find several of each type. But that’s what comes from dumpster diving for cuttings – namelessness. There are more *base* distinctions – namely *cuneate*, *cordate*, *truncate*; and then there are the asymmetric bases – *decurrent*, *overlapped*, and *spiraled*, but I’ll save those for another column or two.

Look again at your begonia collection. It’s enlightening to see how many variations there are on the leaf *base*. It’s getting cold here now, so I’m off to take cuttings of those begonias I planted out this summer, and which thrived in the rather unusual weather we had. The leaf *apices* and *bases* will be my focus of attention today.



B. elaeagnifolia (left) with arrow pointing out its obtuse leaf base, and *B. herbacea* (right) with arrow showing acute leaf base.



Gloria Utzig won Best in Show with her *B. lyallii* var. *lyallii*. Photo by Gloria Utzig

Buxton Branch Show

Buxton Branch held its annual show and plant sale on September 20–21 at the Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston, MA. The show was a huge success with 155 entries and 32 volunteers working throughout the weekend. Gloria Utzig won Best in Show, with her *B. lyallii* var. *lyallii*, the Showing and Sharing Award by entering 27 begonias, and the Sweepstakes Award for her 1st and 2nd place ribbons.

Buxton always appreciates out-of-town visitors, including judges Charles Jaros, Johanna Zinn, and Lucy Kuder, and also Randy Kerr, who made his way from his home in Los Angeles to help out at our show and to donate plants (40 begonia species taking up three suitcases) to Buxton’s sales and conservation program. Thank you!

This year Buxton enjoyed a record amount for plant sales as did one of our vendors, Lauray of Salisbury. We also welcomed Darrin Norton of Mountain Orchids as a vendor; all enjoyed Darrin’s exquisite plants and the opportunity to spend time with him over the weekend.

A Visit to the Fort Worth Botanic Garden Begonia Species Collection

At the SWR Get-Together last May the group toured the Begonia Species Collection as one of their activities.

Kay Jennings (Fig. 1) – long-time volunteer responsible for curating a very impressive terrarium collection of rare begonias.

Susan Daugherty, President of Houston Astro's and husband, Jerry, discuss begonias with Dick and Wanda Macnair (Fig. 2).

Many rare begonia species (Fig 3).

ABS members examining species collection (Fig. 4).

Part of the cultivar collection. Check out the amazing *B.* 'Challenger' in the upper left (Fig. 5).
Photos by Tom Anderson



Begonia Revolution: New England 2015

Buxton Branch is busy planning the ABS National Convention, July 29–August 2, 2015, at the Verve Crowne Plaza, 1360 Worcester Road, Natick, MA. Convention rates are \$115 per night for single and double rooms. Call 800.265.0339 to make your reservation at the Convention rate. Also,



The Begonia Revolution t-shirt!

you can visit the ABS website, www.Begonias.org, or Buxton's website, www.BuxtonBranch.org, for detailed information and to find the link to book your hotel room online. The hotel deadline for registration at the Convention rate is June 29, 2015.

Buxton Branch has three days of tours planned for Convention attendees. Enjoy reading about these destinations below. Look for information about programs and speakers in the next *Begonian*.

Wednesday, July 29th

The Glass Flowers and Sea Creatures in Glass at the Harvard Museum of Natural History, Cambridge, MA

The Glass Flower collection, one of the museum's most famous treasures, represents 847 plant species and includes over 3,000 models on display. The collection was created by German glass artisans, Leopold Blaschka and his son, Rudolf. The Blaschkas signed an exclusive con-

tract with Harvard to make the collection, working on the models over five decades from 1886 to 1936. The collection of Blaschka Glass Invertebrates contains 430 models of marine and terrestrial animals; before being commissioned by Harvard to make the Glass Flowers, the father and son team meticulously shaped glass into these lifelike models.

William Logee in 1892 as his interest grew in tropical and unusual plants. William's eldest son, Ernest Logee, became interested in horticulture, focusing his interests in the unusual form of begonias. Ernest hybridized begonias for Logee's and was one of the original founders of the American Begonia Society, creating the Buxton Branch in Massachusetts.

