

Austin Area Begonia Society Branch *• of the American Begonia Society •*

VOLUME VII, NUMBER 6

NEWSLETTER

JUNE, 2013

MEETING:

JUNE 23, 2013

Greene Room

Austin Area Garden Center

2220 Barton Springs Road

Austin, TX 78746



Happy and Safe JULY 4TH

To all of you

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Yvonne Davin

Ken Fuchs

Freda and R. L. Holley

Jim Landers

DAN HEIMS OFFERED 4 BEGONIAS AT SATURDAY'S BANQUET AUCTION

Dan Heims serves as president of Terra Nova Nurseries in Canby, Oregon, where he has a distinguished breeding program with 600 new plants that he has created called the best of the best. He has been called an artist using different species instead of a paint brush. On Wednesday, May 29, from 7-9 P.M. he presented a seminar giving an overview of the Genus Begonia. He told how he experiments with plants to produce superior quality and strength, even better color and sometimes leathery leaves to tolerate the new climate change that the world is experiencing. He takes the genes of hard to grow begonias and works to make them easier to grow. During the auction he brought four beautiful begonias, which sold for hundreds of dollars, one selling for \$120. Two will be grown by the Wilkersons in Oklahoma.

Dan has been on HGTV in the USA and BBC in Britain. He has written a book and several articles for USA Today, Forbes, Better Homes and Gardens, Sunset Magazine, and Organic Gardens.

He has developed a line of Heuchera, pronounced HOY-ker-uh, better known as Coral Bells, a close relative to Tiarella or Foam Flower. Dan's new plants are named Peach Crisp, Sugar Plum, and Root Beer.

Harvest Burgundy has very tall upright stems with tiny pink bells close to the top.



MINUTES
AUSTIN AREA BEGONIA SOCIETY BRANCH
OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

MAY 26, 2013

President Doug Byrom presided during the Sunday, May 26, 2013, meeting at 2 P.M. in the Greene Room of the Austin Area Garden Center, 2220 Barton Springs Road.

After enjoying a variety of sandwiches and a fried chicken meal, Doug called the meeting to order at 2:25 P.M. He showed a frog that he had purchased as a surprise gift for Tom Keepin for assisting this society in getting a supply of begonias. —

Valerie Morris gave a report on the Zilker Garden Festival sales. The cost of two booths was \$400 paid last spring. JJ and L received \$640. Rental fee for a U Haul was \$16.18.

Sales on Saturday amounted to \$1626; Sunday \$788. Membership dues \$72. Doug was paid \$400 while Jim Estes spent \$184 for plants. This income was not as good as last year's sales.

Doug Byrom said that he is willing to serve as president, but the society needs a program chairman. Doug outlined his goals for the year. Especially do we need a program on the study of the species, plants from Baker's Acres can be purchased 72 to a mixture of plants in a flat, seeds can be planted, a challenge plant can be shown before and after, dead or alive, diseases and insects of begonia can be addressed again, plant swap can be educational, creating a garden in a pot, planting terrariums.

HORTICULTURE: Valerie Morris provided tips on keeping begonias alive during the summer. She recommended misting them and keeping the ground damp to provide coolness. She suggested that canes should be watered weekly and weakly to produce blossoms. These can be pruned anytime or late in the year.

In June the program will be on general growing of types of begonias or Growing Begonias 101.

Doug then talked about the convention: the place, the few involved, Betty and Rosa Godfrey stuffing the snacks in bags for the convention bag, Jim and Joan will place the Lady Bug Fertilizer in a plastic bag during registration, Silent Auction items, Reverse Raffle. Valerie Morris will install the officers for the Southwest Region.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Nelda Moore, Secretary

THE CONVENTION



Duck Tour to Great Outdoors
And the
Bob Bullock Texas State Museum

Charter Bus Tours:
Fredericksburg and the Wildseed Farms
Lady Bird Wildflower Center
The Natural Gardener
The Violet Show



Joan Ahrens, President of the Alamo Branch, with Name Tag created by Jim and Joan Estes



Speaker and Hybridizer Dan Heims



Johanna Zinn and ABS President Charles Jaros at the Banquet

Doug Byrom raffles some terrariums made by Wanda Macnair.



