



# AUSTIN AREA BEGONIA SOCIETY

A Branch of the American Begonia Society

Website: [http://www.kenfuchs42.net/aabs\\_index.html](http://www.kenfuchs42.net/aabs_index.html)



VOLUME 18, NUMBER 5

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2024

*Nelda Moore, Ken Fuchs, Editors*

## NEXT MEETING

**Sunday, May 26** 2 P.M.

Zilker Botanical Garden Center  
2022 Barton Springs Road  
Austin, TX 78746

## SUCCESSFUL SALE

On April 27, 2024, the Austin Area Begonia Society had a great sale at Tillery Street Plant Co. Many interested young people learned about growing begonias in a terrarium and how to plant Rex begonias. Jim Estes, Joan Estes, and Nelda Moore assisted while Charlotte Boyle walked around speaking to the customers and encouraging them to visit the back workshop.

## 2024 GET TOGETHER VIDEO

Jim Landers and Ken Fuchs created a video of the Southwest Region Get Together held in the Holiday Inn Town Lake in Austin, Texas May 2 until May 4. The video can be viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bm9n2soYEQE&t=547s>



BEST IN SHOW: *B. ningmingensis* var. *bella* - Darren Heppel

## AUSTIN AREA BEGONIA SOCIETY CELEBRATES 15 YEARS

On May 2, 2009, The American Begonia Society presented a Charter to the Austin Area Begonia Society signed by Richard Macnair. The members signed the document: Joan and Jim Estes, Co Presidents, Valerie Morris, First Vice President, Julie Krosley, Second Vice President, Nelda Moore, Secretary, Lynn Sissney, Treasurer, Joan Estes, National Director, Deva Brown, Doug Byrom, Louise Hollas, Clarice James, Patsy Mikeska, Steve Reynolds, and Andrea Wakefield also signed.

## 2024 AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY CELEBRATION

“California Dreaming” pulls ABS members to the 2024 National Convention in Long Beach, California. On Tuesday, August 20 to Sunday, August 25, attendees can study fabulous begonias, travel to exotic landscapes, and after the tours listen to seminars about begonias. All of this will be held in the Holiday Inn Long Beach Airport and Staybridge Suites.

## NOMINATIONS FOR NATIONAL BEGONIA AWARDS

Taddie Hamilton seeks nominations for the Herbert P. Dyckman Award for Service above and beyond the normal duties of a member or officer. Write a page and submit your nomination to Taddie. Other awards include

- Eva Kenworthy Gray for contributing original material thus helping members further their study of begonias
- Alfred D. Robinson Medal of Honor for a cultivar that has been released for 5 years
- Rudolf Zieshenne Award to an editor who encourages writers to contribute articles about begonias
- Marge Lee Award to a person who contributes a spiritual value toward goodwill and harmony among members
- Gene Salisbury Award goes to a grower whose cultural practice and careful works contribute excellence in growing begonias
- Charles Jaros Award honors unique members who have dedicated a lifetime of exceptional service and dedication to the American Begonia Society on a universal level.



## CONSERVATION AND RESEARCH FUND GRANTS FROM AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

American Begonia Society promotes conservation of begonia by providing grants from Conservation and Research Fund to individuals and institutions who study and conserve begonias. Applications for grants are due July 1, 2024. Instructions are found on ABS website: [www.begonias.org](http://www.begonias.org) Search for "grant."

## SHARING PLANT CUTTINGS FOR CONVENTION



Share any two cuttings for the Convention Sale.  
Left: *Begonia prismatocarpa* 'Variegation'  
Right: *B. hoehneana*

If you have plant cuttings from the following begonias such as Tim Anderson's hybrids and Greg Sytch's West Coast begonias or 'Lotusland,' 'Joe Hayden,' 'Marmaduke,' 'Silver Jewell,' 'Helene Jaros,' *B. polygonnoides*, *B. convolvulacea*, *B. malabarica*, *B. acetosa*, send your propagated 2 plants that you are willing to share to the 2024 ABS Convention in Long Beach, California August 20-24. See page103 in VOL 91 May-June 2024 *The Begonian*.