Please note that Logee's greenhouses are not handicap accessible.

Roger Williams Botanical Center, Providence, RI

The Botanical Center at the Roger Williams Park is the largest indoor garden open to the public in New England, encompassing approximately 12,000 square feet in two connected greenhouses filled with plants, fountains, a fish pond, and a small waterfall. It is

also the home of the Rhode Island Branch of ABS, meeting at the Botanical Center since its inception in 2008. Those who do this tour will enjoy seeing begonias grow in more natural conditions, such as in the ground and even a begonia growing on a tree branch!

Friday, July 31

Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston, MA

Tower Hill is the only botanic garden of its kind in New England. It has eight distinct gardens dedicated to woody plants, vegetables, plant systematics, winter interest, fruits, perennials, and wildlife. The



Continued →



Sea Urchin from The Glass Flowers and Sea Creatures in Glass exhibit

Photo courtesy of <http://museummysteries.com/glass-sea-creatures-at-harvard-museum-of-natural-history/>



Lyman Estate, Waltham, Massachusetts - view of greenhouse

Photo courtesy of Wikipedia

Lyman Estate Greenhouses, Waltham, MA

The Lyman Estate consists of an historic mansion, carriage house, 37 acres of gardens and grounds, and a complex of four greenhouses which are among the oldest surviving greenhouses in the U.S. The complex of greenhouses include an 1804 grape house, 1920 camellia house, 1840 orchid house, and a 1980 sales greenhouse where visitors can purchase plants, including begonias, gesneriads, and succulents.

Thursday, July 30

Logee's Greenhouses, Danielson, CT

Logee's Greenhouses was started by



Limonaia in Tower Hill Botanical Garden, Boylston, Massachusetts
Photo courtesy of Wikipedia

Orangerie and Limonaia house non-hardy plants from around the world with an emphasis on those from the southern hemisphere and Mediterranean regions. Tower Hill is the site of an orchard displaying the Davenport Collection of more than 199 pre-20th century apple varieties.

For more information, visit

Buxton Branch, www.BuxtonBranch.org

Harvard Museum of Natural History, www.hmn.harvard.edu

Lyman Estate, www.historicNewEngland.org

Roger Williams Botanical Center, www.providenceri.com/botanical-center

Tower Hill Botanic Garden, www.TowerHillBG.org

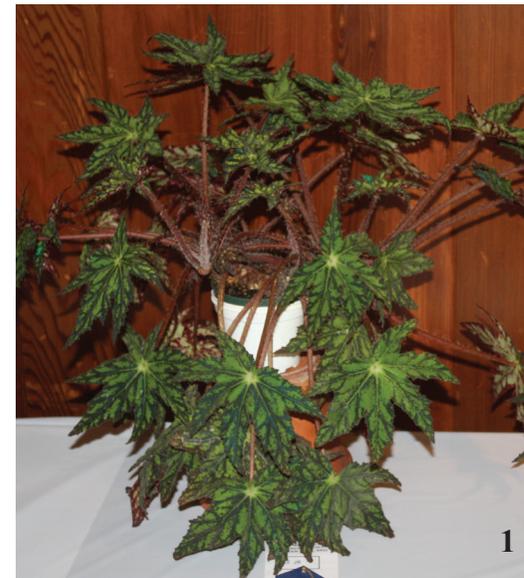


Achimenes, Aeschynanthus, Chirita, Columnea, Drymonia, Episcia, Kohleria, Nematanthus, Petrocosmea, Sinningia, Streptocarpus... These and many other gesneriads are excellent plants for the greenhouse hobbyist.

Purchase our 56-page manual "How to Know and Grow Gesneriads" for US\$10 postpaid anywhere, or join The Gesneriad Society for one year for US\$25 in USA, US\$30 elsewhere. Go to www.gesneriadsociety.org or send check or credit card number with expiration date and CVV code to The Gesneriad Society, Dept AVM, PMB 637, 1122 E Pike Street, Seattle, WA 98122 USA. New members receive a copy of "How to Know and Grow Gesneriads," two back issues and the next four quarterly issues of our journal *Gesneriads*, a package of mixed gesneriad seed, access to the world's largest source of gesneriad seed, and many other benefits.

