

# BEGONIA CHATTER



Astro Branch American Begonia Society 4513 Randwick Drive Houston, Texas 77092-8343 (713) 686-8539	Next Meeting: DATE: November 6, 2022 TIME: 2:00 P.M. PLACE: Plants For All Seasons 21328 State Highway 249 PROGRAM: Hybridizing Begonias
November 2022 Issue	<a href="http://www.begoniahouston.org">www.begoniahouston.org</a>

## THIS WEEK'S MEETING

The November 6, 2022, meeting of the Astro Branch of the American Begonia Society will be held at Plants For All Seasons located at 21328 State Highway 249, Houston, TX. Their telephone number is 281-376-1646. We have the meeting room from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

## PROGRAM: HYBRIDIZING BEGONIAS

This week's program will be a hands-on tutorial on hybridizing begonias and will be presented by Cheryl Lenert. Members will learn how to identify parts of our begonias, how to pollinate and collect seed, and other essential information necessary to achieve a successful hybrid. Members are encouraged to bring their own flowering begonias, or begonia cuttings. If you already have some seed, please bring them sealed in a clean, plastic, prescription pill bottle.

## HOSTS

We will have our usual drawings and the Refreshment Hostesses Irene Bragg and Brenda Andrews will have lots of tasty treats for you to enjoy.

We look forward to seeing you there!

## A MESSAGE FROM JAN CLAYBAUGH

Tom received the following note from Bill Claybaugh's daughter:

*Hello from Bill Claybaugh's daughter Jan Claybaugh. I just wanted to make sure that his friends and colleagues at the Astro Branch and A.B.S. knew that he passed away at the age of 91 on 8-15-22. Please let those who knew him know. He was ill from Parkinson's and pulmonary fibrosis the last few years of his life and lived with each of his daughters. He was cremated and will be in an urn next to his beloved wife Marian. In case anyone happens to be near the kind of remote rural area of Enid, Oklahoma, we are having a small memorial service for him:*

*November 2, 2022, Saturday, 11:15 a.m., Memorial Park Cemetery, 6405 Memorial Drive, Enid, Oklahoma, 73701, phone (580) 237-3472.*

*Thank you,  
Jan*

## President's Message

Greetings all as we welcome in some actual fall weather. Our annual picnic, which was held at Mel Babb's lovely home, was really nice. The weather was made to order, just about perfect. Mel's yard was a gardener's dream, lots of plants of all kinds. We had great food, super desserts, and lots of really nice gifts and plants on the drawing table. Thank you to all who came, it was great to see you. Our own Tony was a bit down with a back problem and we hope he is better than ever soon. If you were not able to make the picnic, you missed a lovely day. Thank you, Mel for hosting this bunch of wild Begoniacs in your home, it was very much appreciated.

During our next meeting, we will be voting on a slate of Officers. It would be nice to see your smiling faces at the meeting. We have many things to plan for the coming year, your input is very important. Our drawing table has been really nice with the additions that members bring, keep up the good work. It's always interesting to see what will appear on that table.

Lastly, please know that you can call, email, or text me anytime with any concerns, complaints or ideas. I will always listen.

Cheers to you all,  
Midge

## NOVEMBER: PRUNING, PLANTING, AND TRANSPLANTING

3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup>	Pisces
8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup>	Taurus
12 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> & 14 <sup>th</sup>	Cancer
22 <sup>nd</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Scorpio

## The American Begonia Society *Charles Jaros Lifetime Achievement Award 2022* is given to Tom Keepin



Truly, the highlight of the Fall Picnic was the presentation of the 2022 Charles Jaros Lifetime Achievement Award given to Tom, introduced with an emotional speech, and presented by Janet Carpenter.



## 2022 Annual Fall Picnic



Above: Janet and Tom, shortly after the presentation of the award.

Below: Mel Babb, at whose lovely home we assembled for the Annual Fall Picnic.



Raffle winners showing off their prizes: Above, Jennifer Francois, below, Aaron Stone.



Above, Tom and his *other* prize! Below, your present-day, striped Chatter editor, Rosa Brennan.



Above, from left: Mel, Kathleen Murphy, Janet, and Astros chapter President, Midge Gorman.



## 2022 Annual Fall Picnic - cont'd

A lovely day in the southwest part of Houston, at Mel Babb's abode. Here she is (far right) giving a tour of her diverse and vibrant garden, in the middle of one of the most diverse and resident-dense parts of Houston. Thanks, Mel!

Below: Peter and Tom



Photos, above, left to right: Kathleen Murphy, Rachel Davidson, and a sun-glassed Gloria Hunter (center).