



THE  
**BEGONIAN**

July August 2017

# 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.

---



At the recent ABS Convention in San Antonio, TX, the Best of Show winner was this *B. "Judy Cook"*, Division F, Rex Cultorum. Congratulations to Sonda Justice, who grew and exhibited this plant.

Photo by Malcolm McCorquodale

---

ABS Online at: <http://www.begonias.org>

The webmaster's email address is:  
[webmaster@begonias.org](mailto:webmaster@begonias.org)

### Editor, Art Direction and Design:

**Linda Tamblyn**, 5635 Woodward St.,  
 Merriam, KS 66202; 913-231-1020;  
[begoniaskc@yahoo.com](mailto:begoniaskc@yahoo.com)

### Consulting Editor: Jan Brown,

[begoniabrown@yahoo.com](mailto:begoniabrown@yahoo.com)

### Nomenclature Editor:

**Kingsley Langenberg**, 3293 Country Lane,  
 Waukegan, IL; 847-336-9104,  
[kingsley.langenberg@gmail.com](mailto:kingsley.langenberg@gmail.com)

### Editorial and Identification Assistance:

**Charles Jaros, Tom Keepin, Jem Wiseman**

### Advertising Staff:

#### Display Ads:

**Linda Tamblyn**, [begoniaskc@yahoo.com](mailto:begoniaskc@yahoo.com)

### Holiday Greetings:

**Frances Drescher**, 11529 Riverchase Run  
 West Palm Beach, FL 33412; 561-625-5404;  
[fkdrescher1@comcast.net](mailto:fkdrescher1@comcast.net)

*The Begonian* is published bimonthly by the **American Begonia Society, Inc.** at The Sheridan Press, 450 Fame Avenue, Hanover, PA 17331 USA. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the society, its officers, or the editor. Contents, except where labeled otherwise, may be reprinted without limitation, provided credit is given to *The Begonian*, magazine of the American Begonia Society. Contact: American Begonia Society, P.O. Box 471651, San Francisco, CA 94147-1651.

**Membership** (subscription) \$25, US, Mexico, and Canada. \$45, Overseas airmail except Mexico and Canada. Added member, same household, no charge. Consult Membership Chairman for sustaining, benefactor, and life membership dues. U.S. currency only. Back issues (current volume) \$2.50. Paypal accepted. Membership dues may be paid online at: <http://www.begonias.org/membership/membershipBenefits.htm> or mail membership dues to:

#### **Paul Rothstein**

5 Sandwick Dr  
 Bella Vista, AR 72715

Membership - Send inquiries about address changes, missing copies, dues, subscription, back issues and circulation to Membership Chair, Paul Rothstein, 5 Sandwick Dr, Bella Vista, AR 72715; [paroon2001@yahoo.com](mailto:paroon2001@yahoo.com).



The Cambridge Science Festival pg 128



Examples of good show plants pg 132



Some thoughts on *B. pteridiformis* seed pg 132



*B. sleumeri* one of the smallest of all South American begonias pg 138

# Contents

- 124 President's Message
- 125 ABS Award Recipients
- 125 ABS 2017 National Board Meeting
- 126 Proceedings of the ABS Board Meeting
- 128 Buxton Branch of the ABS Participates in the Cambridge Science Festival
- 130 New Registration: *B. 'Carmel Browne'*
- 132 Qualities of a Good Show Plant - Judges' Corner
- 134 Lucy, the Begonia of The Wild West
- 136 A Word with You: Phenology
- 138 The Begonias of Calilegua National Park, Argentina
- 144 'Sports'
- 146 *B. pteridiformis* Seed Dispersal
- 147 Pubescent v. Rugose?
- 149 Begonias at Longwood Garden
- 150 Chinese Begonias at the Liuzhou Humanities Arts Center
- 155 2017 Holiday Greetings Challenge: Donate "Champagne"!
- 156 ABS Bookstore

**Cover photo:** Aberrant form of *B. jingxiensis*, sensu lato

Photo by Wallace Wells. More beautiful Chinese Begonias on page 150.

**Back cover:** *Begonia micranthera* growing as an epiphyte in northern Argentina.

See page 138 for article.  
Photo by Dr. Mark Tebbitt

**Dear Friends/Colleagues:**

As an active member of the American Begonia Society (ABS) on the branch level, and now an outgoing President of the Society, the importance of the continued success of our organization has become clearer to me than ever before. Our Society is still the main source for begonias and how to care for them. Yes, there are forums and blogs available, and an Internet search will get us at least some information on a few kinds of begonia hybrids. And some rare begonias can indeed be found and ordered online. But in a frequently hectic, impersonal world, this is not enough for me. The ABS is the place to personally meet, learn, and share with other like-minded individuals. You can run your fingers through potting mix recipes, feel the texture of the leaves, see the real colors, and shake a decent person's hand. And when you least expect it, that special begonia you've always wanted arrives in the form of a cutting, gift, or opportunity table selection. The ABS has been my home for eight years now, and I deeply appreciate what the Society has given me in friendship and knowledge, and I've enjoyed the opportunity to at least try and return the same.

**President's Message**

At the end of this summer we will have a new Executive Board and renewed enthusiasm. It will be a time of change that will bring challenges and opportunities. We'll need to embrace some change if we're to adapt and grow. Please continue your ABS membership as your active participation, positive input, and firm support will be needed if we are to meet the challenges ahead and to continue to learn and share all we can about these beautiful and exotic plants that we all love so much.

Thank you, officers, members, and friends of the American Begonia Society. Thank you for the opportunity to serve an organization that deserves to grow and prosper and, indeed, will grow and prosper with your continued participation. It's been a privilege being your President and I want to thank you for all your support. I know that you will give our new President and Executive Board the same warm support you gave me. See you all in the near future.

In Friendly Contact,  
Martin E. Delgado

---

---



**Mountain Orchids**  
[www.mountainorchids.com](http://www.mountainorchids.com)  
8 Pierce Rd, North Springfield, VT 05150  
(802) 245-3159

Select *Begonias*, small-growing *Orchids*, & other choice plants



## *ABS Award Recipients*

Congratulations to the winners of the following ABS Awards!

Antoon Hoefnagels - Herbert P. Dyckman Award (Fig 1); Bobbie Price - Marge Lee Award (Fig 2); Jacky Duruisseau - Eva Kenworthy Gray Award (Fig 3); Walter Dworkin, B. "My Special Angel" - Alfred D. Robinson Medal (Fig 4); Sandy Justice - Rudolf Ziesenhenn Award (Fig 5).

To see previous winners or to submit a nominee for the 2018 Awards, please visit the ABS website at: <http://www.begonias.org/about/awards>

## **ABS 2017 National Board Meeting**

The Delaware Valley Branch is pleased to host the fall 2017 ABS Board Meeting on September 22–23 at the Desmond Hotel and Conference Center <http://www.desmondgv.com/> in Great Valley, PA. All

ABS members are welcome, but attendees are urged to make their hotel reservations early, prior to August 25. In order to obtain the special rate of \$149 per night they must do so by calling (800) 575-1776 and mention the ABS meeting. There will be an Executive Board meeting on Friday evening, with an open board meeting at 9 am. on Saturday morning. On Saturday afternoon there will be a tour of world-renowned Longwood Gardens ([www.longwoodgardens.org](http://www.longwoodgardens.org)), followed by dinner in the hotel restaurant.

Longwood Gardens will feature an outstanding display of Fall Blooms, with the recently restored Main Fountain Garden in full operation. At the end of the tour, be sure to check out the gift shop, which will be stocked with special begonias. To register for the tour, send a check for \$40 per person made out to "DVB-ABS" to Lois Keil, 62 W. Pickering Bend, Richboro PA 18954 prior to August 25.



Longwood Gardens - Main Fountain Garden

# Proceedings of the American Begonia Society Board Meeting

San Antonio, TX May 6, 2017

President Martin Delgado called the meeting to order.

Members present recited The Pledge of Allegiance.

The Aims and Purposes of the American Begonia Society (ABS) were read by 1st Vice President, Carol Orozco.

The proceedings of the September 10, 2016 ABS Annual meeting held in Hawthorne, CA were approved as published in the Nov/Dec 2016 issue of *The Begonian*, and thus were upgraded to minutes.

Treasurer, Carol Notaras, presented the financial report for August 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017. The beginning balance of the combined Seed Fund and General Fund was \$13,571.74. Income was \$59,117.86. Disbursements totaled \$44,825.92. The ending balance was \$27,863.68. Savings accounts beginning balance was \$244,941.33 and ending balance was \$229,000.48. Total ending balance of the combined savings accounts was \$236,863.89. Carol said that there has been no report for two years from the Seed Fund. She added that the sale of seeds has declined although they are offered on the website and listed in *The Begonian*. Upon completion, this report will be submitted for fiscal review.

## Report of the Executive Board:

The Executive Board approved the following actions:

Approved a recommendation by ABS Awards Chair, Cheryl Lenert, that having depleted the supply of medallions previously awarded to recipients of the Alfred D. Robinson Medal of Honor Award, they now be awarded a plaque instead of a medallion.

Approved the recommendation by the ABS Judging Committee to seek volunteers to work as back-up convention advisors in various positions for judging chairs. President Delgado stated that we will put a formal call for convention volunteers in *The Begonian*. He added and that we also need volunteers for various positions on the ABS board and committees.