THE BEGONIAN ONLINE

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1



2



3

The Mid America Begonia Society 2014 Show and Sale

It has been 5 years and 4 shows and sales ago that the Mid America Begonia Society was first chartered by the ABS. Our recent 4th show, held September 28–29, may have been our best yet. Though our group is still small we have some dedicated members and good begonia growers.

Some of the highlights were the People's Choice award won by Michael Shanaburg's perfect Begonia 'Phoe's Cleo' (Fig 1). Best of show was awarded to Linda Tamblyn for a *B. sizemoreae*. The club members received an unnamed cane cutting for a challenge plant back in March of 2014. Jane Martin wowed everyone with her large and well-grown winner (Fig. 2).

One of our members, Jem Wiseman, put together seed growing kits (Fig. 3) as a promotional give away. The kits contained a small container of *B. fischeri* seed, seed starting medium, and small plastic cups for growing containers. The kits were a huge hit with our visitors. We explained how to take care of the seedlings and encouraged them to come to a meeting for advice or to show us how their seeds had grown. Many of them promised to come back to show us their plants. The kits seemed to bring out the curiosity and wonder that only growing seeds can elicit.

NEW: *Begonia Hybridizing: By The Hybridizers* edited by Freda Holley, published through the Millie Thompson Publication Fund, March 2013.

This great new book by Freda Holley is filled with articles written by some of our most famous, prolific and successful hybridizers. It is a philosophy of hybridizing divided into three parts and includes articles by Ross Bolwell, Walter Dworkin, Freda Holley, Gregory Sytch, Chuck Ades, Brad Thompson, Patrick Worley and Rudolf Ziesenhenné. The pictures are many and stunning.

Domestic: \$21.00

International \$26.00. Includes postage.

NEW: *Tuberous Begonias and How to Grow Them* by the late Howard Siebold, 1998, published with the support of the ABS Millie Thompson Publication Fund. Library of Congress Catalog Card No. 98-74824 ISBN: 0-9628251-2-3 \$15.00

NEW: *Unidentified Species Listing, Update, August 2012*

by Mary Bucholtz & Charles Jaros, Co-Directors

Second Edition includes U Numbers 001 through 621. Looseleaf format for easy addition of new material. Notebook not included.

Domestic: \$33.00

International: \$42.00

B. U604-621 to add to the August, 2010 Unidentified Species Listing

\$7.00

2013 Calendar

by Dr. Rekha Morris (limited number)

\$25.00

Raising Cane: Experiences in Growing the Species Cane Begonias

by Freda M. Holley

A wonderful work on the cane species with color photographs.

\$15.00

ABS Bookstore

Note Cards from the Jack Golding Collection

Eight cards with envelopes, each card a different begonia species. This collection of botanical illustrations is part of a series of renderings by Jack's daughter, Marilyn Golding White. The cards were used as Jack's Season's Greetings cards to his friends and associates.

\$15.00

Begoniaceae, Edition 2, Part I: Annotated Species List, Part II: Illustrated Key, Abridgement & Supplement

Jack Golding & Dieter C. Wasshausen, 2002, Smithsonian Institution, Volume 43: 1-289

\$55.00

Seeing Begonia

by Jack Golding

2003, Revised 2005. Jack Golding's last work. "...dedicated to the many who look at their Begonia but do not see the details."

\$15.00

Begonia Hybridizing: A Primer

by Freda M. Holley, 2007

An invaluable source book for the beginning or advanced begonia hybridizer.

\$15.00

Begonia Notes

by Rudolf Ziesenhenné

Reissued by the Thelma O'Reilly Reprint Fund. Originally printed in the Santa Barbara Branch, La Begonia Barbareña.

\$15.00

Begonias – 1984 Update

by Mildred L. Thompson

Reissued 2009, "An addendum for particular portions of *Begonias: The Complete Reference Guide* (Times Books, 1981). Includes species and hybrids and many pictures.

