

AUSTIN AREA BEGONIA SOCIETY BRANCH

OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

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NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2014

MEETING:

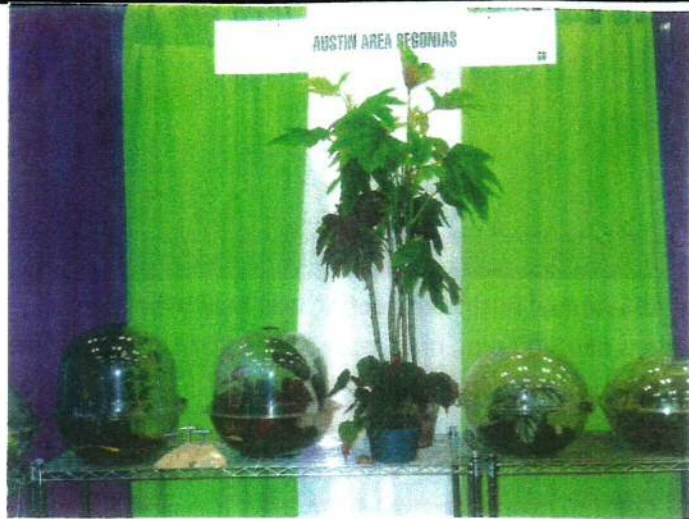
SEPTEMBER 28, 2014
2 P.M. Greene Room
2220 Barton Springs Rd
Austin, TX 78746
Planting begonia plugs
Jackie Johnson
Program Chairman
POT LUCK
Please attend to learn
About begonia culture.

OCTOBER: LANE
CLOSURES FOR ACL

50th ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION
OCTOBER 18 1 P.M.
1:30 P.M. Judy Arnold
"Sounds of the 60s"
Violet sales and show
10-5 Docent Tours
10-5 Plant Sales

OCTOBER 19
Violet Crown Show
10-5 Plant Sales

Down the Garden Path
http://www.zilker garden.org/dtgp/201403_Fall/201403_Fall.html



The Home and Garden Show featured begonias and begonia species in terrariums that were all grown by Doug Byrom. Nelda Moore brought several of her begonias that were sold to the public by Valerie Morris, Jim Estes, Rainee Freeman, Arlene Lantz, and Jackie Johnson.

Fifteen visitors provided their name, address, and e-mail to show an interest in growing begonias like Doug Byrom's show plants of August 15-17.

Photos by Arlene Lantz



DOUG BYROM AND WANDA MACNAIR AT A.B.S. BOARD MEETING

By Joan Estes with photographs by Jim Estes



The ABS Annual Business Meeting was held in Fort Worth, TX at the Fort Worth Botanical Gardens at 12:00 p.m. on August 22-23, 2014. AABS members that attended the meeting were Doug Byrom, Jim Estes and Joan Estes.

Highlights of the meeting included:

- Meeting Minutes and Treasurer's Reports.
- Revenues earned from the National Meeting and the SWR Meeting;
 - ABS revenue was over \$2,000.
 - SWR revenue was over \$10,000.
- FW Botanical Garden Project Updates
 - The administrative report informed members that the Children's Garden will be built on site of the current Begonia Greenhouses. There is currently no plan being developed for the relocation or future of the Begonia collection. While we were told that the begonia collection will be protected, there is no assurance as to what the future of the Begonia collection will be. ABS members are encouraged to send letters to the FW Mayor and Council Members letting them know of the significance of Begonia Collection not only to the country but internationally as well. The current Director of the Garden is retiring in January and they are recruiting for his replacement.
 - Two proposals were presented for review for financial support of the Botanical Garden:
 - \$100,000 Grant.
 - \$25,000 ABS/SWR pledge.
 - It was stated that there will be a need for legal representation for the ASB discussing a decision for supporting the Botanical Garden on a larger scale.

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**R. L. Holley and Freda Holley
in Fort Worth for the American
Begonia Society Board Meeting**



- Botanical Garden donations from Tom & Jane Anderson
 - Tom and Jane provided two \$1,000 gift cards for Debbie and Kay, a \$500 gift card for Hobby Lobby and several gift cards for employee lunches. This was wonderful of them to do that for the Botanical Garden.
- Location of the 2015 and 2016 ABS SWR Meetings
 - The Astro Branch will host the 2015 SWR Meeting.
 - The 2015 ABS meeting will be in Cambridge, MA.
 - The CA Westchester/San Diego will host the 2016 ABS Meeting; Martin Delgado proposed the site and it was approved.
- Charles Jaros Plant Auction
 - Charles brought begonias for auction and there was lively participation from the members to own one of Charles's beautiful plants.
 - The plant 'Confetti' brought about the most lively bidding. Kenny Wilkerson outbid me but then he always does.