The Executive Board discussed making changes to the ABS website in order to achieve a more appealing user-friendly website. Forward suggestions to President Delgado and incoming President, Sally Savelle.

The Executive Board discussed a proposal to have *The Begonian* Editor, Linda Tambllyn, write feature articles on business clients currently advertising in *The Begonian*.

## Reports of Standing Committees:

Bookstore Chair, Janet Brown, attributed the increase in funds this year to three new publications currently offered in the ABS bookstore bringing in a profit of \$2,375.00 for sale of new books. During the current convention in San Antonio, Dr. Rekha



## Steve'sLeaves.com

### Begonias, Gesneriads & Other Tropical Plants

Sign up for the Botanic Garden Club  
for specials, new introductions,  
and featured plants



Morris' and Dr. Freda Holley's new begonia books, were both sold out. She added that the next project will be to update current *The Begonians* 2012–2016 DVD series. Discussion followed on other means for transferring and storing the digital *The Begonian* files. A motion was made by Sally Savelle to explore a plan for distributing *The Begonian* with incoming Secretary Randy Montes Kerr, Editor Linda Tamblin, and Malcolm McCorquodale. Approved.

Publications Committee Chair, Dr. Freda Holley, recommended Board approval to reprint an additional 50 copies of the following books: *Begonia Hybridizing: A Primer*, *Begonia Hybridizing: By the Hybridizers*, *The Invisible Begonia*, and *Those Majestic Begonias: Growing and Hybridizing the Upright Rhizomatous Begonias*. She hopes to add new books on *Rexes* and new species. Approved

Hybrid Registrar, Priscilla Purinton, reported that during 2016, the American Begonia Society registered four new hybrid begonias. The registration information was published in *The Begonian*, the official magazine of the ABS. In the Jan/Feb 2016 issue, *B.* 'Sweet Caroline'; and *B.* 'April Love'; Mar/Apr 2016 issue, *B.* 'Smarty Pants'; Nov/Dec issue, *B.* 'Billie Jean'. Walter Dworkin hybridized all four begonias. Discussion followed on the reluctance of many hybridizers to register their begonias. If you have a hybrid you would like to register, contact Priscilla Purinton.

Kenny and Dianna Wilkerson, Liaison to ABS and Southwest Region to the Fort Worth Botanical Gardens (FWBG) reported on the begonia species collection. He explained that there has been a radical change in the manner that Deborah Garrett, Curator of the Begonia Collection, has access to funds for everyday expenses in support of the begonia collection. She is allowed \$1,000 for major purchases. He urged that donors donate specifically to the SWR fund which allows her to access funds for daily operating expenditures. \$21,830.00 was donated for the new greenhouse to be built to house the begonia collection and

will be funded by the City of Ft. Worth bond package. Deborah Garrett thanked everyone for their monetary support and plant material for the begonia collection.

#### **New Business:**

President Delgado reported that Branch Relations Chair, Tom Keepin, is currently in contact with a group interested in organizing a new ABS Branch in Colorado.

President Delgado said no new grant proposals were submitted during this period. He added that Dr. Mark Tebbitt went on a successful expedition to Argentina in January. His expedition reports will be forthcoming in *The Begonian*.

President Delgado thanked the Alamo Begonia Branch and the Southwest Region for their support in hosting the 2017 ABS Convention/SWR Get-together in San Antonio, TX.

President Delgado recognized *The Begonian* Editor, Linda Tamblin, for her many contributions. President Delgado called *The Begonian*, "an exquisite and beautiful work of art."

The nominations committee, comprised of Dr. Freda Holley, Janet Brown and Virginia Jens have selected candidates for the incoming ABS board. They include President, Sally Savelle; 1st Vice President, H.C. (Butch) McDole; 2nd Vice President, Stephanie Rose; Secretary, Randy Montes Kerr; and Treasurer, Carol Notaras.

Freda Holley and Cindy Moran from the Louisiana E-Branch invited everyone to attend the 2018 ABS Convention/SWR Get-together to be held in New Orleans, LA on April 2–8, 2018.

The Delaware Valley Branch will host the 2017 ABS Annual Meeting on September 22–23 in Delaware Valley, PA.

There being no further business, the meeting of the American Begonia Society stands adjourned.

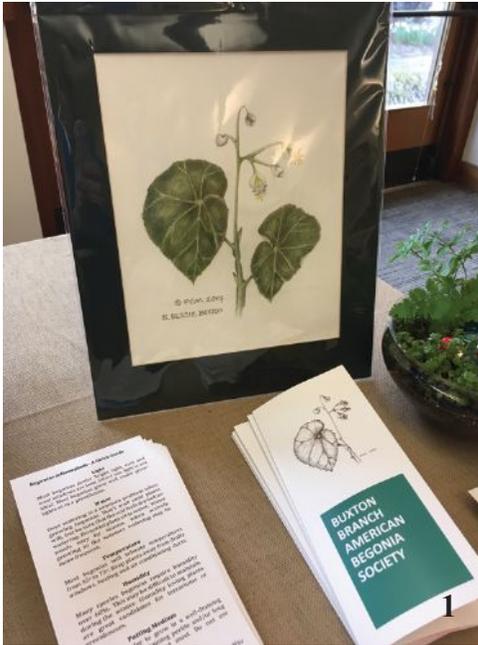
Respectfully submitted,  
Connie Saenz, Secretary

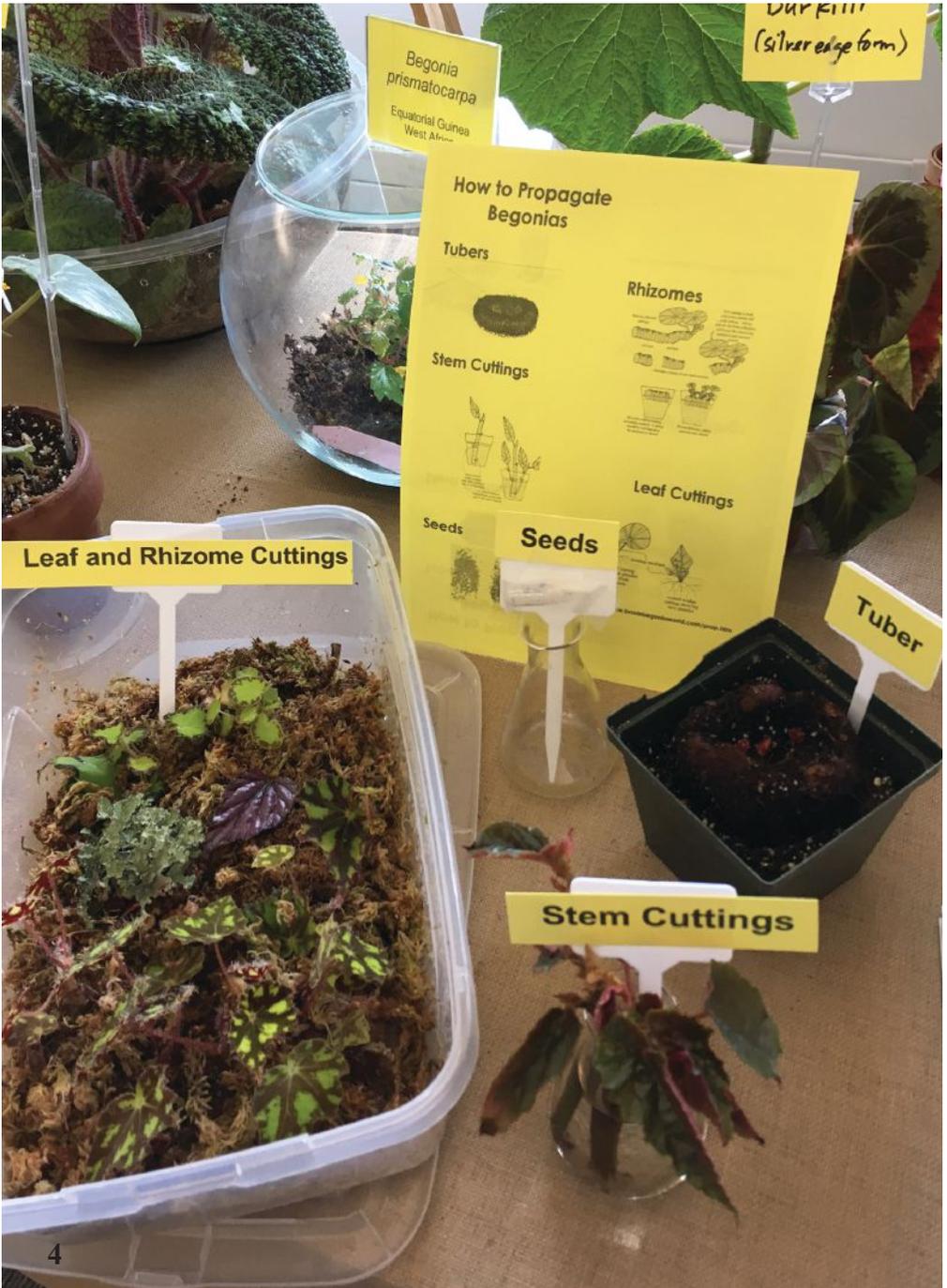
# Buxton Branch of the ABS Participates in the Cambridge Science Festival

By Betsy Szymczak, President Buxton Branch ABS

The Cambridge Science festival, a 10-day event designed to inspire kids and adults to celebrate science and to encourage curiosity and exploration. This annual event is sponsored by Boston area universities, museums, and companies.