\$18.00

continued next page

Constitution of the ABS

Revised & Approved, 2008

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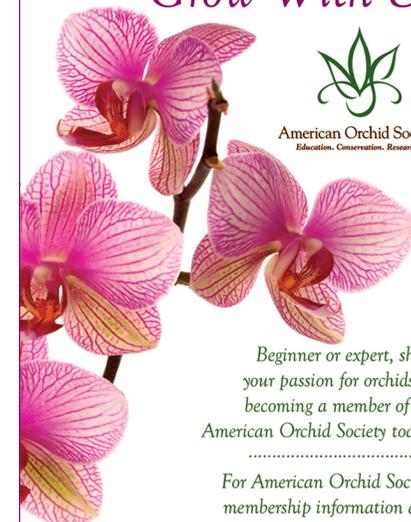
To order: To order: Prices include domestic shipping. Send check payable to the American Begonia Society and your order to Carol Notaras, 2567 Green St., San Francisco 94123 cnotaras@sbcglobal.net or order online at begonias.org by PayPal.

For questions and availability, email or call Book Store Chairman Janet Brown, tenajbegonia@gmail.com 310-670-4471

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Membership with Paper-copy and digital magazine: USA \$28/yr - Canada/Mexico US\$38/yr - Overseas (air) US\$50/yr

visit us at: www.hobbygreenhouse.org

Save the Dates

Southwest Region
Get-Together
Houston, TX
May 21-23, 2015

Begonia Revolution
New England 2015
Natick, MA
July 29-August 2, 2015

The seed fund is a service to members only. It is a privilege of your membership. Please self-pollinate your species begonias, collect the seeds and send them to the seed fund. We depend on your contributions of seeds to make a wider variety of species available to the members. The Seed Fund now offers a PayPal option. This option is available through the ABS Website. Go to the Seed Fund Page and select the link "Current Seed Listing pay with PayPal". There is a small "PayPal" fee plus the "shipping and handling" fee to cover the cost of using PayPal. Choose the fee amount in the drop down menu at the bottom of the page as with the shipping and handling drop down menus. By policy, new seed additions are made after they are first published in *The Begonian*, and updated as supplies vary while filling orders. This is the best source for the current available seed list. Packets of seeds are \$2.00. Very rare seeds and newly collected seeds will be \$3.00 or more per packet when noted. California residents please add 8.75% sales tax. All orders must be accompanied by check or money order, payable in US funds ONLY to the Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund.

Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund

The Margaret Lee Branch
San Diego County, CA

American Begonia Society
Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund
Michael Ludwig
6040 Upland Street
San Diego, CA. 92114-1933
New Seed Fund e-mail address:
claytonmkellyseedfund@yahoo.com

Cost 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 *BEGONIACEAE*, 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.

New Seeds

Seeds from Jacky Duruis-seau

\$3.00 a pkt

some varieties are in very limited supply

B. acerifolia \$3.00

B. buddleifolia \$3.00

B. consobrina \$3.00

B. erythrocarpa \$3.00

B. fischeri

B. froebelii \$3.00

B. glabra \$3.00

B. guaduensis \$3.00

B. humilis \$3.00

B. ludwigii \$3.00

B. maynensis \$3.00

B. parviflora \$3.00

B. sp. 28 \$3.00

B. sp. sect. Gobenia \$3.00

B. urticae \$3.00

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Your privacy and the privacy of all ABS members or of those who contact us is of the highest priority. This privacy and terms of use statement explains what information we gather from you, how it may be used by us and how it is protected. If you have any questions, please contact us.

If you are an ABS member or request information from ABS, we use the information you submit to fulfill your requests (such as sending informational materials, fulfilling your order or responding to specific inquiries). We also may use information for purposes of the Society including providing names of ABS members to those wishing to start a branch in the ABS or in connection with internal communications (such as invitations to events). If you do not want your information shared, let our membership chairman know by email or phone. This information is used for Society-related contacts only. We will not knowingly collect or use personal identifying information from children younger than 18 without parental consent. If knowledge of any information from any child younger than 18 is collected, we will immediately delete such information.

If you are a member of ABS or submit material to *The Begonian*, your information may be published in *The Begonian* either in association with the published material or in reporting business of the society including the directory on the inside back cover. If you submit material in any form including letters, articles, and photographs, it is assumed that these are submitted for publication unless you specifically request that material not be published. Be aware that it is the policy of ABS not to copyright material in *The Begonian* or restrict its further use so long as credit is given as to source.

