

Austin Area Begonia Society Branch of the American Begonia Society

VOLUME 8, NUMBER 2

Nelda Moore, Editor

FEBRUARY, 2014

MEETING: FEBRUARY 23

GREENE ROOM 2 P.M.
Zilker Botanical Garden
2220 Barton Springs Road
Austin, TX 78746

EVENTS:

March 19-23 A.B.S. Convention
Tampa, Florida

March 23 Work Day at Zilker
Bring plants and tools
NO FOOD

March 29 and 30 Zilker Garden
Festival
VOLUNTEER

April 27 Meeting

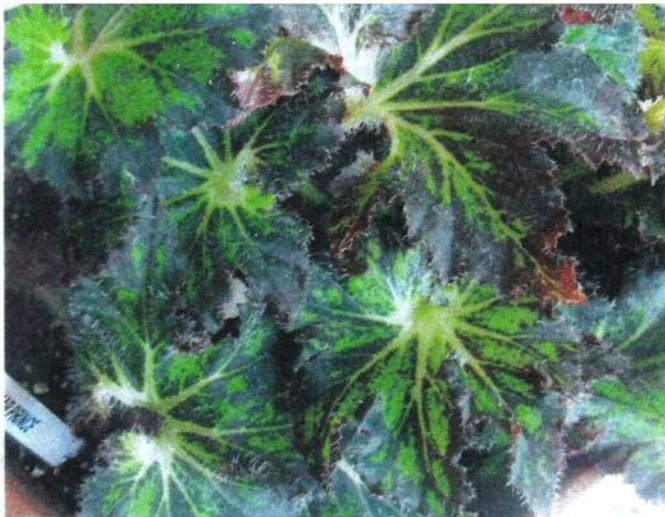
May 22-24 Southwest Region
Get-Together in Shreveport

May 25 NO MEETING

June 22 MEETING IN THE
AUDITORIUM at Zilker



B. 'Palomar Prince' is a Mike Kartuz hybrid that has been described in simile "like a starburst on a clear winter night's sky since it strikes a royal presence." This rhizomatous begonia has large green leaves that are double-spiraled with maroon markings. It is now a medium-sized compact plant that Rainee Freeman purchased from the begonia booth during the Zilker Garden Festival. It is protected from the freeze since it is indoors near a south window. She sent the two pictures of this almost year-old begonia that is now in bloom.



In the *Begonia Leaflet* B. 'Brad Thompson' is a new hybrid with leaf coloration that Brad himself got from his cross between B. 'Angel Glow' by Ross Bolwell from Australia and B. 'Palomar Prince.'

**AUSTIN AREA BEGONIA SOCIETY BRANCH
OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2014**

The Austin Area Begonia Society Branch of A.B.S. met in the Greene Room January 26, 2014, with **Jackie Johnson** presiding at 2:45 P.M. after light refreshments were served. The following members were present: **Vickey Cole, Rainee Freeman, Ken Fuchs, Betty Godfrey, Rosa Godfrey, Jackie Johnson, Jim Landers, Arlene Lantz, Nelda Moore, Valerie Morris, Verlene Schoen, and Lynn Sissney.**

The November meeting was canceled due to ice and snow.

Lynn Sissney presented a detailed financial report for all members showing the share account, classic business checking, and money market account with a total of \$3707.48.

Lynn made a motion to have named begonias in the Greene Room if the club is asked to provide an educational display for the Zilker Garden Festival. The motion passed.

Zilker Garden Festival Tickets have been purchased and will be distributed in February.

Tom Keepin will provide begonia baskets for the festival.

Lynn will design and construct a Faerie Home and Garden for the Zilker Trail. A motion was made and passed for the begonia society to pay the \$25 entry fee. **Valerie** signed the check.

Jackie noted that March 23 will be a work day in the begonia bed.

Lynn encouraged support for a fall plant sale next September or October.

The meeting adjourned for the program presented by **Lynn Sissney**, who decorated a wooden piece of driftwood. **Ken Fuchs** provided the pictures as Lynn added charcoal to the potting mix and the water glass to sweeten the mixture. Then she added nylon string that would water the plants. She started with B. 'Dottie's Eyelashes,' added Creeping Jenny to drape over the front edge of the driftwood before added plants with color. To gain height she placed B. 'Sultan.' Last of all, she added sphagnum moss over the roots. She keeps these beautiful creations under a table, weather permitting, and mists the plants to keep them growing.

Respectfully submitted,

Nelda Moore, Secretary

*The Cactus and Succulent Society
will return with a display in the
Greene Room during the Zilker
Garden Festival. Enter the begonias
in the Flower Show.*





Lynn Sissney adjusting a begonia using sphagnum moss.

Ken Fuchs is the photographer.



Lynn explaining where she purchased moss, potting mix, additional plants, and nylon string.

Those attendees on the first row include Valerie Morris, who is Austin Area Garden Council Representative; Rosa Godfrey (who is 101 years young); Verlene Schoen, who is hospitality; Jackie Johnson, who provides the programs; and Arlene Lantz.



The Signs for planting and transplanting begonias include the following:

February 21 and 22 Scorpio and March 24 and 25 for Scorpio.

February 25 and 26 Capricorn and March 1 and 2 Pisces March 10, 11, 12 Cancer

For pruning and cutting for quick growth :

March 5, 6, and 7 Taurus

March 20 and 21 Capricorn.

IN MEMORIAM

Clarice Mathis James, who was born January 28, 1920, in Temple, was a charter member of the Iris Society of Austin, the first president of the Austin Area Begonia Society, the founding member of the begonia society, an artist who worked in Porcelain Arts, Day Care Director of the Lower Colorado Lakes Girl Scout Council, president of the Austin Kennel Club, and officer and volunteer for the Austin Area Garden Council. She also was instrumental in reviving Columbus Fancy Canaries.

When she moved to Corsicana, Walter Anderson James moved next door and the two married August 11, 1941 in Ennis and moved to Austin. She retired from the Internal Revenue Service after working for them for 19 years. Walter died August 29, 1992, and Clarice joined him Friday, January 10, 2014. She lived in a care center in Bastrop to be near her daughter, Kathey Hatcher of McDade. Her funeral was held at 1 P.M. Tuesday, January 14.