Carol and Peter Notaras at the Saturday evening banquet.

Below: Diana Wilkerson
at the convention.



Jim and Joan Estes with Tom Keepin.

OFFICERS OF THE SOUTHWEST REGION WERE INSTALLED JUNE 1ST

Valerie Morris installed the officers during the ABS/Southwest Region Business Meeting in the Holiday Inn Town Lake during the convention. Johnnie Shepard became the Director. She has served as secretary and treasurer of the Alamo Branch.

Vice Directors are Jim and Joan Estes of the Austin Area Begonia Society Branch. They have served on the 2013 Convention Committee, Registration, Booklet, Trophies, and Hospitality.

Others who are also from the Austin Branch are Nelda Moore, Secretary, and Doug Byrom, Treasurer. Nelda has served as Co-Chairman, Hotel Search, Hospitality, Convention Bags and supplies while Doug has been the Chairman of the 2013 Convention and has worked in all areas with all members of the committee. He determined the choice of hotels, packed the convention bags with the brochures and seeds, selected the trophies, and purchased items for the hospitality room.

The immediate past director is Lisa Holmes, president of the Houston Satellite Branch.

The National Director is Wanda Macnair from Massachusetts.

Anna Salisbury is Membership Chairman.

ABS AWARDS 2013

The Herbert P. Dyckman for long-term and outstanding service was awarded to PAUL TSAMTSIS. Carol Notaras, ABS Treasurer, will take the award to him.

MARTIN DELGADO, who belongs to several branches and has achieved 100 points for an entry in a Plant Show, won the Eva Kenworthy Gray Award for contributing original material about begonias.

The Alfred D. Robinson Medal of Honor for a registered begonia cultivar that has been released for at least 5 years and no more than 15 was earned by FRED A HOLLEY for B. 'Holley Beauty.'

The Rudolf Ziesenhenn Award is presented to an editor who collects and edits the works of others for publication. This year's winner is DR. MARK TEBBITT.

The Marge Lee Award for cementing good will and harmony among members was earned by VALERIE MORRIS.

The Gene Salisbury Horticulture Award was presented to KENNY AND DIANA WIKERSON from Oklahoma.

PLANTING BEGONIAS BY SIGNS

Planting and transplanting begonias is usually done successfully in Cancer, Scorpio, and Pisces.

June 20 and 21 Scorpio

28 and 29 Pisces

July 7, 8, and 9 Cancer

17 and 18 Scorpio

25 and 26 Pisces

Happy growing at any time! Do not

Over water your plants! That's SUCCESS!

CONVENTION 2013

Joan Estes hands a cheesecake to
Rainee Freeman as Lynn Sissney
And Valerie Morris anticipate the
Picture perfect look while having
Fun planning the convention.

Below: Doug Byrom explains
The Reverse Raffle. He also won
The Trophy for all of his plants.



**MAY 29 =
JUNE 2, 2013**

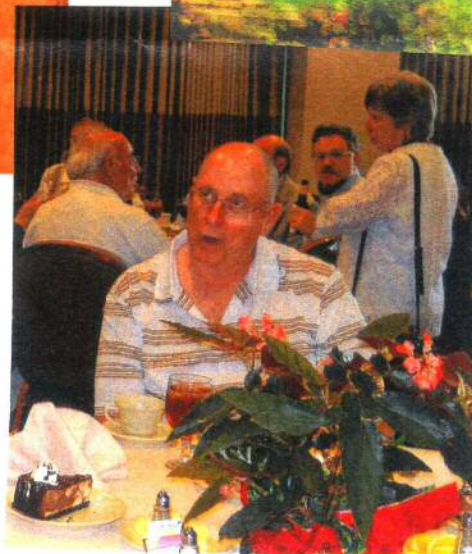


Deep in the Heart of Texas



Freda Holley, hybridizer, has a
New e-mail gehrtii@icloud.com

Ken Fuchs is the photographer
And creator of the DVD



Austin, Texas