

# The Begonia CHATTER

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



FOUNDER: THOMAS KEEPIN

<b>Astro Branch</b> American Begonia Society 13410 Balcrest Drive, Houston, Texas 77070 <b>Next Meeting:</b> May 4, 2025 2:00 PM Official Meeting starts (Board meeting starts at 12:30)	<b>PLACE:</b> Plants for All Seasons, 21328 State Hwy 249  <b>PROGRAM:</b> <i>Begonias Pests and Diseases</i>  <b>Snack hosts:</b> Ann Stiefel and Viola Risinger
May 2, 2025 Issue	<a href="http://www.begoniahouston.org">www.begoniahouston.org</a>

President: Kathleen Murphy	Vice President: Jennifer Francois	Treasurer: Ann Stiefel	Secretary: Gloria Hunter
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**Program:** Begonia Pests and Diseases

Pesky pests perturbing you? Be bothered no more! This program will allow you to identify and eliminate pests and diseases that affect our begonias.

**President's Message:**

Hi Astro Begonians!

GAME ON !

COUNTDOWN BEGINS !

See you Sunday for the AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY CONVENTION,  
GET TOGETHER Wrap up.

—Kathleen

Chairs:	Membership Ann Steifel	Seed Fund Janet Carpenter	Webmaster & Nat'l Rep. Malcolm McCorquodale	Newsletter Rosa Brennan, Editor
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## **Begonia Meeting Notes – April 6, 2025**

Present were: Gloria Hunter, Janet Carpenter, Jennifer Francois, Ann Stiefel, Kathleen Murphy, Malcolm McCorquodale, Tom Keepin, Rosa Brennan, Irene & Mike Bragg, Gail Warren, Sue Botts, Tony & Donna Robert, Cheryl Lenert, Viola Risinger, Dehlia Mullins, Cynthia Moody, Our guests were Shirley Agrecola and Tricia Vansen.

The meeting was presided over by our President Kathleen Murphy who welcomed everyone and thanked our hostesses Janet and Irene.

Ann gave the treasurer's report. Our ending balance is 4,272.34

If members need to pay their ABS dues, it can be done online.

Discussion continued about May Convention. Kathleen had registration forms if anyone needed. Early bird deadline is April 21st, after that date the cost goes up. Vote was taken to pay \$60.00 for "Sweepstakes" category under the Major Trophy Sponsorship, motion passed.

Wednesday – Need help setting up and sorting plants as they arrive. Doug will be bringing in plants. Don is setting up the plant show. Ann will be taking registrations in the hotel lobby. Plant swap

Thursday - Judging, judge's luncheon, plant show and plant sale at 7:00 p.m. for ABS members

Friday – Program and workshops (Rosa working on schedule) Show & sale opens to public.

Saturday – Programs & workshops, business luncheon, business meetings, awards banquet

Cheryl asked if anyone was entering plants for show. Encourage all members to participate.

Janet reported on seed donations. She received seeds for *Begonia chingipengii* and *Begonia crassicaulis*.

Kathleen announced a Memorial service for Breanda Andrews will be on April 11th at the Lake Jackson Civic Center, 11:00 a.m. Private gravesite service at 10:00 a.m.

Ann and Viola will be bringing refreshments for the May meeting. Meeting adjourned .

Gloria Hunter, secretary



*Photos this page and following pages by Peter Lloyd.*

*Please remember to:*

- 1. Wear your name tag, and*
- 2. Bring a donation for the raffle table!*
- 3. Bring strawberry boxes (or any similar sturdy box) to donate to the Plant Sale.*
- 4. Your Convention registration form and/or payment, if you would like to attend the 2025 National Begonia Convention.*