



VOLUME 13, NUMBER 6

NEWSLETTER

June 2019

NEXT MEETING:
JUNE 23, 2019
2 P.M.

Austin Area Garden Center
Greene Room
2220 Barton Springs Road
Austin, Texas 787 46

POT LUCK

OFFICERS:

President: Doug Byrom
1725 Brazos Bend Avenue
Smithville, TX 78957

Vice President: Valerie Morris
Membership
802 Great Britain Blvd.
Austin, TX 78748

Secretary: Nelda Moore
607 Westlake Drive
West Lake Hills, TX 78746

Treasurer: Vickey Cole
2105 Egger
Round Rock, TX 78664

Newsletter: Nelda Moore &
Ken Fuchs
710 N. 11th Street
Temple, TX 76501

AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY TO HOLD CONVENTION SEPTEMBER 3-8 IN SACRAMENTO

The ABS Sacramento 2019 Convention will be held September 3 to 8 in the Crowne Plaza Sacramento Northeast, which has more floor space for judging and plant sales than the original location that was selected for the venue. To register go to <http://www.begonias.org/events/events.htm>. Now there are 3 tours and one begins September 4 to the Easley Nursery in Auburn that has 45 greenhouses. Then the tour goes to Maple Rock Gardens, a 30 acre estate garden. After lunch the bus will travel to High Hand Nursery in historic Loomis. Then many local restaurants await attendees who can select any type of food for fine dining or even the In-N-Out Burger.

Another tour offered takes visitors to the University of California at Davis — a top agricultural school in the world with a plant science program. An hour will be spent in the Botanical Conservatory greenhouses, where the begonias, orchids, ferns, and the well-known unique titan arum will be blooming. After this the Haagen-Dazs Honey Haven outdoor garden with eighty-two species of bees will introduce you to *Apis mellifera*, the honeybee. Lunch will be at Segundo with one hour of olive oil tasting and visit to Robert Mondavi Institute of Wine and Food Science. A Good Life Garden features organic vegetables and herbs and flowers.

<https://www.visitsacramento.com/american-begonia-society/>

After the tours are all over, visitors can enjoy the nightlife in Sacramento: K Street Mall, IMAX, and the brand-new Downtown Commons.

To register call the hotel at 1-877-504-0054 and use the block code **ABS**. Rooms are \$134 plus tax. The deadline is August 5. ABS registration is \$45.

Enjoy this Farm to Fork capital in sunny California.



2019-2021 OFFICER NOMINATIONS FOR AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

Cheryl Lenert, Linda Lawson, and Leora Fuentes have released the following slate of officers that will begin serving at the ABS Annual Meeting in 2019:

- President – Butch McDole
- 1st Vice President – Stephanie Rose
- 2nd Vice President – Stephen Maciejewski
- Secretary – Frances Drescher
- Treasurer – Wendy Corby

HOLIDAY GREETINGS DONATION FOR ABS

When the branches of ABS send their donations to Frances Drescher, 11529 Riverchase Run, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 3342, they continue to keep our dues down and help us receive *The Begonian*, a valuable begonia publication.

Last year contributions reached \$5,014.

These are the levels of giving:

- Bronze, \$1--\$50;
- Silver, \$51--\$100,
- Gold, \$101--\$150,
- Platinum, \$151--\$300,
- Champagne, \$301, plus. . .

The deadline for donations is September 15 for publication in the November/December edition.

Begonia 'Johnny B. Goode'



This begonia is Registration #1028 hybridized by Walter Dworkin of 8 Rugby Road, Westbury NY 11590. The Seed parent is B. 'Honeycomb' while the pollen parent is B. 'Audrey Brenda.'



Begonia 'Johnny B. Goode' (both photos) a compact plant with big, dense panicles of pink flowers. Photos by Walter Dworkin

The Begonian, May/June 2019

Begonia 'Johnny B. Goode' is a canelike begonia that was distributed in 1993 after it was developed in 1991. It was named after the Chuck Berry hit song of 1957. Virginia Kettler of Houston, Texas tested the plant and donated it over two decades ago to the Fort Worth Botanic Garden. Taylor Greenhouses of Portland, New York, now sells this compact plant with large, deep green leaves and bright pink summer blossoms. The leaf margins are undulate and slightly scalloped. The petioles are hairless.

Begonia bogneri

Begonia bogneri is an erect short stemmed tuberous (Erminea) species described by Rudolf Ziesenhenné in the April 1973 edition of *The Begonian*. Rudolf was a California nurseryman and hybridizer who named this strap-leaved species after Josef Bogner, curator of greenhouses in Munich Botanic Garden, who discovered this begonia growing in a mountainous part of Madagascar in deep shade on moss-covered granite cliffs.

To grow this begonia in an enclosed glass container in a very humid atmosphere keep the temperature within a range of 65-70 degrees in artificial lighting to prevent dormancy in winter. Its tubers should be allowed to dry out between watering. This is the reason it should be grown in sphagnum moss and perlite. Occasionally it is found

on sphagnum moss mounted on a piece of cork that is hanging over water. According to Mark C. Tebbitt

a hybrid was produced between *B. bogneri* and *B. solananthera*.



Margaret (Taddie) Hamilton, newly elected Director of the Southwest Region, and Fort Worth Botanic Species Bank Curator Debbie Garrett admire Leora Fuentes' *Begonia bogneri* during the Austin SWR Plant Show. (Photo by Nelda Moore)

Some Plants for Sale at the AABS May 26 Meeting:



Begonias by Steves's Leaves in the Southwest Region's 2019 Show

(photos by Nelda Moore)

