



VOLUME 13, NUMBER 1

NEWSLETTER

January 2019

NEXT MEETING

January 27, 2019 2 P.M.
Austin Area Garden Center
2220 Barton Springs Road
Austin, TX 78746
GREENE ROOM

SWR/ABS OFFICERS

Director: Kenny Wilkerson
Vice Director: Leora Fuentes
Treasurer: Doug Byrom
National Director: Wanda Macnair
Membership Chairman: Joan Estes
Editor of *Begonia Leaflet*:
Sandy Justice

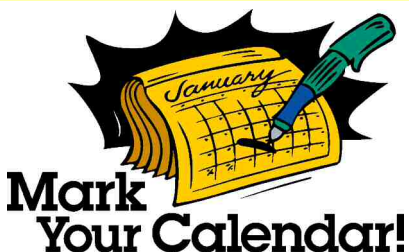
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY OFFICERS

President: Sally Savelle
Past President: Martin E. Delgado
1st Vice President: Butch McDole
2nd Vice President: Stephanie Rose
Secretary: Randy Montes Kerr
Treasurer: Wendy Corby
Branch Relations: Tom Keepin
Business Manager: Doug Byrom
Parliamentarian: Linda Lawson
Membership: Linda Kammerer
Publications Committee: Freda Holley
Editor: Linda Tamblyn

Begonia convolvulacae



Begonia convolvulacae is a trailing begonia that has big glossy lobed foliage with pendant flowers in late winter when it is growing in a hanging basket or climbing on a tree or post. It is known as the grape leaf begonia as well as morning glory begonia. Other names are *B. rugosa*, *B. schottiana*, and *B. unialata*.



AABS WEBSITE http://www.kenfuchs42.net/aabs_index.html

**AUSTIN AREA BEGONIA SOCIETY BRANCH
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 25, 2018**

The Austin Area Begonia Society Branch of the American Begonia Society met at 2 P.M. in the Greene Room of the Austin Area Garden Center in Zilker Botanical Garden with 12 members present: **Doug Byrom, Vickey Cole, Jim Estes, Joan Estes, Rainee Freeman, Ken Fuchs, Jim Landers, Arlene Lantz, Nelda Moore, Carol Orozco, Verlene Schoen, and Geneva Townsend.**

Austin Area Garden Council President Marion Alsup as guest speaker from the AAGC Conservancy provided sign up membership papers for club members to join the conservancy and save the \$6 entrance fee. The conservancy board members have made improvements to the gardens such as the stream bed and they are working on the master plan for other improvements. The council will change officers and volunteers are needed for these positions.

President Doug Byrom called the meeting to order after members ate tamales, dips, chips, cheese, lemon bars, cookies, and fruit. Thank you for wonderful food, fellowship, and favorite ideas for the planning session for the convention in May, 2019.

This Southwest Region Get Together will be called "Begonias Waltzing Across Texas."

Freda Holley has a great group of speakers, the hotel is beautiful and located near shops, restaurants, and downtown: the tours will be exciting and driving throughout Texas will be picturesque.

Valerie Morris was in Arizona so there was no treasurer's report since she still possesses the books.

Vickey Cole reported about the Austin Area Garden Council Conservancy Meeting on November 11, the Christmas Trees that need to be boxed on December 31, weeding Wednesday is every Wednesday, and member's fee that begins in January.

The next meeting will be January 27, 2019.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Nelda Moore, secretary

OFFICERS: Austin Area Begonia Society

President: Doug Byrom

Vice President: Valerie Morris

Secretary: Nelda Moore

Treasurer: Vickey Cole

Newsletter: Nelda Moore and Ken Fuchs

Website: Ken Fuchs

Membership Chairman: Joan Estes

National Director: Wanda Macnair

SWR/ABS COMES TO AUSTIN in May 2019

The Southwest Region/ American Begonia Society Get Together in Austin May 1-5 offers even more speakers, events, and tours for an exciting event in this capital city of Texas, known for its music, the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library, the O'Henry Museum(William Sydney Porter), Zilker Botanical Garden Conservancy, French Legation, and the Texas State Cemetery that has the shortest road in the state.

The Judging School on Wednesday will be an all-day learning experience beginning at 9:30 A.M. and ending at 4:30 P.M. With the new skills and information gained a student will be able to judge the show plants that will be entered from 5 P.M. until 7 P.M. on Thursday.

Also on Thursday a tour will be offered to 4801 La Crosse Avenue, the home of the National Wildflower Research Center better known as the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. It was established in 1982 by Lady Bird Johnson (Mrs. Lyndon Baines Johnson) and Actress Helen Hayes in East Austin before it moved to its present location. Then the group will drive to Dripping Springs to Miller's Tropicals, where the greenhouse usually has some begonias among the rare tropical plants and extraordinary orchids.

Another tour will be offered on Saturday for the 42nd Annual Pecan Street Festival — arts, crafts, and music providing the diverse sights, sounds, and tastes of Austin.



Early Friday morning Stephen Maciejewski will provide arm chair travelers with a trip to the wilds of China to find new gesneriads and begonias. He is president of the DVB/ ABS and Philadelphia Liberty Bell Gesneriad Society Chapter and co-chair of the GS Student Convention Grant Committee. He has searched

for gesneriads and begonias in Ecuador, China, Vietnam, Indonesia, Fiji, and Cuba.

At 9:15 A.M. a tour through the Fort Worth Botanic Garden Begonia Species Collection will be given by Taddie Hamilton and other volunteers who will show the terrarium collection and report on improvements and new species in their largest collection in North America.



At 10:30 A.M. Dr. Rekha Morris, author and collector from South Carolina, will enthusiastically tell attendees about begonia species from Mexico and Costa Rica. Her excellent photography will enable visitors to be transported with her on her adventures and harrowing experiences in far away places. Her glorious new book is entitled *Species Begonias of the Eastern Himalayas of Arunachal, India* (Feb.2017 \$35), which describes and shows species collected during her many trips to India.



B. diadema

Now it is time to return to your favorite chair and make plans to be in beautiful Austin located on the Colorado River, where it becomes Lady Bird Lake as it winds its way through downtown.



SHOW PLANTS

Care includes enough light during winter. Neem oil insect spray gives shiny leaves in terrariums.

B. 'Sinbad,' B. 'Bonfire,' B. 'Amy,' B. 'Pink Minx' are dry like succulents in winter.

Watch for mealy bugs and scale. Don't overwater.

