

The Begonia CHATTER

*Newsletter of the Astro Branch
of the American Begonia Society*



FOUNDER: THOMAS KEEPIN

Astro Branch American Begonia Society 13410 Balcrest Drive Houston, Texas 77070	Next Meeting: DATE: January 12, 2025 TIME: 1:00 PM PLACE: Plants for All Seasons, 21328 State Hwy 249 PROGRAM: Propagation and Don Miller Updates! Snack hosts: Rosa
January 6, 2025 Issue	www.begoniahouston.org

President: Kathleen Murphy	Vice President: Jennifer Francois	Treasurer: Ann Stiefel	Secretary: Gloria Hunter
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi Astros Begonia lovers:

HAPPIEST OF ALL NEW YEARS to all members of the Astro Begonia chapter!

We are looking forward to a very productive year and fun filled adventures.

First on our agenda is to visit the seedlings we started way back when and repot. Also the cuttings from Fort Worth Botanical, are they ready for repotting? Then we overlooked our Don Miller contest at our Christmas party so let's check out how our growers did.

We will be hosting the ABS National Convention in May so now the exciting plans unfold, let the fun begin!!!

See you Sunday! —Kathleen

PROGRAM: PROPAGATION UPDATES!

If you participated in the Don Miller plant-raising challenge from this last summer, bring your Dons in for a comparison!

Also, if your Fort Worth leaf propagations are ready for an up-pot, bring those in, too. We will have all the supplies you need to take them to the next level.

OR, if you have anything you'd like to prop, bring it in! It's going to be a propagation party!



Chairs:	Membership Ann Steifel	Seed Fund Janet Carpenter	Webmaster & Nat'l Rep. Malcolm McCorquodale	Newsletter Rosa Brennan, Editor
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Begonia Meeting – November 3, 2024

Members present – Gloria Hunter, Janet Carpenter, Jennifer Francois, Ann Stiefel, Dehlia Mullins, Kathleen Murphy, Malcolm McCorquodale, Tom Keepin, Rosa Brennan, Cynthia Moody, Cheryl, Irene & Mike, Gail Warren, Sue Botts, Mel Babbs

Guest – Joy Freedamon – Windrose Garden Club

President Kathleen Murphy welcomed everyone and thanked hostesses, Janet & Sue for refreshments.

Gloria read the minutes, stand as written.

Treasurer's report for August– Beginning balance - \$4,183.12 Ending balance \$4,159.48

Kathleen said that a donation to ABS was made for publication of the “Holiday Greeting” in Begonian.

Member update – we were hoping to see Midge. No word from Brenda Andrews

New Business – Cheryl gave update on the Gathering, for next year, now a convention. She received contract on the Hilton Garden on 1960 & 249 (by Willowbrook). The room rates will be \$109 with breakfast and free parking included. We are going to use restaurant for Banquet. Dates are May 14th – 18th, 2025, Wednesday through Sunday.

Cheryl said she sent notices to Don & Glen. We needed to start collecting goodies for the gift bags.

Discussion on plant sale. Commercial plants will also be brought in.

Hospitality, registration, exhibit signs (assign to Steve Leaves?), programs, Judge's show, list of places to go in and around Houston, places to visit. Lots to do in preparation.

We need to form committee for our own “plant sale”, possibly a “demo”

Discussion about December Christmas meeting, date changed to Dec 8th, 2nd Sunday. Bring plant related gift item, \$20.00.cap, no candy. Bring a dish to share.

Meeting adjourned by Janet, Gloria second.

Gloria Hunter, secretary

Begonia Board Meeting /Christmas Celebration– December 8, 2024

Members Present – Kathleen Murphy, Gloria Hunter, Rosa Brennan, Jennifer Francois, Ann Stiefel, Malcolm McCorquodale, Janet Carpenter, Gail Warren, Cheryl Lenert, Tony & Donna Robert, Mel Babb, Mike & Irene Bragg, Cynthia , Alicia Baker

President Kathleen called meeting to order and thanked all for the wonderful refreshments.

