

# 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> September 7, 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> Begonia Dog Show <b>Snack hosts:</b> Delia Mullens, Sandy Roden, and Sue Botts
September 1, 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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**President's Message**

Hi Astro Folks! Lots of good news to relate .

**Number one**, Rosa Brennan is the new Astro Begonia Branch , Branch Director. I know Rosa will represent us well at the National level and we will all benefit greatly from her expertise. Congratulations Rosa, and thank you for tackling this new responsibility! I thank Malcolm McCorquodale for his guidance during his tenure as Astro Branch Director and congratulate him in his new job as Southwest Region Director!

**Number two**, we have renewed our reservations to use the Plants for all Seasons on Hwy 249 classroom for the next year meetings. It's a lease agreement we can't refuse.

**Number three**, the oppressive summer heat will end sometime before the end of the year! Our program for September will be our Begonia Dog Show. As always bring us your tired , your poor, your failure to thrive and /or just plain baffling Begonias with questions that the experts (you) can help with suggestions. Also cuttings to share as we increase by propagation the Love of Begonias. The raffle is also a good place to share cuttings.

I hope y'all are staying dry and your Begonias are well hydrated!

See you Sunday.

Kathleen

Chairs:	Membership Ann Steifel	Seed Fund Janet Carpenter	Webmaster Malcolm McCorquodale	Newsletter National Rep. Rosa Brennan, Editor
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### **Begonia Meeting Notes – August 3, 2025**

Members present – Gloria Hunter, Janet Carpenter, Jennifer Francois, Ann Stiefel, Dehlia Mullins, Malcolm McCorquodale, Gail Warren, Cheryl Lenert, Cynthia Moody, Kathleen Murphy, Thomas Keepin, Charlyn and Murphy Brown, Tony and Donna Robert.

Guests: Albert Howell, Sandy Roden, Peter Lloyd

Kathleen welcomed everyone and thanked hostesses Tony, Donna, and Charlyn for refreshments.

The minutes presented by Gloria were approved.

Treasurer's report for July– Beginning balance - \$xxxxx Ending balance \$xxxxxx. Ann presented detailed report of convention including Income, Expenses, and Profits that were split among ABS, ABS Southwest and ABS Astros branch.

Gloria and Gail reported that the “Thank you” card was presented to Mike at Another Place & Time. He was very touched and thanked us.

Old Business: Janet commented she still needs seed donations, be on the lookout for those seeds from your Begonias. We will be given *B. crassicaulis* seeds to grow as a challenge in January.

New Business: Cheryl discussed having our Begonia picnic on October 5th. We have been invited to Mercer Arboretum, so it is possible it will be there or at Malcolm's.

New member, Charlyn, commented that Mercer was looking for a Succulent & Ginger volunteer. Spoke to us about Begonias at Mercer and how she has some old varieties.

Malcolm announced he is now the new President of the Southwest Region.

Linda at “The Begonian” magazine is looking for article on the history of the Astros Branch. If you would like to submit, please send to Linda at [begoniaskc@gmail.com](mailto:begoniaskc@gmail.com)

We had lots and lots of Begonia plants and members that participated in raffle took home several.

Our next meeting will be on September 7th.

A motion was made to end the meeting, and it was second.

Program –Members brought in cuttings & plants to swap and spoke about how they cared and grew them .

—Gloria Hunter, Secretary

*Please remember to:*

- 1. Wear your name tag.*
- 2. Bring your begonias to show.*
- 3. Bring a cutting to share.*
- 4. Bring a donation for the raffle table!*