

BEGONIA CHATTER



Astro Branch American Begonia Society <i>4513 Randwick Drive</i> <i>Houston, Texas 77092-8343</i> <i>(713) 686-8539</i>	Next Meeting: DATE: January 10, 2016 TIME: 2:00 PM PLACE: West Gray Multi-Service Center PROGRAM: Cutting Session
JANUARY 2016 ISSUE	www.begoniahouston.org

A BEGONIA CUTTING SESSION

The January 10, 2016 meeting of the Astro Branch of the American Begonia Society will be held at the West Gray Multi-Service Center located at 1475 West Gray Street. We will meet in Activity Room 2. The doors will open at 1:00 P.M.

Our Refreshment Hostesses for this meeting will be **Geanie Riggs, Gail Warren and Kathleen Murphy**

President Janet Carpenter will preside over this meeting. There will be a short business meeting to catch everyone up on what is going on with the Southwest Region, National and the Astros.

Our Program this month, **A Begonia Cutting Session** will be given by Vice-President Johnny Williams. Johnny will be demonstrating his method for taking cane-like cuttings. Johnny tells us that the following plants really need a pruning. They are B. 'Arabian Sunset', B. 'Dotsy', B. 'Dangling Pearls', B. 'Lois Burke' B. 'Kristy' and B. 'White Shasta'. If you have a

cane-like or shrub-like begonia that is need of pruning please feel free to bring it along. The pots, soil and name tags/pencils will be provided. The club has a limited supply of pruners for you to use. If you have a favorite pair please feel free to bring it with you. Johnny will demonstrate the proper pruning and members will be able to get whatever cuttings they wish and put them in posts to take home. Johnny will also have rooting hormone available if anyone would like to try using it.

We are looking forward to seeing you at this our first meeting of the New Year. We will have our Name Tag Plants, Raffle Plants and perhaps a Door Prize. We never know until the day of the meeting. Our Refreshment Hostesses will have lots of tasty treats to tempt our taste buds and cool drinks to wash them down. All your begonia friends will be there to talk about begonias.

See You There!

**MINUTES OF THE
DECEMBER 6, 2015
BUSINESS MEETING
AND
CHRISTMAS PARTY**

The December 6, 2015 Business Meeting and Annual Christmas Party was held at West Gray Multi-Service Center located at 1475 West Gray Street in the Gymnasium (due to Early Voting occupying the Activity Rooms). The meeting was called to order at 2:15 by President Janet Carpenter following our feasting and fellowship time. Janet thanked everyone who participated in bringing food for the Christmas Party. As usual the ASTRO'S members are wonderful cooks and the feast was marvelous!

Janet then introduced our guest, Beverly Winkelman, who is a former member of the Astros. Beverly came to this party as the guest of Brenda Andrews.

Minutes from the November meeting were published in the Begonia Chatter and were approved with no changes.

In the Treasurer's report Tom Keepin said we continue to keep a healthy balance.

Sunshine Chair, Ruby Lewellyn, had cards for us to sign. They were a Get Well card for Cheryl Lenert, who was home sick with pneumonia and a Thank You card for Mike Lowery of Another Place In time for the poinsettias he donated for this party and for all he has done for the ASTROS through the years. Another Place In Time is closing their retail operation at the end of December. We then wished Get Well wishes for Tom Anderson and his doggie as both have had serious medical issues lately. Tom was present to receive the good wishes (but his doggie wasn't).

The Begonia Of The Month was B. 'Satin Ribbons' though we were not positive of its name. It was brought in by Jane Anderson.

Vice President Williams, said our program for January will be to bring back the seeds we planted at the November 1, 2015 meeting. At this time we will see everyone's progress and get information on "next steps" in their care. The January meeting date is not yet confirmed, but Tom will notify us as soon as it is.

The Business Meeting was adjourned and we proceeded with the Gift Exchange part of the Christmas Party. Each member was given a raffle ticket and the drawing was done by Vice-President Johnny Williams. Everyone there had brought a wrapped gift so this was a lot of fun and we all went home with new treasures.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:10 P.M. with wishes for a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year!

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Williams, Secretary

PHOTO GALLERY

Unfortunately there will be no Photo Gallery from our Christmas Party. Our photographer Tom Anderson was busy taking pictures during the Feasting and the Gift Exchange and returned the camera to Tom Keepin. When Tom and Peter tried to retrieve the pictures they were not there. The pictures from the November meeting and pictures taken after the Christmas party were there, but nothing from the Christmas Party. We have no explanation as to what happened as it has never happened before.

We apologize as we know everyone looks forward to the Photo Gallery.

Tom

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS

Please make note that we have a new e-mail address for Debra Norris. Debra is having trouble with the address we currently have due to her server. Please make note of the new address as this is the one we will use from this date forward.