Kathleen began the meeting with discussion about HFGC is a challenge every year to put together a decoration or bring a food item. Ann took care of it and wanted to make a motion to reimburse her for the expense, all voted, and it was approved.

Our next meeting is Sunday, January 5.

Cheryl commented she had talked to Stephen about the upcoming Gathering / Convention.

Jennifer said that “Plants for all Season’s” would be willing to do a coupon for the “goodie bag”

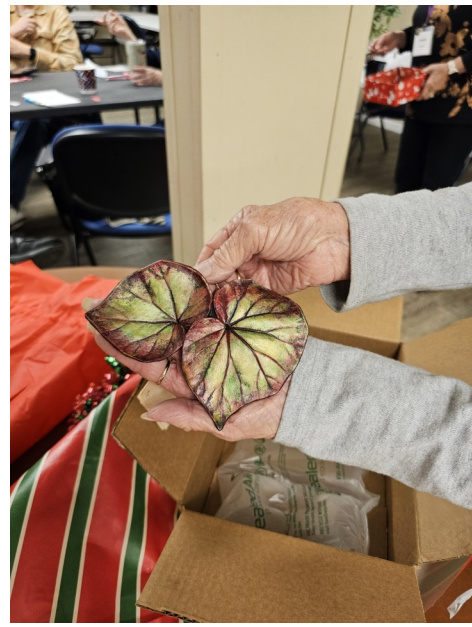
Cheryl also asked to submit “Places to See” for a handout for the goodie bag.

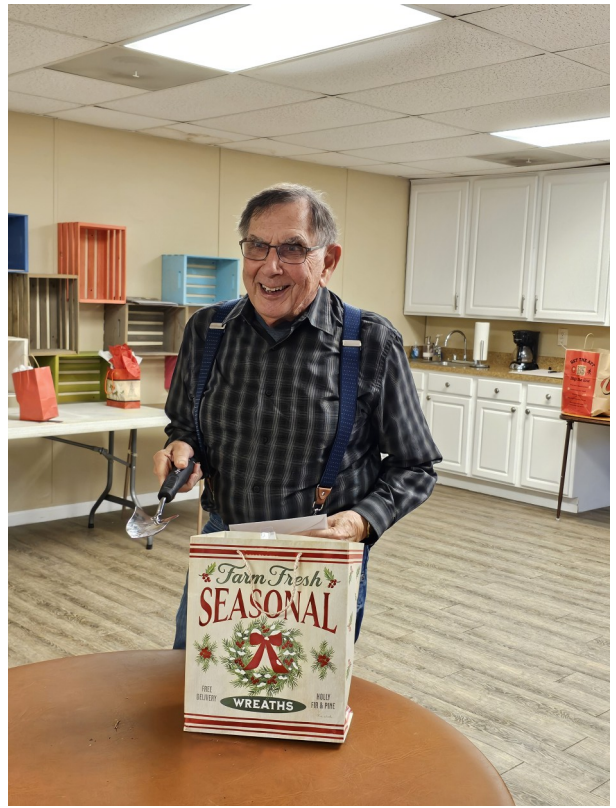
Some amenities included at hotel are “free parking along with free breakfast”

No longer just a “Gathering” but a SW Region Convention & Get-together.

Still checking or looking for grower for the begonias.

Gloria Hunter, secretary





Rosa's This & That

- Send me your "In Search Of" begonias and plants.
- Be a Show Off! Send me photos of your begonias anytime. Email them to me or text them to me. My cell number is on the distribution email.
- Send me your observations or promote a vendor or product you like and why you like it.
- Please send them to me anytime! I rarely send out a reminder due to time constraints.

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS FEBRUARY 2,
2025.**

At the January meeting, please remember:

- . Wear your name tag.**
- . Bring a donation for the raffle!**