This year, organizers reached out to partners outside of Cambridge and Boston. Tower Hill Botanical Garden in Boylston MA, site of the Buxton annual fall show, invited us to participate in a day-long program “Bringing Horticulture into Your Home”. On April 22, we teamed up with The Gesneriad Society, New England Chapter and joined other plant and garden related groups to display plants and provide lectures. Our theme was “Where in the World Do You Find Begonias and Gesneriads?” Members provided about two dozen species begonias for the display. A large world map was labeled with country of origin for each species. A propagation demonstration and Rick Fadden’s vermicomposter completed the display. This was a great opportunity to share science, history, and our love of begonias. We may, also, have attracted some new members. In addition to Rick we had help from Phyllis Savage, Wanda and Dick Macnair, Himanshu Oberoi, Linda Kammerer, and Mary Beth Hayes.





A promotional brochure and other informational materials were available from the Buxton Branch at the Festival (Fig 1); Terrariums, showcasing the beauty of species begonias, were put on display (Fig 2); A hardworking crew pulled this excellent display together, L to R (Fig 3) Mary Beth Hayes, Dick Macnair, Wanda Macnair, Rick Fadden, Betsy Szymczak, Phyllis Savage. Not in photo: Linda Kammerer and Himanshu Oberoi. Educational exhibit of begonia propagation (Fig 4).

# New Registration: *B.* ‘Carmel Browne’

From Priscilla Purinton,  
Hybrid Registrar

## Official International Registration #1021

*Begonia* ‘Carmel Browne’

Seed parent: *B.* ‘Virginia Jens’

Pollen parent: *B.* ‘Green Velvet’

Hybridized by Tom Keepin, 4513 Randwick Drive, Houston, TX 77092

Developed in 2003 and first distributed in 2005. Tested by Don Miller of Dallas, TX and also by Carmel Browne of Queensland, Australia. Registration applied for May 16, 2016 and approved March 6th, 2017.

*Begonia* ‘Carmel Browne’ is a rhizomatous begonia. This hybrid will grow to about one foot in diameter, but the height can vary as the creeping rhizome occasionally decides to change course and grow upright. The greenish bronze leaves have red backs and a red spot where the petiole attaches.

Each leaf has nine main veins and a sparsely hairy surface. The size is approximately 4" by 5". Leaf shape is ovate and parted, with an acute tip and cordate base. The margin is cleft, toothed, and has short hairs. Petioles are usually 6" to 8", red, and covered with short hairs. Stipules are 0.25" wide and long with a distinct point. They are a translucent rosy red with red veins and have hairs on the keel.

Male flowers have 2 oval tepals that are light pink to pink. The inflorescence can have 24 to 50 flowers. Female flowers have 2 to 3 oval tepals and are a lighter color, white to blush pink, with 12 to 28 flowers on each inflorescence. Male flowers are 0.5" in diameter and female flowers are 0.75". The blush pink ovaries are 3 winged, with 1 wing larger than the others.

The 12" to 18" peduncle holds the blooms well above the foliage. This plant is a generous bloomer; a plant in an 8" pot had 12 flower stalks! Bloom time is late winter to early spring.

*Begonia* ‘Carmel Browne’ is very hardy and easy to grow. The unique growth habit, as well as the unusual leaf shape and texture, make this an easily recognized plant. It is heat tolerant and well suited to be grown in the ground or in a pot. It is currently being grown in the US as well as France, Australia, and Holland. If you would like to invite this lovely lady into your life, she is available from Steve’s Leaves of Lewisville, TX.



*B.* ‘Carmel Browne’ inflorescences at the Ft. Worth Gardens (Fig 1);  
*B.* ‘Carmel Browne’ (Fig 2)  
Photos by Don Miller



## Westchester Begonia Society 58th Annual Begonia Show & Sale

Saturday, July 15, 2017 9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Covenant Presbyterian Church,

6323 W. 80th Street Los Angeles, CA 90045

The Westchester Branch of the American Begonia Society is proud to present its 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Begonia Show and Sale this coming summer on Saturday, July 15, 2017. The exciting Westchester event is the only judged begonia show in Southern California and will not only showcase begonias but ferns, orchids, bromeliads, aroids and other shade loving plants.

An excellent selection of rare and beautiful begonias - species & hybrids - and other plants and gifts will be available for purchase. Special feature – A display of lovely gesneriads by the Culver City Gesneriad Society

Admission is free, and free parking is widely available. Always a good time, everyone is welcome!

Contact:

Martin E. Delgado, Show Chairman, (562)  
310-8380; mdlibrarian@consultant.com

# Taylor Greenhouses

Established 1984

**9228 Matthews Rd.  
Portland, NY 14769**

[www.taylorgreenhouses.com](http://www.taylorgreenhouses.com)

Printed list available for \$1.00

**Over 400  
Varieties of Begonias**

Also Streptocarpus, Exotics, Herbs

# Qualities of a Good Show Plant

While filing a box of begonia papers, we found a paper titled Judging Considerations. The information on the sheet gives a good, concise description of the characteristics of a good show plant. If anyone knows who wrote this collection of considerations, please let us know so that we can give credit to the author. This information can benefit growers, exhibitors, and judges. The information in parenthesis is information we have added that pertains to exhibiting plants in an ABS show.

## Judging Considerations:

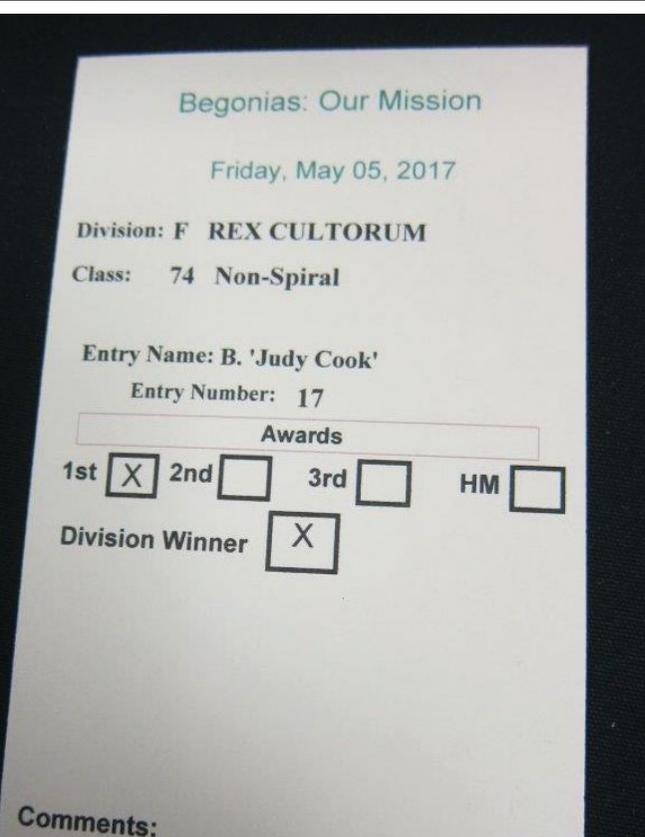
**Plant Identification:** The correct botanical name is present and legible.

[At ABS judged shows, labels must be removed from the pot or pushed down into the soil in the pot. The botanical name should be placed on the entry sheet and entry card.]

**Cultural Perfection:** The apical tip is present. Foliage is not damaged and overall specimen is well colored and formed. There is an expected variety of sizes of new begonia foliage versus the older developed leaves. The plant should be healthy and vigorous.

[The apical tip may be removed from the main stem or stems to encourage branching.]

**Foliage:** The foliage should be full





and abundant on most begonias. Those with typical or genetic sparseness of foliage should not be faulted. There should be no damaged foliage. Minor damage may be trimmed if following the form of the leaf and it must not be obvious. Trim just before a show to prevent a callous edging from forming.

**Stem:** The stems and petioles should be clean and undamaged. Even distribution of stems will create a balanced plant.

**Color:** The color is bright, clear, and unmarred and typical of the specific cultivar/species. Coloration patterns in the leaves might differ from one leaf to the next and the new growth may be different in color from that of the mature growth.

[Growing conditions and light can also affect color.]

**Quantity/Quality of Blooms:** A blooming begonia will have fairly even placement of blooms and a sufficient amount depending on the genetics of the plant. The colors should be clear and even with heavy substance.

[If it is not the blooming season for a variety, points should not be deducted. Semperflorens, Reiger, Chiemantha, boliviensis and its hybrids, and Tuberhybrida begonias must be in flower to be exhibited.]

**Form:** (overall) Is the plant balanced? Generally, the form of the plants is globular and compact in the rhizomatous types and upright and more full in the cane types. The forms of species vary within their genetic makeup.

**Substance:** The leaves must be fresh and have firm form.

**Texture:** Leaves may be smooth, ruffled, puckered, and crested on the edges or have a waxy, shiny or mat surface. Some have prominent veining in their foliage.

**Size:** This can be variable from the new growth to the mature growth with each leaf becoming slightly larger. It should be representative of the cultivar or species.

**Health/Blemishes:** Deductions are made as appropriate if the foliage or the stem/petioles are damaged with scars, tears, blemishes, etc.

[Plants must be free of disease or pests. If any are found, the plant will be removed from the show.]