Debra Norris

debra.norris@att.net

PRUNING, PLANTING AND TRANSPLANTING

January

4 th , 5 th & 6 th	Scorpio
9 th & 10 th	Capricorn
13 th & 14 th	Pisces
18 th & 19 th	Taurus
22 nd & 23 rd	Cancer
31 st	Scorpio

February

1 st & 2 nd	Scorpio
5 th , 6 th & 7 th	Capricorn
10 th & 11 th	Pisces
14 th & 15 th	Taurus
18 th & 19 th	Cancer

- Planting and Transplanting are best done in Cancer, Scorpio and Pisces with Cancer being the best.
- Best Pruning for quick growth is first Taurus and then Capricorn.



WEATHER FORCAST FOR JANUARY 2016

According to the United States Weather Service Houston and surrounding area falls in Region 7 of the National Weather Map. Here is what they predict our weather will be like for the month of December.

Our temperatures will be slightly above normal and our precipitation will be slightly above normal. Our temperatures should average from 35 degrees in the North to 45 degrees in the South. Our coolest temperatures for January will be January 4th thru 7th, 11th thru 14th, 16th thru 20th and 27th thru 31st. Our warmest January temperatures will be January 2nd & 3rd, 9th & 10th and 23rd thru 26th. There will be rain and freezing rain and snow in the North and mostly rain in the South January 3rd thru 5th, 10th thru 12th, 15th thru 17th and 26th thru 29th. There will be widely scattered rain and snow, otherwise. It will be windy at times. There is a low threat of severe weather.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

Birthday wishes go out to all our members born in this month on January.

Leigh Boyer	January 16 th
Susan Daugherty	January 27 th
Charles Jaros	January 26 th
Cheryl Lenert	January 24 th
Ruby Lewellyn	January 2 nd
Malcolm McCorquodale	January 17 th
Debbie Perillo	January 23 rd

“Today is a day to enjoy being with friends. To look back on where you’ve been and to look forward to the special times the future holds for you.”

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

MEMBERSHIP DUES!

Membership dues for The American Begonia society and the Astro Branch are due if you normally pay them in the month of January or have not yet paid if you are due in December. Tom will be on hand to take your dues and send them in to Paul Rothstein ABS Membership Chair. If you are not sure when your dues are due Tom can look it up for you.

Membership Dues:

Astro Branch	\$5.00
National (ABS)	\$25.00
Southwest Region	\$10.00 single
Southwest Region	\$15.00 family

Basic Dues:	\$30.00
Full Package this includes Southwest Region:	
Single	\$40.00
Family	\$45.00

If you are unable to attend the January meeting and are not sure when your dues are due please give to a call at [713-686-8539](tel:713-686-8539) or e-mail him at thomas.keepin@gmail.com.

Tom's mailing address to send your dues is:

Tom Keepin

4513 Randwick Drive

Houston, TX 77092-8343

We also gladly accept cash.

Begonia 'Freddie'

B. manicata Brong. 'Aureo-maculata' x *B. barkeri* Knowl. & Westc.

Rhizomatous stem; blade, unequally heart shaped, 13½" x 16", medium green, ciliate and double dentate margin; medium thick texture; 12 depressed veins. Petiole, green with fimbriate scales; stipules, triangular, keeled. Lower leaves are pink, 7/8", ovate, dichotomous arrangement on 30" peduncle, blooms throughout the year. Originated by Rudolf Ziesenhenné in 1946.

Registered August 19, 1953

Registration Number 54

Begonia 'Joe Hayden'

B. 'Reichenheimii' x *B. maze* Ziesehn

Rhizomatous stem; blade, unequally heart shaped, 5" x 6", black satin sheen; 5-lobed margin; thin texture; 9 veins. Petioles, 7"; stipules, triangular, keeled. Flowers are pink, ¾", obovate, raceme on 16" peduncle blooms winter and spring.

Originated by Rudolf Ziesenhenné in 1947.

Registered August 19, 1953

Registration Number 57

Begonia 'Aquamarine'

B. ludwigii Irmsch. x *B. 'Silverado'*

Rhizomatous stem, erect to 2 feet; blade, ovate, acuminate, 6 to 8 pointed, 4" x 6", olive green, silvery overlay, burgundy red beneath; dentate margin; medium thin texture; green, slightly raised veins. Petiole 24"; stipule, acuminate, persistent. Flowers are pink, small, on 12" peduncle, blooms in winter.

Originated by Sue Zug in 1953.

Registered August 3, 1954

Registration Number 98

Begonia' "Sophie Cecil"

B. sceprum x *B. 'Lenore Oliver'*

Tall, upright, cane-stemmed begonia with many stems from the soil. Large cupped leaves deeply lobed, dark green splashed with silver, red beneath; new leaves bright pink. Heavy clusters of rose-pink flowers; blooms in spring and summer. They are raised especially for house conditions.

Originated by Belva Nelson Kesler

Registered September, 1961

Registration Number 174

Begonia 'Beatrice Haddrell'

B. bowerae x *B. heracleifolia* 'Sunderbruchii'

Rhizomatous, medium-leaved, cleft, star, flowers pale pink; blooms January-March profuse

Originated by Percy J Merry in 1952

Distributed in 1955

Registered March 16, 1955

Registration Number 117

(Taken from Catalog of Registered Cultivars)