



AUSTIN AREA BEGONIA SOCIETY

A Branch of the American Begonia Society

Website: http://www.kenfuchs42.net/aabs_index.html



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NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2024

Nelda Moore, Ken Fuchs, Editors

**NO AABS MEETING AT
ZILKER ON MARCH 24, 2024**

NEXT MEETING

Sunday, April 28, 2024 2-4 P.M.
Zilker Botanical Garden Center
2022 Barton Springs Road
Austin, TX 78746

PLANT SALE

AABS members will sell begonias at the corner of Jones Road and West Gate Mall Saturday, March 30. Set-Up will be early.

2024 Get-Together

You can find the 2024 SWR REGISTRATION FORM here:
<http://www.kenfuchs42.net/AABS/2024%20Registration%20Form.pdf>. It is fillable on your computer before printing.

A CONVENTION ITINERARY can be found here:

<http://www.kenfuchs42.net/AABS/2024%20Convention%20Itinerary.pdf>

If you are planning on entering in the show, a list of SHOW RULES can be found here:

<http://www.kenfuchs42.net/AABS/2024%20Show%20Rules.pdf>

CELEBRATE BEGONIAS AND FRIENDSHIPS IN BEAUTIFUL AUSTIN



You are cordially invited to come to an Old Fashioned Get-Together to celebrate begonias and friendships in beautiful Austin, Texas. The event begins May 2nd and ends May 4th at the Holiday Inn Town Lake, 20 N Interstate Hwy 35, Austin, TX 78701. You will enjoy the begonias, the plant sale, all the tours and food, and the seminars. Many great speakers will enable you to learn more about your favorite begonias.



April 1st is the cut-off date to get the group rate at the Holiday Inn Town Lake. Information on booking a room at the hotel can be found here: <http://www.kenfuchs42.net/AABS/2024%20Begonia%20Society%20HOTEL%20BOOKING%20LINK.pdf> or call 877 666 3243.

**AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY MEETS IN LONG
BEACH AUGUST 25**



While making plans to stay at the Holiday Inn Town Lake in Austin, California beckons you to the 2024 ABS National Convention, "California Dreaming," in Long Beach, California. On Tuesday, August 20 through Sunday, August 25 you can again study fabulous plants, go on tours, and learn more about begonias during seminars in the Holiday Inn Long Beach Airport and Staybridge Suites.

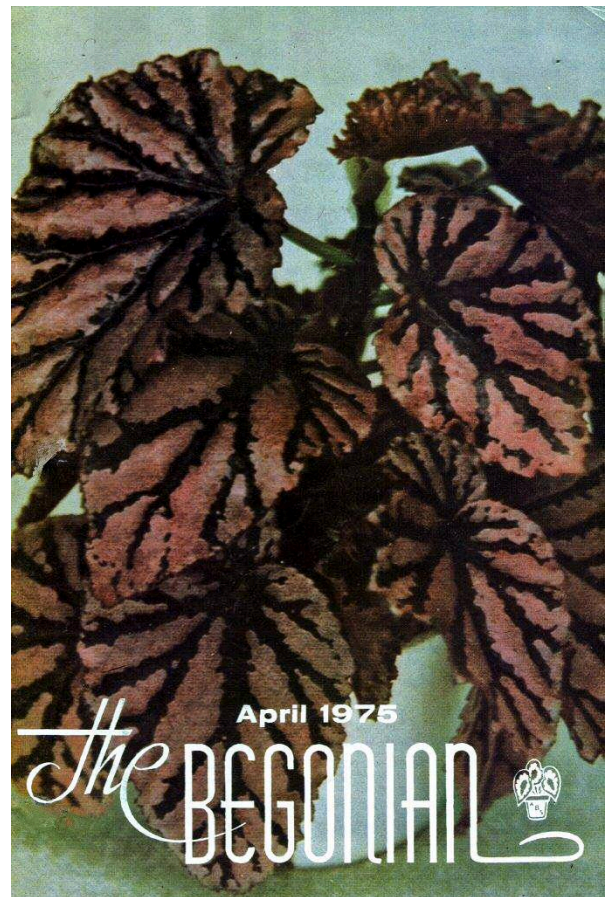
CANE-LIKE BEGONIAS



B. 'Lana'

Most of the cane-like species of begonias originated in Brazil. Hybrids were developed in this country by Mrs. T.B. Shepard at the turn of the century and continued through the 1920s and 1930s. Many types and sizes with various leaf shapes and colors ranging from very dark to pale green with a texture like paper to leather make this group popular. Also included are the Mallet type that has mahogany red foliage. All are enjoyed because of their

pendulous long-lasting flowers on bamboo-like stems. The proper amount of sunlight is extremely important for these begonias to have sturdy stems and foliage that has good texture and colors as well as an abundance of flowers. They grow well outdoors when temperatures range between 58 and 72 degrees F. Humidity should be in the 49-60%. For Mallet type begonias some must be staked while B. 'Miyo Berger' can grow 2 feet with high humidity in a greenhouse but when grown in a contained atmosphere, it can be dwarf. Superba types have lobes or cleft leaves and need pruning to stay compact.



B. 'Miyo Berger'



B. 'Lubbergei'



B. 'Corallina de Lucerna'



B. 'Cracklin' Rosie' Superba



B. 'My Special Angel'



B. 'My Special Angel'



B. 'Peggy's Pet'



B. 'Pagoda'



B. *leathermaniae*

MINUTES FOR THE AUSTIN AREA BEGONIA SOCIETY MEETING FEBRUARY 25, 2024

The Austin Area Begonia Society met at 2 P.M. on February 25, 2024, in the Auditorium in Zilker Botanical Garden with 11 members: **Charlotte Boyle, Doug Byrom, Vickey Cole, Jim Estes, Joan Estes, Freda Holley, Rick Holley, Syria Holley, Jim Landers, Nelda Moore, and Geneva Townsend.**

President Doug Byrom called the meeting to order and welcomed them to purchase raffle tickets and new plants that he brought.

Jim Landers, Joan Estes, Vickey Cole, and Geneva Townsend won beautiful begonia baskets (See Jim's basket below).

Vickey Cole gave the treasurer's report: \$1350.18 Business Checking and \$1745.78 in Business Market Savings.

Doug Byrom announced that he would have the registration completed by Wednesday for the Get Together Convention.

Motion: Members will sell begonias at the corner of Jones Road and West Gate Mall Saturday, March

30. Set-Up will be early. This is where Valerie Morris made arrangements to sell begonias last year. The place belongs to her hair dresser. Valerie now lives in Arkansas, where she is landscaping her yard. She sends best regards to all.

Dr. Freda Holley presented her very interesting program about hybridizing begonias from cuttings, which is best for canes, thick-stems, semperflorens, but usually works for all types of begonias. Then she told how to cut by veins in a leaf for rhizomatous and Rex to yield many plants. A tuber can be planted whole or the tuber can be cut in a few pieces giving more plants in a hanging basket. Layering, another method, can be in water, soil, sand, or a mix of perlite and Canadian peat.

Remember that the begonia society will not meet on Sunday, March 24th due to another club having a convention or other activity in the auditorium.

Respectfully submitted,
Nelda Moore, Secretary