There is a privacy policy specific to our web page on our website at www.begonias.org.

We do not otherwise sell, rent, exchange or disclose our client lists or information about our web site users or our members, except to the limited extent necessary to protect the rights, property and safety of our Society, our members, or others or to comply with applicable law. In the event of dissolution of the Society, all member data will be destroyed.

ABS Elected Officers

President... Virginia Jens, 2483 Waterside Dr, Lake Worth, FL 33461; 561-568-0124; vjens2483@gmail.com

Past President... Charles Jaros, 106 Pine Valley Ct., DeBary, FL 32713; 407-687-5621; cjbegonia@yahoo.com

1st Vice-President... Mike Flaherty, 1505 East Valley Rd, Santa Barbara, CA 93108; mikeflaherty@cox.net

2nd Vice-President... Martin E. Delgado, P.O. Box 39685, Downey, CA 90239; 562-310-8380; mdlibrarian@consultant.com

Secretary... Connie Saenz, 13627 Stoney Hill, San Antonio, Texas, 78231; csaenz56@yahoo.com

Treasurer... Carol Notaras, 2567 Green St., San Francisco, CA 94123; 415-931-4912; cnotaras@sbcglobal.net

Appointed Chairmen & Directors

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

Awards... Cheryl Lenert, 21744 FM 2920, Hockley, TX 77447; 281-255-9004; lenert@flash.net

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

Book Store... Jan Brown, 310-670-4471, begoniabrown@yahoo.com.

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Convention Advisor... Mary Sakamoto, 13362 Mount Hood Dr., Santa Ana, CA 92705; 714-852-3695; m.sakamoto@sbcglobal.net

Convention Chairs... Margaret Sporer, 10049 Glenmore Ave. Bradenton, FL 34202, 941-351-8486, pspor2@verizon.net; Dale Sena, 816 W. Braddock St, Tampa, FL 33603, 813-221-0567. Convention email begoniaconvention2014@aol.com

Entries/Classification... Vacant

Facebook Manager... John Boggan, dcbegonias@gmail.com

Grants Committee... Martin E. Delgado, P.O. Box 39685, Downey, CA 90239; 562-310-8380; mdlibrarian@consultant.com

Historian... Sandra Threadcraft, 3058 Weslock Circle, Decatur, Georgia 30034; 404-243-8686; Sunmoontrine@yahoo.com

The Begonian January/February 2015

Deadline Date November 28

Send your photos, growing tips,
or articles to:
begoniaskc@yahoo.com

Horticultural Correspondent... Gregory Sytch, 6329 Alaska Avenue, New Port Richey, FL 34653-4301; 727-841-9618; gsytych@cs.com

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Members-at-Large... Sandy Boyd, 5 Walnut Circle, Chico, CA 95973; 530-891-5760; smacboyd@gmail.com

Membership... Paul Rothstein, 2 Flock Lane, Bella Vista, AR 72714; paroan2001@yahoo.com

Nomenclature...

Registrar of Hybrids... Priscilla Purinton, 129 Queens River Drive, West Kingston, RI 02892; 401-782-8154 or 401-688-0678, ppurinton@gmail.com.

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

Public Relations... vacant

Save Our Species Coordinator... Johanna Zinn, 4407 Jensen Place, Fairfax, VA 22032, 703-323-7513, jazinn@cox.net

Seed Fund... Michael Ludwig; 6040 Upland Street San Diego, CA. 92114-1933; claytonmkellyseedfund@yahoo.com

Slide Library... Charles Jaros, 106 Pine Valley Ct. DeBary, FL 32713; 407-687-5621; cjbegonia@yahoo.com

Unidentified Species (U Numbers)... Co-Chairs: Charles Jaros, 106 Pine Valley Ct., DeBary, FL 32713 407-687-5621; cjbegonia@yahoo.com

Mary Bucholtz, 1560 Lancaster Terr., #1008, Jacksonville, FL 32204; 904-353-9111