B. 'Joe Hayden' Rhizomatous



B. 'Marmaduke' Rhizomatous



B. Lotusland' Rhizomatous

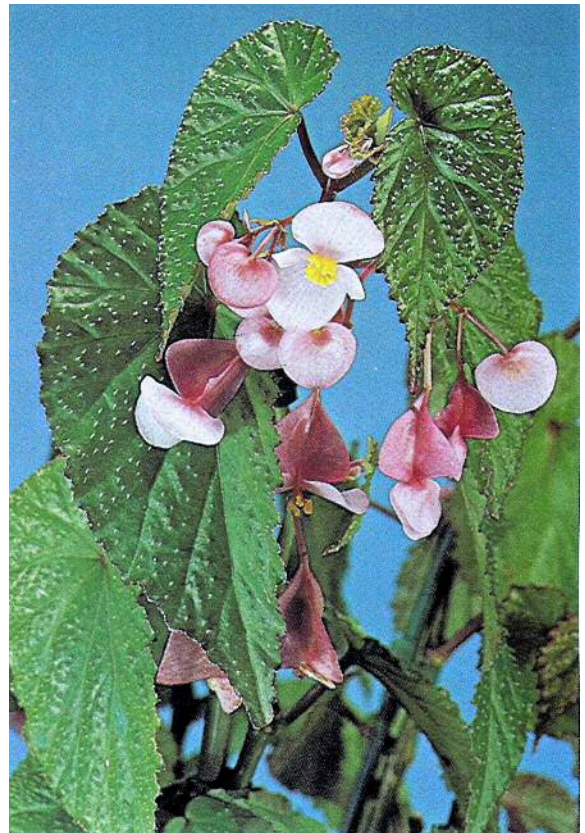


B. 'Silver Jewell' Rhizomatous





B. 'Helene Jaros' Rhizomatous



B. *malabarica* cane-like



B. *polygonoides* Trailing-Scanden



B. *acetosa* Rhizomatous



B. *convolvulacea* Trailing-Scandent

**B. DREGEI**

B. *dregei* from South Africa 1836 is a maple-leaf begonia. It is a semi-tuberous species, mainly used in hybridizing with small lobed green leaves with purple veins. It blooms with small white flowers in summer and autumn.





*B. dregei* Semi-Tuberous

*B. dregei* 'Glasgow' is a tuberous natural species. Its leaves are spotted silver var. *macbethii* 1891 with leaves deeply cut, but without purple veins. It has small white flowers.



*B. dregei* Glasgow Semi-Tuberous

## MINUTES OF THE AUSTIN AREA BEGONIA SOCIETY MEETING APRIL 28, 2024

President Doug Byrom called the meeting to order and asked for anyone who wanted a terrarium for \$5 to come pick a Rex to plant. Doug explained each step that was required before the tiny begonia had most of the soil removed to be placed in the middle of the bowl that held a mixture with some pieces of charcoal and chopped sphagnum moss. As Doug spoke, he prepared the tiny world that held the colorful begonia. THEN HE SPRINKLED SOME SPRING WATER, NOT TAP WATER, AROUND THE BASE OF THE PLANT. The lid was secured by hair clips.

Members who attended were **Charlotte Boyle, Vickey Cole, Freda Holley, Jim Landers, Arlene Lantz, Nelda Moore and Geneva Townsend.**

Freda, Geneva, and Arlene won plants during the drawing.

This meeting held in the auditorium of the Austin Garden Center at 2 P.M. on Sunday, April 28, was a great deal of fun and Doug adjourned the meeting at 4 P.M. after all were welcome to come to the 2024 Convention in the Holiday Inn on Town Lake May 2-4. Austin, Texas.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nelda Moore, Secretary