

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: July 6, 2025 2:00 PM Official Meeting starts	PLACE: Plants for All Seasons, 21328 State Hwy 249 PROGRAM: <i>Bring Your favorite Begonia & Sale From the Leora Fuentes Collection</i> Snack hosts: Kathleen Murphy and Marianne Canevaro		
July 4, 2025 Issue	www.begoniahouston.org		
President: Kathleen Murphy	Vice President: Jennifer Francois	Treasurer: Ann Stiefel	Secretary: Gloria Hunter

President's Message

Hi fellow Begonians,

As we are currently experiencing, the summer red hot heat melt has officially begun. Next we celebrate the nation's Fourth of July remembrance! I pray all stay hydrated and safe this season.

Comments received about our June meeting say you all had a good, good time. I was sorry to miss the meeting because I needed to acknowledge **Sue Botts** and her contribution to the American Begonia Convention success. Sue helped with the set up, feeding pizza to workers, powerhouse in organization, AND was responsible for the gorgeous table decorations for the Banquet. Great job!

Our programs for the next meeting include a sale of some closed containers from Leora Fuentes, as she is downsizing, that will be for sale reasonably. And then You are the program! **We are asking each member to bring in their favorite Begonia** and let us know what is the plant, where do you grow it, how do you keep it going (any tricks), when does it bloom, and why you like it.

Also there will be a homework exercise for the next meeting that should be a lot of fun!

—Kathleen

Chairs:	Membership Ann Steifel	Seed Fund Janet Carpenter	Webmaster & Nat'l Rep. Malcolm McCorquodale	Newsletter Rosa Brennan, Editor
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Meeting Notes – June 1, 2025

Members present – Gloria Hunter, Janet Carpenter, Jennifer Francois, Ann Stiefel, Malcolm McCorquodale, Rosa Brennan, Irene & Mike Bragg, Gail Warren, Tony & Donna Robert, Cheryl Lenert, Viola Risinger, Dehlia Mullins, Ginny Ledford, Charlyn Brown, Murphy Brown, Cynthia Moody, Midge Gorman, and Sandy Roden. Guest – Mike Polasek

Jennifer welcomed everyone and thanked hostesses, Rosa and Viola for refreshments.

The minutes presented by Rosa were approved.

Treasurer's report for January– Beginning balance: Ending balance:
Brief discussion of convention expenses of and how profits
would be split.

Irene passed around sign-up sheet for hostess for 2025 to bring refreshments.

Old Business: Convention Get Together – Jennifer thanked Plants for all Season's for all their wonderful donations as well as anyone who helped collect and donate to grab bag.

Gloria spoke about her award, first-time entry etc. Malcolm also entered begonias into show and Rosa was acknowledged for having 15 entries and her awards as well as Janet Carpenter's awards.

New Business: Rosa discussed upcoming plant swap on Sunday, June 29th, noon – 5:00, 1519 Fulton, Hip Hop Vintage Flea Market. This would be a good thing to do with leftover plants that were donated to us from the convention as well as adding funds to our bottom line. Rosa asked if anyone would be interested in helping with this event.

Rosa also suggested maybe looking into investing in a CD to make interest, Ann suggested maybe an interest-bearing checking account.

Plants from the convention were brought in for members to buy. These plants were also used for the monthly program and supplies were provided by the club along with terrariums.

Our next meeting will be July 6th. A motion was made to end the meeting, and it was second.

Janet and Cheryl proceeded with their presentation "Terrarium Planting Party."

—Secretary Gloria Hunter

Photos on following pages by Malcolm McCorquodale.



Anne Stiefel



Viola Risinger



Cheryl Lenert



Tony Robert



Dehlia Mullins



Rosa Brennan



Gail Warren



Murphy Brown



Ginny Ledford

Mike Polasek



Irene Bragg



Malcolm McCorquodale



Please remember to:

- 1. Wear your name tag, and*
- 2. Bring your favorite begonia to present to the group.*
- 3. Bring a donation for the raffle table!*