



VOLUME 12, NUMBER 5

NEWSLETTER

May 2018

Next Meeting: MAY 27, 2018

2 p.m.

Greene Room

Zilker Botanical Garden

2220 Barton Springs Road

Austin, TX 78746

AAGC CONSERVANCY DUES

\$10 PER MEMBER

AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

\$25 TO Linda Kammerer

PO Box 6261

Providence, RI 02940

SOUTHWEST REGION/ ABS

Membership

Individual \$10

Family \$15

Branch \$10

TREASURER: Doug Byrom

1725 Brazos Bend Ave.

Smithville, TX 78957 -2155

**Austin Area Begonia Society
Branch**

Dues: \$10

September 11 Hostess for AAGCC

**Have a safe and wonderful
MEMORIAL DAY!**



MEMBERS ENHANCE GARDEN

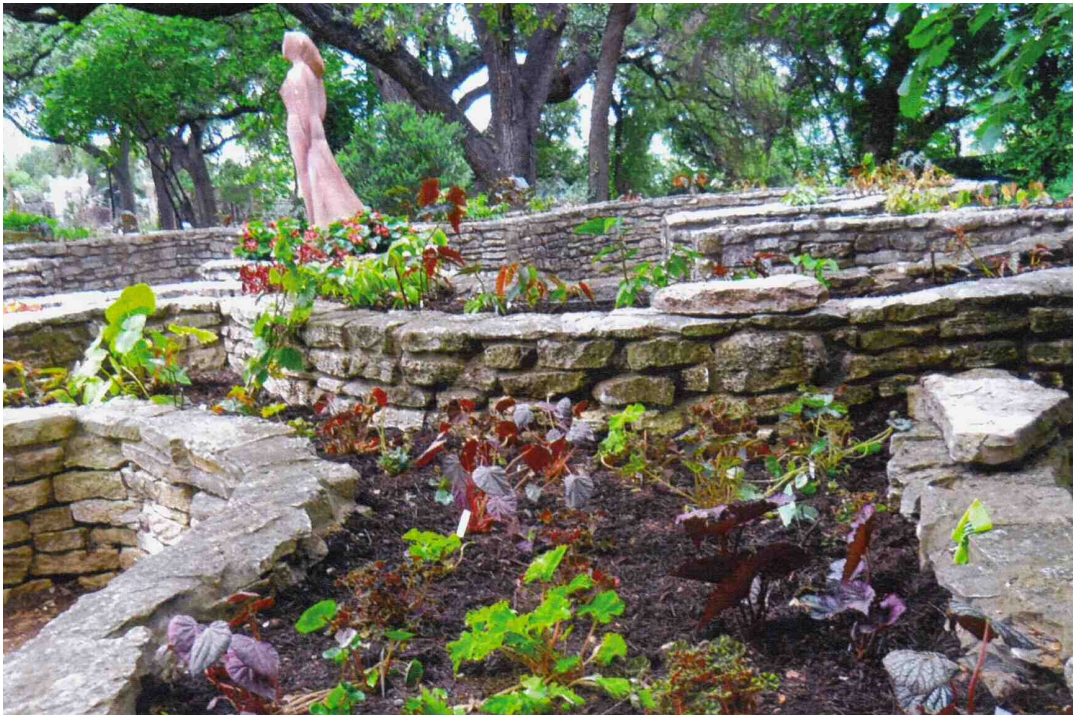
Doug Byrom, Vickey Cole, Jim Estes, Joan Estes, Valerie Morris, and Nelda Moore planted all areas of the Zilker Botanical Garden Begonia Beds Saturday, April 21. Although the statue named Rosemary will be moved during the summer to the new Herb Garden, which was dedicated May 1, the garden already has some vivid red begonias at the base of the brick red modern version of a lady that we had named Miss Begonia. All of the herb rosemary has been taken out of the 2 areas. The garden is looking splendid with many new begonias from the New Orleans Begonia Convention. In some areas several of the same variety form a spectacular setting.

