



VOLUME 13, NUMBER 3

NEWSLETTER

March 2019

**NEXT MEETING:**

MARCH 24, 2019

Joe & Nelda Moore's Home  
607 WESTLAKE DRIVE  
West Lake Hills, TX 78746

From Zilker Botanical Garden go to Bee Cave Road, pass McDonalds, Randalls, Walgreens, and turn right at the traffic light on Westlake Drive. The Independent Bank is on the right. When the street curves, continue past Carrara as you descend the hill. Watch on the right for the white mailbox and turn in to the driveway, which is quite long. Find a parking area, but do not go past the rocks, where Little Bee Creek is a drop down.

Food will be here. Nelda Moore and Joan Estes will be your hostesses.

This home has a stairs, but most of you have been able to walk up to the home at the balcony, which has a silver railing. The structure is tan like our cars.

Phone number 512-327-0401.



B. 'Little Miss Mummey' - Brad Thompson

AUSTIN AREA BEGONIA SOCIETY Will HOST  
THE SOUTHWEST REGION/AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY  
GET TOGETHER MAY 1-5

The Wyndham Garden is the headquarters for the Get Together May 1-5 in Austin, Texas 78741. Please make your reservations soon for this exciting event.

Several members have heard so much about the Mexican free tailed bats that they want to visit the bridge and watch them head out to the fields to feed on insects.

Doug Byrom has spoken to a van service to travel to watch the millions. To take this tour attendees will sign the sheet at the registration table and show up Wednesday evening to board the van. The time of departure will be posted.

BEGONIA 'NELDA MOORE'



Thank you Doug Byrom for sharing this begonia for this newsletter. It is blooming at this time.

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

AUSTIN AREA BEGONIA SOCIETY BRANCH OF  
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 24, 2019

The Austin Area Begonia Society Branch of the American Begonia Society met at 2 P.M. in the Oak Grove of Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Road, in Austin, Texas on February 24, 2019.

Members present were **Doug Byrom, Vickey Cole, Jim Estes, Joan Estes, Ken Fuchs, Jim Landers, Arlene Lantz, Nelda Moore, Valerie Morris, Verlene Schoen, and Geneva Townsend.**

After delicious snacks of pizza, salads, and desserts were enjoyed, Doug Byrom called the meeting to order.

Valerie Morris, treasurer, presented the financial report: Beginning Balance \$4415.15, which includes savings, checking, money market, and cash box. Expenses for 2018 included the following: October 23 ABS Holiday \$151, May 29 Salad Bowls \$216, May 20 Zilker Begonia Garden \$179, and April 10 Southwest Region Convention \$700. Total \$1246.00.

Doug has busses for the tours for Thursday and Friday. Since some of the members want to watch bats on Tuesday or Wednesday evening, there will be a transportation issue that will be decided after the registration is completed. Anyone interested in this trip will need to add on the form that he wants to visit the bridge to watch the Mexican freetail bats. If this is on Tuesday the group will dine at a restaurant and then watch the bats at 6:30 P.M. Jim Estes warned about wearing shoes and then boarding a flight home with all of the nitrate from bat droppings.

Doug, Valerie, and Nelda will work with hospitality. Doug will be in the room next door so that he can start the coffee and have juice, toast, jelly, rolls and fruit for breakfast.

Trophies include the set of begonia plates with leaves and ribbons for the plant show.

**MOTIONS:**

Jim Estes made a motion to purchase 40 begonias from Rob's Barn for sale.

Motion seconded and passed.

A motion to elect Vickey Cole as treasurer was made. Verlene Schoen made the Second and everyone voted.

Motion passed.

Valerie Morris will remain on the signature card at the bank. Vickey Cole will sign the card and Lynn Sissney's name will be removed.

A motion to plant the Begonia Garden in Zilker Botanical Garden was made, seconded and passed. Doug will purchase 50 hanging baskets and 40 will be in the garden; 10 will be used at the hotel.

Doug selected begonias from his collection and demonstrated the process of grooming for show plants. Several cuttings were saved by members during this interesting program.