**Grooming:** Foliage damage should be trimmed, if possible. The soil and container should be clean. If ignored, then a minor penalty is applied. No dust should be on the foliage. No detached, loose or dried stipules should be present, but plants with dry, non-deciduous stipules should not be penalized.

**Staging:** A container of a suitable size for the exhibited plants should be used. The container should be of a neutral color to enhance the begonia and not distract from it. If the begonia is a trailing type, a suggested staging would be on a riser to show this favorable trait. Staking and tying are very important requirements for some varieties. Stakes should not go above the foliage and should be unobtrusive and in scale to the plant.

Charles Jaros [cjbegonia@yahoo.com](mailto:cjbegonia@yahoo.com)

Johanna Zinn [jazinn@cox.net](mailto:jazinn@cox.net)

# *Lucy, the Begonia of The Wild West*

*Article and photos by Jim Nichols, Casper, WY*



In the summer of 2015, a neighbor friend in Cody, WY was moving, and giving away several of her houseplants. Some may have been houseplants, but had somehow survived, out on her Wyoming porch, not exactly a hothouse in this land of April snows.

She asked me, “Would you like a plant?”, as she handed me a very interesting pot - colorful, and heavy ceramic. Rooted within was a pitiful and withered plant, with large, crisp leaves; maybe 12 inches in height, if it had been upright. I replied, “Sure....love to have it” What I did NOT say was, “Love to have that cool pot.”

Back home, intending to keep only the pot, I pulled on the stem of the plant, and the entire dried cylinder emerged intact, from within. The ball was 80% roots, 20% dusty soil. Rootbound is the term, I believe. For some reason, I felt a form of compassion for the neglected lifeform that had not really been given a chance to survive, to show its stuff.

I was soon in the Garden Shop of my local Walmart, buying a larger, pseudo-ceramic pot for my new orphan, and a bag of Miracle-Gro potting soil. Back home, as I carefully tapped the rootball, the powder fell away, and I gently shaped the roots into the form of a large white spider. “Welcome to your new home”, I said, as I tucked

the roots in between the layers of potting soil and tamped it down with the handle of my trowel. I then gave it two drinks of the Expert Gardener Plant Food-laced water, and set it on a small table next to a window with eastern sunlight. As it sat there, bereft of most of its dead leaves, it seemed to say, “I think I can....I think I can...”

As they say in the old movies, time passed, and within that time - a year or so - I had a healthy, lush plant, in its new plastic pot, proudly standing 3 feet tall. This is the plant a lady visitor saw one day, and told us, “What a fine begonia. Does it ever bloom?”

“Ah ha!” Up until that day, I had no idea that it was a begonia. Until that day, I thought “Begonia” was the name of a robust woman who sang the blues in a club in the French Quarter. A begonia. And no, it had not bloomed - yet.

Only a few weeks later, I noticed a tiny flower on the plant. “Yay, a bloom!” Not quite, rookie. This was just the beginning. The bloom continued to develop for weeks with numerous tiny pink-petal flowers and yellow-gold pistils(?) in the center of each. I counted 24. It was the size of a softball. I was amazed.

That was a year ago. The plant is now 5 feet tall, and recently bloomed, again! Time to google this big, green sucker. What did I have here? In my laptop googling, I discovered the website for the American Begonia Society. “They have a Society?” Yes, and the Society has a Nomenclature Editor, a fellow named Kingsley Langenberg. Using a section offering a spot for questions and comments, I told my story to Mr. Langenberg, and using my SmartyPants Droid phone camera, I sent him a few photos. Then I waited.

The very next day, I received a lengthy reply, and was stunned to learn that what I had rescued that fortunate day, was, quote, “a magnificent specimen of *Begonia* ‘Lucerna’, one of the oldest hybrids still in cultivation, today. ... a piece of a plant that was created in 1892, known as a shy bloomer, and, one that many growers have never seen their own plant in bloom.” Holy Moly, Plantman!

My quest had come full circle, in the shape of a lovely flower. My serendipity effort in rescuing the failing plant had been rewarded, beyond my imagination. My penchant for rescuing old cars, rusty tools, firearms, broken furniture, and stray dogs, had paid off again.

At Kingsley’s suggestion, I will prune (as in, decapitate) my tall *B.* ‘Lucerna’, now nicknamed “Lucy” (with a nod to Charlie Schultz). Either prune it, or cut a hole in our ceiling (wife frowns).

From the cutting, I will attempt to root several new Lucy’s, for various friends. In this way, the shy ‘Lucerna’ will live on. It’s come this far - 125 years - why stop now?

Wish me luck. I may even go lineup a TV commercial gig, for Expert Gardener Plant Food.



*B.* ‘Lucerna’, “Lucy” (Fig. 1), happily outgrowing her position in an east-facing window. Pruning is in her future.

After weeks of growing to the size of a softball, the blooms (Fig. 2) finally opened!

From a plant that was near death to these lush, large green leaves, my *B.* ‘Lucerna’ has piqued my interest in the genus *Begonia*.



What climate signal triggers bloom on  
this *B. longipetiolata*?  
Photo by Jacky Duruisseau

## A Word with You: *Phenology*

By Claudia Goodridge, New Haven, CT

As I write, it's spring, leaves are emerging, and I'm waiting for our boxwood to finish blooming and the temperatures to warm up enough to cause the boxwood leaf miners to morph into the flies that can be dispensed with, and hopefully preserve the hedge. Leaf miner damage is obvious and ugly. Spray too soon and I impact the pollinators, and they're in well documented trouble; too late, and I don't get the flies. It hadn't occurred to me that there was a term for my watch; but there is, *phenology*, the study of cyclical or seasonal phenomena, especially as it relates to climate and plant and animal life; studying the emergence of leaves, flower bloom time, bees' emergence for pollination, bird migration, animal hibernation, and their relation to climate and season.

*Phenology.* Mr. Webster says it's a contraction of phenomenology. Other sources say it's a combination of the Greek *phaino*, meaning show or appear, and the Greek *ology* or the study or science of. *Phenology* is watching Mother Nature's calendar, and that is usually fairly predictable. It used to function almost like clockwork. But documented disruptions are occurring. Disrupt that predictable timing even a bit and we disrupt the species dependent on that

timing, including our own. Part of me wonders who depends on those boxwood miner flies.

The timing is natural, but knowing when, or taking Mother Nature's pulse, is critical to our decisions to plant, manage pests, harvest crops, collect seeds. For begoniacs, *phenology* dictates when our specimens go outside for the summer, when they come back in, when we fertilize, when we pot on, and myriad other begonia tasks. I do informally study seasonal phenomena. With this new vocabulary word, and my research on it, it makes sense to formalize my study a bit and actually take notes on exactly when garden and begonia phenomena occur. We all have at least a mental calendar for these garden and begonia events. Let's hope Mother Nature's is the same.



*Begonias Gesneriads*  
*Rare Flowering Plants & Vines*

**Kartuz**  
**Greenhouses**

1408 Sunset Dr.  
Dept. B, Vista, CA 92081-6531  
760-941-3613

Please visit our online catalog:

[www.kartuz.com](http://www.kartuz.com)



*Commander's Palace*



*New Orleans Restaurants  
Antoine's*



*Galatoire's*

## ***ABS Convention/SWR Get-Together New Orleans, Louisiana May 2-8, 2018***

Plans for the 2018 Convention made great strides during the San Antonio meetings and the annual meeting of the Louisiana E-Branch in Hammond, LA the following weekend. Thanks to our many volunteers we now have a tentative schedule as follows: Monday is arrival day; Tuesday will be pre-convention tour and Wednesday convention tour (You won't want to miss these because they will give you glimpses of Louisiana outside the city.); Thursday will be a day of seminars and plant registration; Friday will be show judging and alternating tours into the city so judges don't miss out and ending with the plant sale and show opening; Saturday will be morning seminars and an afternoon of various business meetings with the evening awards banquet and auction; and Sunday will be a tour day visiting the best city sights. Evenings aren't forgotten - how about tour visits to one or more famous restaurants or maybe better, resident preferred ones? We promise you a full week! We hope to have this outline filled in early and posted on [www.begonias.org](http://www.begonias.org).

Our venue is the New Orleans Airport Hilton minutes from the airport and convenient for tours into and away from the city. Those who fly in can call for the free hotel shuttle bus while those hotel guests driving in will get free parking. Our special rates will be \$119. per night for up to 4 guests with either a king or two queen beds. Guests will receive a coupon for a discounted breakfast or you may take a quick walk to a nearby restaurant. Over the LA meeting weekend your convention co-chairs Cindy Moran and Freda Holley had a chance to inspect a quite spacious guest room which had a refrigerator and safe and you may request a microwave. Meeting facilities are large. You can make your reservations any time now by calling 1-880-872-5914 and mentioning ABS as our code. Soon I will post a special link on the ABS website for those who wish to make reservations via the internet.

At the Louisiana Branch meeting we had our annual sale and the plants brought by members of our fledgling branch promised that our 2018 Show will have some Louisiana competitors! We will be encouraging the entries by SWR members of plants by the region's hybridizers so we hope others can see what SWR has produced. If you have questions, call or email me: **Freda Holley**, [gehrtii@icloud.com](mailto:gehrtii@icloud.com), 318-251-2296.