The meeting provided several fun events for the members as well. Friday morning members were invited to the Begonia greenhouses for an opportunity to see the collection and how plants are cared for. In addition, members were able to purchase plants for their collections.

Friday afternoon members had an opportunity to swap plants and purchase two other plants.

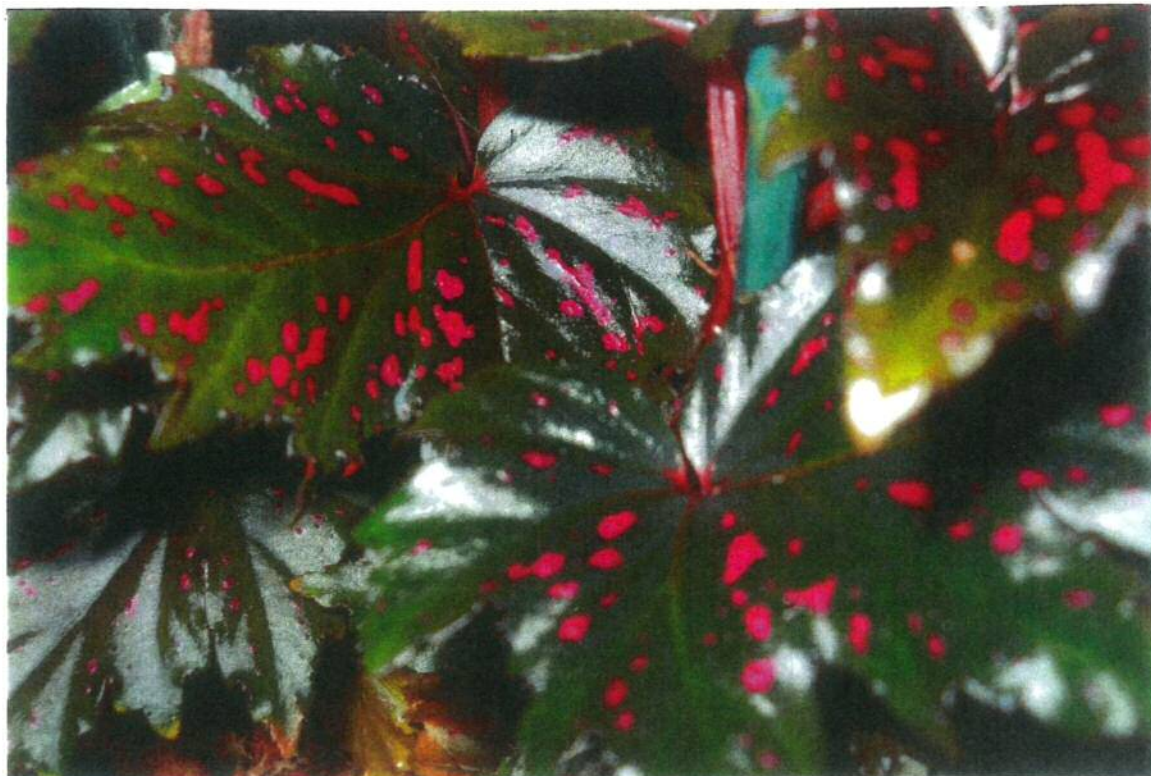
Saturday morning members were bused to Steve's Leaves. What a treat that was! Members were also able to purchase plants and everyone made the best of the opportunity. His greenhouse plants are beautiful and varied to other plants in addition to Begonias.

Members were bused back to the hotel after lunch and there was one more opportunity for begonia lovers to increase their collections. There was a plant swap and additional purchase of plants. I don't think anyone left empty handed.

Sunday morning the majority of the members packed up and headed for home. It was another successful and fun meeting for the Begonia lovers.

**Joan Estes
Photos by Jim Estes**

B. sematipetala



B. 'Gun Medal'



Photographs by Nelda Moore