The March 24 meeting will be held at 607 Westlake Drive. Nelda and Joan will bring snacks.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nelda Moore, Secretary

---

**BEGONIA CONVENTIONS**

The Austin Area Begonia Society Branch is working diligently to provide an interesting convention in the capital of Texas, where the bluebonnets are in bloom or the lupine still stand after a freeze surprised the hill country peach trees.

The Wyndham Garden Austin at 3401 South IH35 is ready to serve attendees May 1-5 during the Southwest Region/American Begonia Get Together.

Join excellent speakers, beautiful tours, hardy begonias to purchase, and a plant show with groomed begonias from Texas.



## BEGONIAS CALIFORNIA STYLE

The American Begonia Society 2019 National Convention Show and Sale will be hosted by the Joan Coulat Sacramento Branch and San Francisco Branch September 3-8 at the Sacramento Marriott Rancho Cordova. Exciting tours, wine tasting, topics from conservation and growing begonias successfully, silent auction, and books await members in Northern California.

On September 4 a tour begins at Eisley Nursery, a 13-acre family owned and operated business for over 80 years in Auburn, where they have 45 greenhouses. Then the bus tour visits Maple Rock Gardens, a 30- acre private estate garden with garden railroad and themed garden rooms. After lunch, attendees will be ready for a guided tour of High Hand Nursery in historic Loomis, where a 100 year- old fruit packing shed has artisans and antique stores. This setting will enable visitors to learn the inside story of Japanese Maples. The late afternoon at the hotel will allow them to prepare to experience fine dining for Mediterranean, Vietnamese, Mexican, Ethiopian, or In-N-Out Burgers.



Brad Thompson, left, discusses begonias.

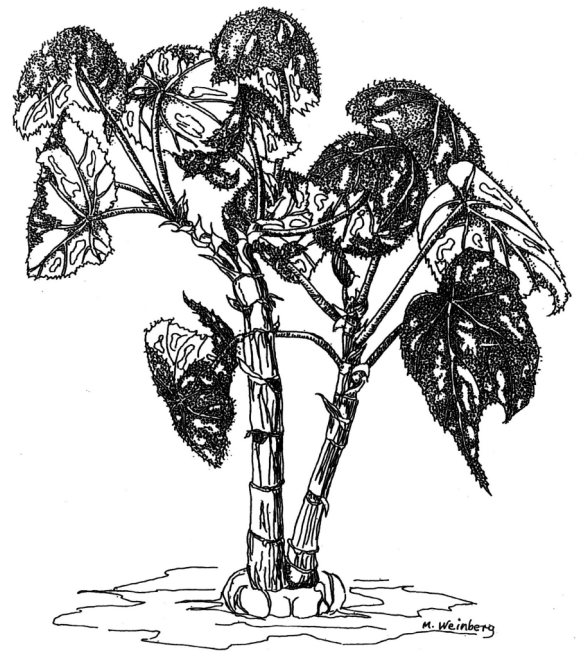
The Convention Committee will add a Division for Brad Thompson's hybrids to the 2019 Show Schedule. Brad died October 25, 2018, but his hybrids are celebrated and live on through the

## Begonia Bank:

B. 'Mary Sakamoto' 2000, B. 'Little Miss Mummey' 2001, B. 'Black Gold' 2004, B. 'River Nile' 2007, and B. 'Mello Yellow,' a very first yellow cane, Brad's most notable achievement, according to Walter Dworkin of Westbury, New York. Brad was also an artist.



B. 'Mello Yellow'



## CORRECTION FOR B. WOLLNYI

Freda Holley sent an e-mail update for B. *wollnyi* since this species has been reclassified from semituberous to thick stem, bare leaved in Millie Thompson's 1984 Update Booklet. That is where it should be judged. It does not like high heat.

# DOUG BYROM DEMONSTRATES GROOMING BEGONIAS FOR A SHOW

Watch Doug groom begonias here:

<http://www.kenfuchs42.net/AABS/DougByromGroomsBegonias-HD.mp4>