***Laissez les bons temps rouler!***

# The Begonias of Calilegua National Park, Argentina

Mark C. Tebbitt, *California University of Pennsylvania, PA*  
and

Aldo Rubén Andrada, *Fundación Miguel Lillo, Tucuman, Argentina*

It was January 10<sup>th</sup> and we were about to visit Calilegua National Park in northwestern Argentina where we hoped to find the very rare *Begonia sleumeri*. This species is known from just three locations, all on the peaks of mountains in the far north of Argentina. Of these locations, the one at Calilegua National Park is the most accessible. Nevertheless, to reach even this site would require us to use horses and camp high up in the mountains. We couldn't wait, especially since this large, rugged park is home to not only a wide range of other begonias but also to spectacular wildlife, including jaguars, ocelots, and mountain lions. We had set aside five days of our two-week expedition to explore the park and study its begonias. There were five of us in total, with two other botanists, Hugo



Figure 1. One of the authors, Rubén Andrada, in the forest above San Francisco.

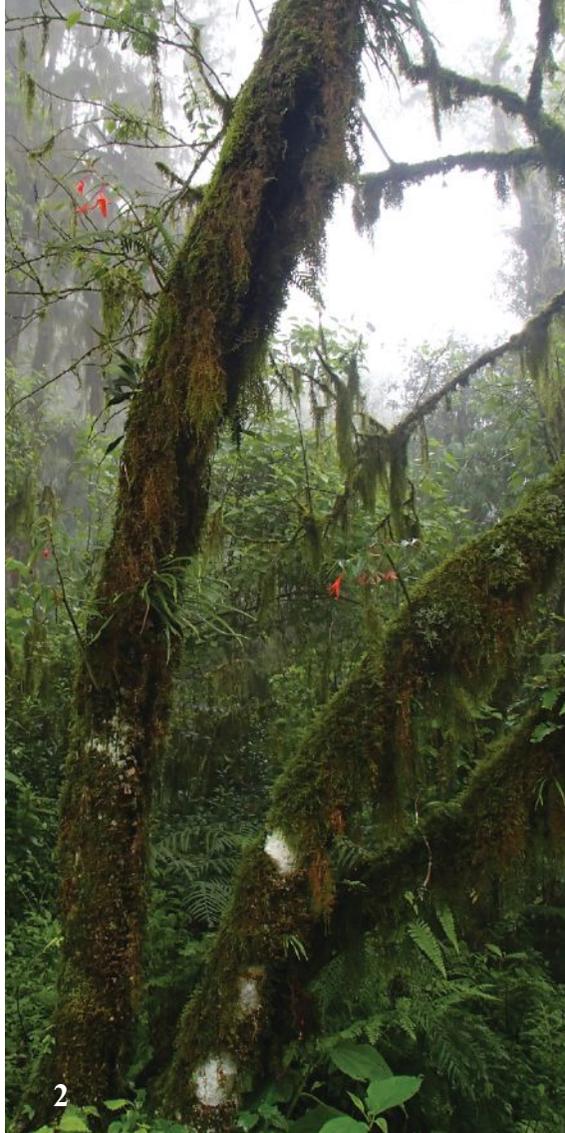
Figure 2. The scarlet flowers of epiphytic *B. boliviensis* appearing out of the fog.

Ayarde and Eva Bulacio, and our driver, Jorge Salas, making up the group.

Despite the prospect of visiting this begonia wonderland we were all in rather a subdued mood as we drove away from our hotel in the town of Ledesma towards the park. At breakfast, while watching the local news on TV, we had learned that the area where we had been collecting the day before had in the night been inundated by a large mudslide killing two people. This sobering news was a stark reminder of the dangers of visiting these mountains during the rainy season. Unfortunately, the rainy season is exactly when the begonias bloom, so there is little choice as to timing. Luckily we had stayed the night on the opposite side of the mountain range from where the tragedy had struck. Even here, 40 miles away, the same violent thunderstorm had been raging for hours and even now heavy rain continued to fall.

Our first stop of the day was a quick visit to the National Park's headquarters on the outskirts of town to let them know of our plans. From there it was just a 30-minute drive to the park's entrance. Once we reached the boundary of the park and began climbing up into the Andes

we started to see begonias. The first was scarlet-flowered *B. boliviensis*. Then, in common with the previous sites we had visited that week, this species was joined a little higher up the mountain by *B. micranthera*. But this is where the similarities stopped; at this location *B. micranthera* was highly unusual. Its flowers were pale yellow rather than the more usual white or pink. Despite the torrential rain we jumped out of the truck to study these wonderful plants. Turning over a flower to examine it, one of us (MT) dislodged a large bee that was hiding from the rain. It woke up grumpy and stung his arm – a jolt of hot pain amid the chill of the rainstorm. The combination of *B. boliviensis* and *B. micranthera* growing side by side continued for several miles. In a few places we even found hybrids between the two species. Further up the mountain road we found a few plants of *B. rubricaulis* and lots more *B. boliviensis*. Huge plants of the latter species hung from the wet roadside cliffs producing a fantastic display. Nowhere else had we seen *B. boliviensis* in such large numbers. Further along the road was an overhanging cliff where we were able to shelter momentarily from the torrential rain and examine a population of white-flowered *B. micranthera* growing out of the almost dry rock face. Despite this break from the storm, by the



time we reached the end of the road and the small mountain town of San Francisco we were soaked to the skin and shivering with cold. A change of clothes and a hot meal, however, did wonders to revive our spirits. After this late lunch we found a couple of rental cabins where we could all stay the night. We spent the rest of the day avoiding the rain - writing up our botanical notes and preparing for the next day's adventures.

The next morning we had arranged to hire horses that would take us higher up into the mountains. At 9 am we four botanists set out on horseback (Fig. 1), with our tents and food following on a fifth horse. The rain had finally stopped but a misty gloom softened the almost silent forest as we trudged along on our horses. When we stopped after a couple of hours to give the horses a rest we were thrilled to see *B. boliviensis*, which usually is a cliff dweller, growing on tree trunks as an epiphyte (Fig. 2). Further up the trail we saw white-flowered *B. micranthera* growing on all of the trees around a second rest stop (Fig. 3 ). Neither of us had ever seen this species growing on trees before. We

even saw a single plant of *B. rubricaulis* growing on a tree trunk (Fig. 4); this was a complete surprise and suggests that these forests are perpetually bathed in fog during the begonias' growing season.

Finally, after a couple of hours of trudging upwards the rainforest began to peter out and was gradually replaced by open grassland. One more hour and we reached our campsite in the pasturelands of



Alto Calilegua. The sun was now shining and we had a clear view of the surrounding mountains (Fig. 5). After setting up our tents we still had a few hours of daylight so the two of us decided to hike down to a beautiful limestone gorge (Fig. 6) to see if we could find any more begonias. Exploring the dry ridge top above this gorge, almost immediately we found a plant that we had hoped to locate. It was *B. micranthera* var. *rhacophylla* (Fig. 7). This plant had previously been collected here as well as in nearby Bolivia but has been little studied before. Our measurements and other observations will prove invaluable as we write our botanical description of this plant. In moister sites next to the stream was more *B. rubricaulis*. Here its leaves were pressed almost flat to the ground rather than held upright as they had been in the forest below. This difference in growth habit was presumably a response to the harsher conditions that it must experience here



---

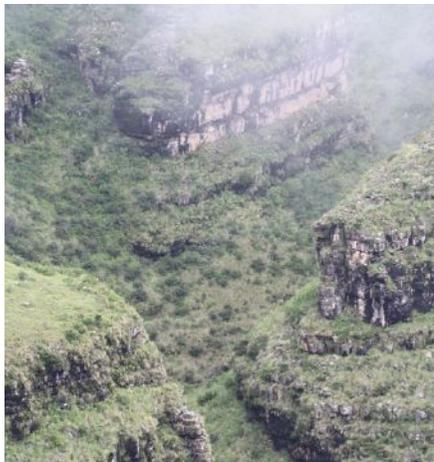
Figure 3. White-flowered *B. micranthera* growing as an epiphyte on *Podocarpus* trees (see also back cover).

Figure 4. *Begonia rubricaulis*, which is typically a streamside plant, growing on a tree.

Figure 5. The upper limit of the forest and our first view of the mountains.

Figure 6. This spectacular limestone gorge was home to three different begonias.

Figure 7 *B. micranthera* var. *rhacophylla*, growing among cacti.





4



5



6



7



at higher elevation. Remarkably, despite being common at Calilegua National Park *B. rubricaulis* had not, to our knowledge, previously been collected this far north in Argentina. In this same area we also found the dark pink-flowered *B. micranthera* var. *nana* (Fig. 8) which has never before been photographed (as far as we know) and nearby on the steep cliffs yet another distinct population of a white-flowered *B. micranthera*. After a couple of hours exploring the gorge we walked back up to the campsite for dinner. As we ate, darkness fell and the air became abuzz with hundreds of large dung beetles flying between the cowpats that dotted the grassland. Later that night we would be serenaded by the cows that grazed in these high pasturelands, their great bellows kept us awake for much of the night.



