

VOLUME 10, NUMBER 7

NEWSLETTER

JULY, 2016

NEXT MEETING: JULY 24 2 P.M. GREENE ROOM Austin Area Garden Center Zilker Botanical Garden 2220 Barton Springs Road Austin, TX 78746

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Please submit news to Nelda Moore by the 15th of the month.

Meeting on July 24 will include report of the Nominating Committee.

60th ZILKER GARDEN FESTIVAL March 25-27, 2017

VALERIE MORRIS HOSTESS FOR JUNE MEETING

Valerie Morris greeted members of the Austin Area Begonia Society Branch of the American Begonia Society at 2 P.M. in her lovely home located at 802 Great Britain in South Austin where all who attended enjoyed delicious food and their work in the Greenhouses. It was a fun day and many stayed later than usual on June 26.

Betty Dunn, Jim Estes, Joan Estes, Ken Fuchs, Jackie Johnson, Jim Landers, Arlene Lantz, Valerie Morris, Carol Orozco, Lynn Sissney, and Verlene Schoen planted and placed the begonias in small ponds before taking them back in the greenhouses.

The next meeting will be at Zilker Botanical Garden at 2 P.M. At the May meeting, with Doug's help, we seeded little closed containers with begonia seeds. Please bring your containers to the July 24 meeting, and Doug will instruct us on what to do next with our seedlings. Doug will have all the supplies we need.





Rex Begonia 'Pink Diamor By Carol Orozco



BEST OF SHOW B. *echinosepala var. elogatifolia* By Doug Byrom

During the 2016 Southwest Region Get-Together May 5-7 in Richardson there were 120 entries and 18 exhibitors. In addition to Doug Byrom winning Best of Show Leora Fuentes with 8 blue ribbons won Sweepstakes as well as capturing the Thompson's Showing is Sharing with 28 entries. Begonia 'Mrs. Miller' exhibited by the Fort Worth Botanic Gardens received the Kay Tucker Award for Best Cane. The Best Southwest Region Hybrid was Begonia 'Don Miller' shown by Cindy Moran. It was also selected the Peoples' Choice Award. Dr. Rekha Morris Award for Best Species

sponsored by the Austin Area Begonia Society Branch was given to B. lyman smithii exhibited by Leora Fuentes.

The Southwest Region Fund Drive reached \$8,000; therefore, the total value is \$16,000 with one half going to the American Begonia Society to keep the National Organization financially strong. The other \$8,000 plus \$1,280 from the Southwest Region Get-Together will serve the Fort Worth Botanical Society for maintaining the largest begonia collection in North America.



The above picture taken by Nelda Moore during the tour of the Begonia House in the Fort Worth Botanic Garden shows these beautiful begonias from the Begoniaceae family. Begonia *epipsila* is a native of Brazil.

Begonia guadensis

The small cane with lovely green foliage on the left of the page is a native of Central America.

The begonia on the right with spiraled leaves in shades of reds, apple greens, and silvers is a Rex growing in the Species Bank. It is Begonia **'confetti'**.



REPOTTING BEGONIAS AT VALERIE MORRIS' HOME













Begonia fashionistas