The next morning was clear and as we drank our morning coffee we could see the distant flat-topped mountain (Fig. 9) on which we hoped to find *B. sleumeri*. The hike up to this mountain was wonderful. The wildflowers were incredibly diverse and Eva and Hugo, who are experts on the flora of this particular mountain, pointed out species of new plants that they were in the process of naming. Added to this wealth of interesting plants, circling all around us were five magnificent Andean condors. These rare birds are seldom seen as they shun areas with large numbers of people. When we finally reached our destination we found the habitat there was a little different compared to that of the surrounding mountains. The landscape was composed of short grassy ledges and it was only here on these low cliff faces that *B. sleumeri* grew (Fig. 10). This plant is one of the smallest of all South American begonias. It has leaves the size of pennies yet its flowers are the typical size of a tuberous begonia's. It is a real gem. Unfortunately, it had just finished flowering so we had to content ourselves with studying the fruits, and after digging up a few plants, their unique tubers. In doing so we greatly increased our knowledge of these poorly studied begonias. For MT this was a particularly exciting moment since it was the culmination of 12 years of studies involving the Andean tuberous begonias. *Begonia sleumeri* was the last species he had needed to find in order to complete his botanical monograph.

The next day we hiked back down to San Francisco carrying our camping equipment on our backs. Thankfully the numerous begonias we encountered along the 10-miles of trail gave us plenty of excuses to stop and catch our breath. We made it back by late afternoon and after a short siesta finished the day in true Argentinian style with a large, late meal followed by folk music and dancing. As you can imagine, we all slept well that night.

**Acknowledgement:**  
This expedition was made possible by the financial support of the American Begonia Society and the Fundación Miguel Lillo (LIL). We are also grateful to Hugo Ayarde and Eva Bulacio (LIL) for sharing their knowledge of Argentinian begonia with us in the field and to Jorge Salas for driving us safely around northern Argentina.



Figure 8. *Begonia micranthera* var. *nana*.

Figure 9. *Begonia sleumeri* grew only on the summit of this flat-topped mountain.

Figure 10. The rarely photographed *B. sleumeri*.

## 'Sports'

Article and photos by  
Charles Jaros, DeBary, FL

**H**ave you ever noticed a portion of a begonia that differs from the rest of the plant? If so, then you have probably noticed a 'sport'.

The definition of a sport is part of a plant that shows morphological differences from the rest of the plant. Examples of a sport would be leaves that have different coloration or shape from the usual variety, blooms of a different color, or a branch that is noticeably different from the rest of the plant. 'Sports' that may be familiar to begonias growers are *B.* 'Erythrophylla Bunchii' and *B.* 'Erythrophylla Helix', both are sports of *B.* 'Erythrophylla' (commonly called the Beefsteak Begonia).

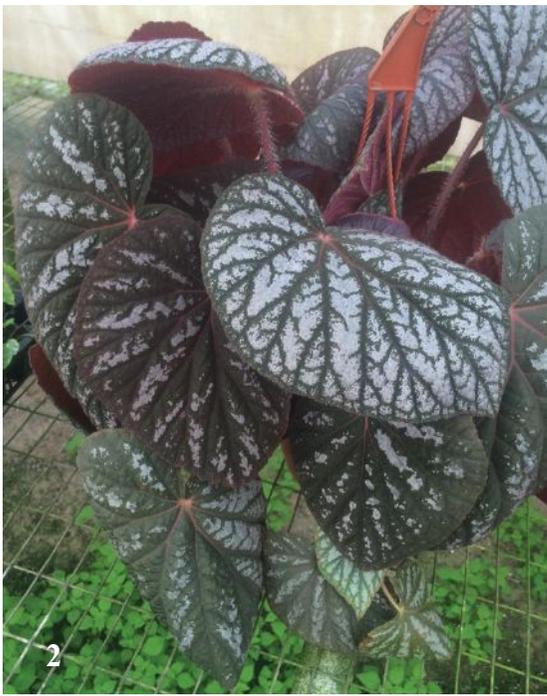
Do you have a new variety when these morphological differences occur? Often times yes, but propagation of that section of the plant is necessary to see if the offspring stay true to the



Figure 1: A sport of *B.* 'Thelma O'Reilly'; normally this begonia has pink stalks of flowers, but this sport has lovely yellow flower stalks (quite unusual). This is the second year of propagation and both leaf and rhizome propagation have resulted in the same yellow flowering stalks. It has been named *B.* 'Yto'. Now it is being tested to see if the pollen and seed are viable, if so hybridizers will be flocking to this lovely begonia. This 'sport' was developed by Merle DeLand.

Figure 2: The plant is *B.* U501. The normal leaves are to the right of the picture and are heavily silvered. The 'sport' on the plant has a significantly reduced silver color and is much darker in appearance (the left side of the picture). This 'sport' is in the process of its propagation testing by Harmony Foliage.

Figure 3: This is a begonia that has the 'sport' growing within the host plant. The solid leaf color is *B.* 'Madame O'Reilly' and the mottled leaf is the new sport that has been tested and given the name *B.* 'Harmony's Sporty Madame'. This 'sport' was developed by Harmony Foliage.



‘sport’. Depending on the type of begonia, this is done by stem, rhizome, or leaf propagation. It is best to repeat this propagation process at least two times to be sure that results stay true to the ‘sport’. Often times it will revert back to the original plant and in this case it is not a viable ‘sport’. But, if the sport propagates identically, then you and nature have created a new variety and a name can be attached to it. So when looking at your plants keep an eye out for something out of the ordinary - you may have a ‘sport’.



## *B. pteridiformis* Seed Dispersal

Article and photo by Randy Montes Kerr, West Hollywood, CA

*Begonia pteridiformis*' minutely hirsute female flower is unique, in my experience, and attractive in form. The distinctive wing, commonly found above a begonia's female flower/ovary, its papery seedpod, is absent in *B. pteridiformis*. And the side wings are much reduced.

Most begonias produce wing bearing, papery, dehiscent, seedpods. Dehiscent is when a mature seed pod splits, along weakened seams, to allow seed release. A few, rare, species produce colorful baccate fruit for consumption, and seed dispersal, by beasties with legs, six or four, and sometimes wings, just two. But, I digress.

Dehiscent seed pods, the kind usually seen, can be generally divided into two types: 1) those with one big wing on top, two smaller wings to the sides, versus, 2) those with three approximately equal sized wings, or larger side wings. These two forms are to better facilitate, 1) dispersal by wind, boosted by big top wing, directing seed slinging, pod movement and 2) dispersal by raindrops where rain drops strike the side wings pushing the seed pod down which then rises up like an catapult to disperse its seed. Rain released seed is more likely to discover a nicely moist creche. While wind released seed may travel farther.

When growing a begonia of unknown origin or lineage, noting the form of the female flower can give a hint as to that begonia's preferred cultural conditions. A bigger top wing suggests a greater tolerance for less humid, drier, condi-

tions. While equal or larger side fins suggests adaption to abundant rains.

*B. pteridiformis* has exchanged its top wing for a funny hat. Its side wings are puny. And it bears no fruit. What gives?

I believe this unusual flower form is an adaption to cliffside living. When rainwater torrents are downward racing, a water shedding pointy hat is better than a sail. Moreover, cliffside winds are stronger than those flatlanders face. Flower wings may catch more wind than they can handle.

Finally, seed of a cliff dwelling species, like *B. pteridiformis*, is going to be dispersed primarily according to gravity, with occasional up racing winds sending seed to high places. Big wings have little potential to alter the balance of that fundamental equation.

Thus, I believe that *B. pteridiformis* is not subject to the evolutionary pressures that shape three-winged seed pods to facilitate rain or wind powered seed spreading.

I am most grateful to Darrin Norton of MountainsOrchids.com for providing me with this lovely specimen. It has thrived in an akadama medium, continuing to grow and branch even while blooming. Akadama is a Japanese clay like mineral often used in bonsai, with a pH of about 6.7. I chose this medium because its airy nature comports with a cliff dweller's less substantial growing medium. I think the higher pH should suit a limestone native species, like *pteridiformis*.

*B. pteridiformis*' hocking jar home is always partly, slightly, open which allows the akadama to go through regular drying

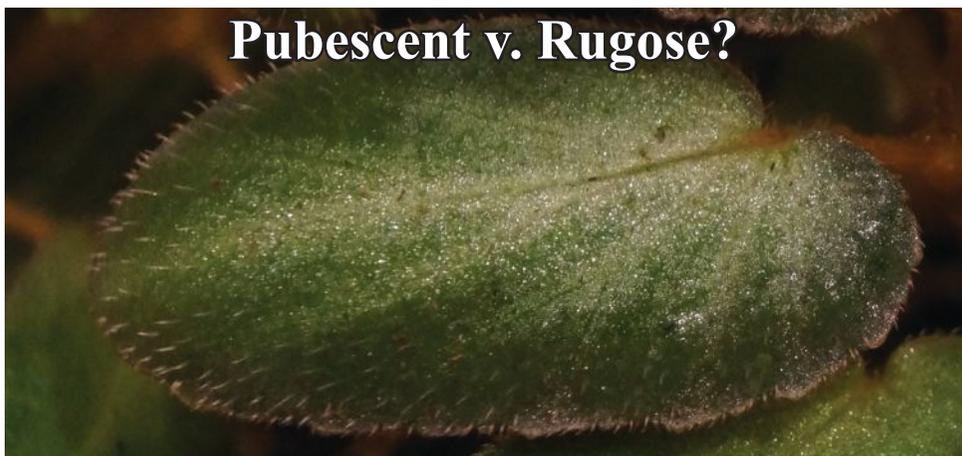
cycles while protecting the flowers from excess humidity which is a frequent peril for terrarium species. Persistent high humidity can lead to loss of maturing female seedpods due to fungal infection. Concentrated masses of energy and nutrition, female flowers are very attractive to pests. Happily, *B. pteridiformis* readily propagates from a single, complete, leaf when laid upon not too damp chopped long fiber Sphagnum moss, previously sterilized with boiling distilled water, in a contained high humidity environment - in other words, a sealed, fungus free, terrarium. A sterile potting mix, not too wet, should also work. Happy Growing!



Female *B. pteridiformis* flower

---

## Pubescent v. Rugose?



*B. thelmae* - is the leaf surface pubescent or rugose?

---

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

---

**Last month's answer to Picture Quiz  
Adventitious or Acaulous?**

**ANSWER:** ACAULOUS having no stem or very short stem.  
Adventitious describes growth that develops in places it's not expected.  
See the May/June 2012 issue for more.



*B.* 'Freddie' (Fig 1); *B.* 'Lotusland' (Fig 2); An orchid arch constructed with *Phalaenopsis* (Fig 3); *Phalaenopsis* (Fig 4); *B.* 'Moonstone' (Fig 5); *B.* 'Red Fred' (Fig 6); *B. mazaе* forma *nigricans* (Fig 7); One of the spectacular displays at Longwood Garden (Fig 8)

## *Begonias at Longwood Garden*

*By Charles Jaros, DeBary, FL*

**L**ongwood Gardens one of the premier Botanic Gardens in the United States is located in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania (35 miles from Philadelphia) on 1,077 acres and includes a fabulous conservatory. This private estate of Pierre S. DuPont began transformation from a private garden to a public garden after DuPont's death in 1954.

Changing displays in the conservatory showcase various plants so one can visit at various times of the year and always see different displays and plantings.

Longwood Garden has quite a collection of begonias. This collection came about as the U.S. Botanic Gardens began to downsize its begonia collection and offered the begonias to Longwood. This resulted in expanding the begonia collection at Longwood.

A visit to Longwood Gardens should be on any garden enthusiasts 'bucket list'. So, if you are in the Philadelphia area take the time to visit Longwood Gardens.



# Chinese Begonias at the Liuzhou Humanities Arts Center

Article and photos by Wallace Wells,  
New York City, NY

I was fortunate recently to have attended a botanical exploration of China as part of the Gesneriad Conservation Center of China. During the trip, we also saw many begonias. The flora of China is still undergoing classification and taxonomic analysis so many plants exist without any scientific names.

One of the more interesting stops we made was in the city of Liuzhou (name means



Chinese Begonias at the Liuzhou Humanities  
Arts Center in Guangxi, China

Fig 1. *Begonia circumlobata*

Fig 2. *Begonia henryi*

Fig 3. *Begonia cylindrica*

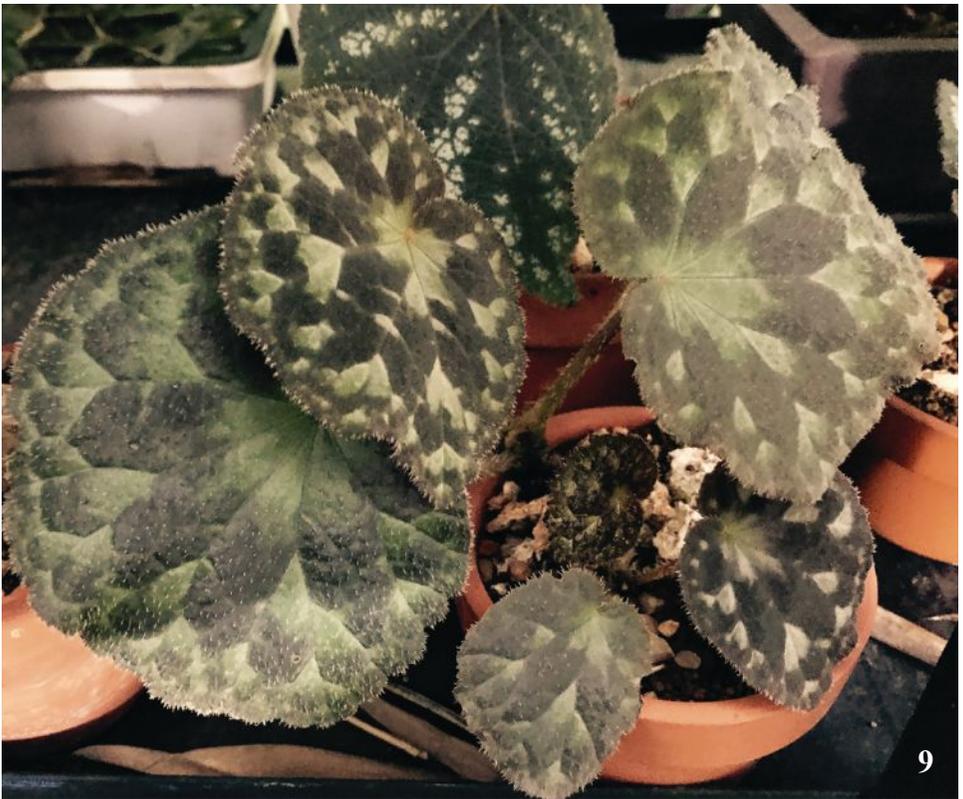
Fig 4. *Begonia picturata*

Fig 5. Outside of the Arts Center

Fig 6. *Begonia mashanica* (= *B. jingxiensis*,  
sensu lato)

Fig 7. *Begonia luzhaiensis*







“Willow City”) in Guangxi Province to the “Humanities Art Center.” The center is primarily a museum of carved stone but because the proprietor has botanical interest, it has a splendid display of Begoniaceae and Gesneriaceae. It is adjacent to a large market specializing in objets d’art made from carved or polished stone.

The pot tags were written in Chinese. Our docent Wen Fang PhD could identify a handful, but many of plants were not labeled. Hopefully some of these beauties will find their way West, perhaps with a “U” number!

**Acknowledgement:**

Thanks to Dr. Ching-I Peng, Biodiversity Research Center, Academia Sinica, No. 128, Sect. 2, Academia Road, Nangang, Taipei City, Taiwan 115, for identifying names of plants.

more on page 154



Fig 8. *Begonia luzhaiensis* (variant)

Fig 9. *Begonia* labeled as *barsalouxiae* (from Honduras) but probably *Begonia luzhaiensis*

Fig 10. *Begonia cathayana*

Fig 11. Arts Center founder Mr. Shi-Cho (L) and African Violet Society of America, President Winston Goretsky (R)



Fig 12. *Begonia bamaensis* or *jingxiensis*; Fig 13. *Begonia filiformis*

## 2017 Holiday Greetings Challenge: Donate “Champagne”!



Champagne for the holidays? Of course, and who better to suggest it than the Margaret Lee Branch? However, this time the members are not busy reaching for their favorite brand of bubbly, but instead are issuing a challenge to donate to this year’s Holiday Greetings at a brand new level — Champagne, for donations over \$300!

Donors to this fund are able to offer their holiday greetings while also supporting ABS. Thanks to your generosity, \$4,312 was donated last year! The money raised helps with the expense of printing *The Begonian* and in turn helps to keep the cost of dues down. Please help spread the word about this annual program and request that it be added to the agenda of your next meeting. It was good to see many branches increase their level of donation last year; maybe this year your branch could consider that, too. Champagne, anyone?

All donors will be listed by category of donation on a single page of the November/December issue. The donation categories are: **Bronze, 1-\$50; Silver, \$51-100; Gold, \$101-150; Platinum, \$151-300; and NEW for 2017: Champagne, \$301, plus!**

The contributions, which are tax-deductible, should be made out to ABS Holiday Greetings and sent to Frances Drescher, 11529 Riverchase Run, West Palm Beach, FL 33412. The deadline for donations is September 15th. If you have any questions, please contact Frances at [fkdrescher1@comcast.net](mailto:fkdrescher1@comcast.net). Thank you.

*Your ABS website offers a  
wealth of begonia information at  
**begonias.org**  
Check it out TODAY!*

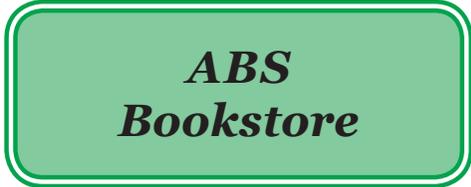


### Hobby Greenhouse Association

For people who grow plans & flowers in  
a greenhouse, windows and under lights.

Quarterly Magazine & Newsletter, Help & Advice  
Greenhouse & Supply Discounts

Dues: Magazine and Digital Newsletter \$35.00 yr.  
Digital Magazine & Newsletter \$ 15.00 yr.  
Visit us at our website: [hobbygreenhouse.org](http://hobbygreenhouse.org)



# ABS Bookstore

## Newest Freda Holley:

***Those Majestic Begonias, Growing and Hybridizing the Upright Rhizomatous Begonias***, by Freda Holley, 2017. This lovely book premiered at the Convention in San Antonio and sold out. But the next printing is ready for you. The front cover is a picture of magnificent *B. 'Rudy'*, one of the most beautiful of these stately begonias. Picture by Julie Vanderwilt of her plant. The book is 54 pages with many pictures. A must-have for anyone who "loves and grows begonias".

**Domestic: \$15.00; International: \$25.00**

## New for March:

***Species Begonias Of The Eastern Himalayas Of Arunachal, India***

by Dr. Rekha Morris, Feb. 2017, Published by The Dr. Cecilia Koo Botanic Conservation & Environmental Protection Foundation, Taiwan. Rekha spoke at the September Convention in Los Angeles about this book. It is a description of species collected by Rekha on her many trips to India and Arunachal. Beautiful pictures and descriptions of begonia species.

**Domestic: \$25.00; International: \$35.00**

## New at Convention:

***The Invisible Begonia: An Introduction to Begonia Genetics with My Experiences in their Use in Hobby Hybridizing***

by Freda Holley, August, 2016. Freda introduced this amazing book at her seminar at the convention, Sept. 8. You will learn how she creates her stunning hybrids, scientifically, and see the beautiful results in many full color photos. This is the third book in her hybridizing series and a 'must have' for beginning & established hybridizers as well as collectors. Proceeds go to the ABS Millie Thompson Publication Fund.

**Domestic: \$25.00; International: \$35.00**

**The first new ABS pin in many years** is now available just in time for your holiday giving. It was designed and produced by Cheryl Lenert. Surprise and delight begonia lovers on your list with this beautiful pin .

**\$10.00**

## ***Begonias Of The Month***

Written by ABS members. Compiled by Wendy Corby, 2015, 116 color pages sponsored by the Sacramento Branch and published through the ABS's Thelma O'Reilly Reprint Fund.

This booklet is a compilation of monthly write-ups by ABS members from 2000 through 2010. *Begonias Of The Month* includes a variety of begonias with information on the plant's origin and growing tips from that grower's experiences and locale.

**Domestic: \$20.00 International: \$30.00**

## ***Brad's Begonia World***

by Brad Thompson. Edited & Compiled by Wendy Corby, 2015.

A compendium of Brad Thompson's web page with 189 color pages of photographs, published through the ABS's Thelma O'Reilly Reprint Fund. The first section is on the different types of begonias. The second section is on the growing and care of begonias. The book is a wonderful set of articles to provide begonia enthusiasts with information and delight them with incredible full color photographs of your favorite begonias.

**Domestic: \$35; International: \$55**

## ***Understanding Begonia***

by Samuel Kennedy, Photographs & Art Work by Elizabeth Kennedy

Published in the United Kingdom, 2015, ISBN #978-0-9932897, 95 pages, full color photographs. First half of the book covers begonia history, types, sections, growing, fertilizing. Second half is devoted to growing tuberous begonias. A glorious book containing valuable information from the Jack Golding archives.

**Domestic: \$20.00; International: \$30.00**

## ***Begonia Note Cards***

featuring Begonias of Borneo found in the new Ruth Kiew book. **\$15.00**

## ***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)**

## ***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**

## ***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**

## ***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's last work. "...dedicated to the many who look at their Begonia but do not see the details."

**\$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**

## **The Begonian on DVD**

**#1 1934-1958**

**#2 1959-1979**

**#3 1980-2005**

**#4 2006-2011** (Jan/Feb. 2012 w/ 2011 Index) **NEW**

**Each DVD is 25.00**

**Set of ALL 4 *The Begonians* on DVD \$75.00**

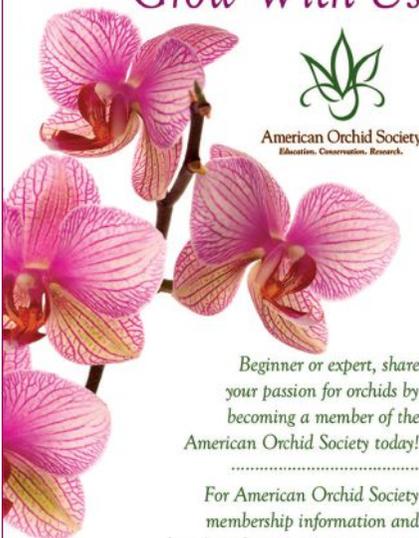
**To order:** Prices include domestic shipping. Send check payable to the American Begonia Society and your order to Carol Notaras, 2567 Green St., San Francisco 94123; cnotaras@sb-cglobal.net or order online at [begonias.org](http://begonias.org) by PayPal. For questions and availability, email, or call Book Store Chairman Janet Brown, [tenajbegonia@gmail.com](mailto:tenajbegonia@gmail.com); 310-670-4471

## **How Do Your Begonias Grow?**

Share your tips, tricks, success and failures, photos or questions with your fellow begonia lovers.

Send your submissions to  
*The Begonian* at:  
[begoniaskc@yahoo.com](mailto:begoniaskc@yahoo.com)

**Grow With Us**



  
**American Orchid Society**  
Education. Conservation. Research.

*Beginner or expert, share your passion for orchids by becoming a member of the American Orchid Society today!*  
 .....  
 For American Orchid Society membership information and benefits, please go to [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org), email [TheAOS@aos.org](mailto:TheAOS@aos.org) or call 561-404-2060. Refer to code **BEG2010**

**16700 AOS LANE, DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA 33446**  
**561-404-2000**

**The Begonian**  
**needs YOU!**  
 Email us with ideas, photos, tips, suggestions, or letters to the editor!  
[begoniaskc@yahoo.com](mailto:begoniaskc@yahoo.com)

**Digital version of**  
*The Begonian.*  
**Got Yours?**  
 Are you receiving your digital version of *The Begonian*? Make sure you have supplied your email address to Membership Chairman, Paul Rothstein at [parooan2001@yahoo.com](mailto:parooan2001@yahoo.com).


 Membership includes: Welcome package for new members; Quarterly issues of *Gesneriads*, the Journal for Gesneriad Growers; access to the Seed Fund; downloadable PDF copies of the journal

<b>Bob Clark, Dept. BG</b> <b>1122 East Pike St, PMB 637</b> <b>Seattle, WA 98122-3916 USA</b>	<b>Individual 1 year \$25, 3 years \$70 (\$30,\$85 outside US)</b> <b>Family 1 year \$26, 3 years \$73 (\$31,\$88 outside US)</b> <b>Green option (PDF only) 1 year \$20, 3 years \$55</b>
--	--

Visit us at: [www.gesneriads.org](http://www.gesneriads.org)

### Privacy Policy

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 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](http://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...** Martin E. Delgado, P.O. Box 39685, Downey, CA 90239; 562-310-8380; mdlibrarian@consultant.com

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

**1st Vice-President...** Carol Orozco, 4731 Lorelei Dr., San Antonio, TX 78229; plantnut45@att.net

**2nd Vice-President...** Sally Savelle, 65 High Pine Circle, Concord, MA 01742; 978-287-4837; sally.savelle@gmail.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

**Branch Relations...** Tom Keepin, 4513 Randwick Dr., Houston, TX 77092-8343; 713-686-8539; thomas.keepin@gmail.com

**Business Manager...** Doug Byrom, 1725 Brazos Bend Ave., Smithville, Texas 78957; 512-237-0390; douglasbyrom@gmail.com

**Conservation...** Johanna Zinn, 4407 Jensen Place, Fairfax, VA 22032; 703-323-7513; jazinn@cox.net

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

**Convention Co-chairs...** Martin E. Delgado, P.O. Box 39685, Downey, CA 90239; 562-310-8380; mdlibrarian@consultant.com; and Candace Nakanishi 714-995-9327; normlegend@hotmail.com

**Entries/Classification...** Vacant

**Facebook Manager...** John Boggan; dcbegonias@gmail.com

**Grants Committee...** Sally Savelle, 65 High Pine Circle, Concord, MA 01742; 978-287-4837; sally.savelle@gmail.com

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

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

**Internet Editor...** Malcolm McCorquodale; webmaster@begonias.org

**Internet Editor...** Malcolm McCorquodale; webmaster@begonias.org

## The Begonian September/October 2017

# Submissions Due July 21

Send YOUR photos,  
growing tips, and articles!  
begoniaskc@yahoo.com

**Judging...** Co-Chairs: Charles Jaros, 106 Pine Valley Ct., DeBary, FL 32713; 386-218-9833; cjbegonia@yahoo.com and Johanna Zinn, 4407 Jensen Place, Fairfax, VA 22032; 703-323-7513; jazinn@cox.net

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

**Membership...** Paul Rothstein, 5 Sandwick Dr., Bella Vista, AR 72715; paroan2001@yahoo.com

**Nomenclature...** Dr. Kathleen Burt-Udley, 6150 36th Ter N, Saint Petersburg, FL 33710-1716; kburtutl@uno.edu

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

**Parliamentarian...** Linda Lawson, 525 Terrace Place, Norman, OK 73069-5034; 405-524-1261 or 405-326-4566

**Public Relations...** Mary V. Early, 3629 Treadwell Dr., Oklahoma City, OK 73112; 405-943-2230 or 405-816-3394; mary.early@sbcglobal.net

**Publications Committee...** Freda Holley, 251 Pylant Rd., Choudrant, LA, 71227; 318-251-2296; gehrtii@icloud.com

**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; 386-218-9833; cjbegonia@yahoo.com

**Unidentified Species (U Numbers)...** Co-Chairs: Charles Jaros, 106 Pine Valley Ct., DeBary, FL 32713; 386-218-9833; cjbegonia@yahoo.com

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