AABS WEBSITE http://www.kenfuchs42.net/aabs_index.html



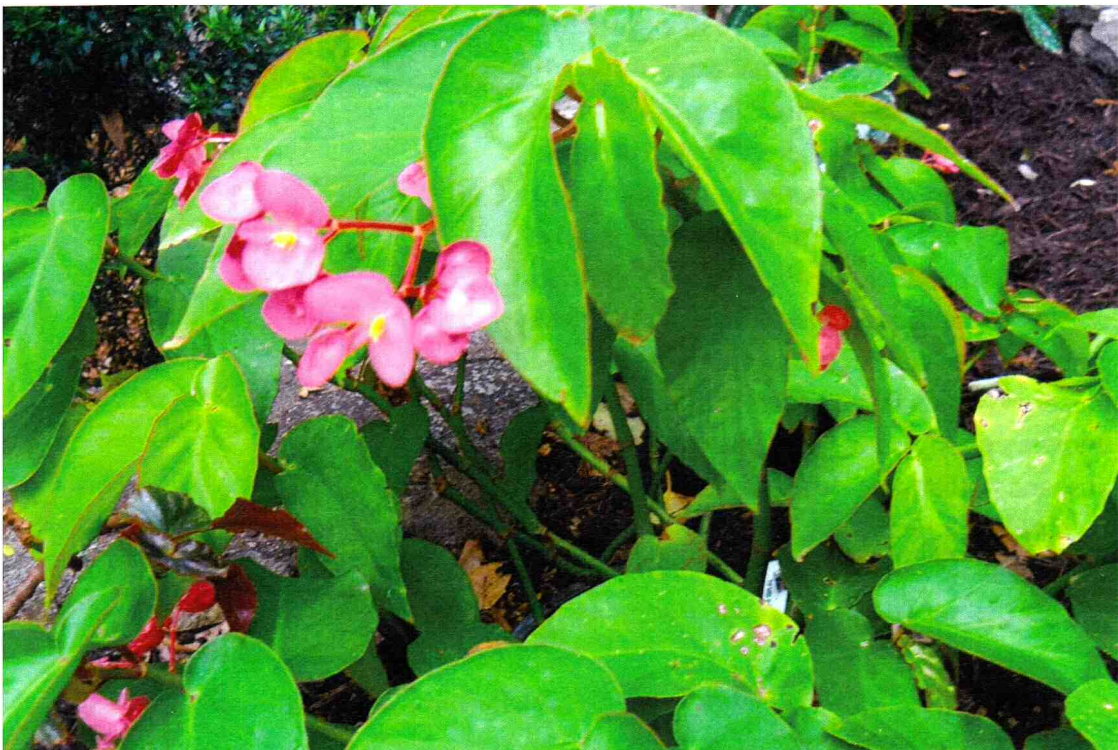
A new type of semperflorens sent to the Zilker Botanical Garden is planted where some of the rosemary had grown. These are in a sunny area.

Begonias grace the statue that is visible behind the multitude of different begonias brought from home, greenhouse, and convention.





BEGONIA 'DIANA' is a cane growing in the Zilker Botanical Garden near the myrtle bush that can be grown from a stem cutting or division of the plant. If one plants the begonia in a pot, there should be excellent drainage.



REMEMBERING JACKIE'S PROGRAM ON LEAF PROPAGATION

Begonia 'Silver Beauty' presented a new leaf recently, and for anyone who is patient these leaves work well in a tiny enclosure, a small terrarium or even a cat food can with a cut out soda bottle over it.

Of two violet leaves I purchased, one died almost immediately, but the other looks hardy, although it has not produced a baby plantlet. I suppose I look at it too much! I am still hoping that something will develop for the \$1 I spent. The leaf is beautiful with its white speckled border or margin.

During the next meeting please tour the Begonia Garden, where you can find B. 'Diana.' Even better, come Wednesday, May 9 or June 13, on Weeding Wednesday to work in the gardens with a group.

Drip irrigation will soon come to the begonias in pots. On Friday, May 4, most of Austin had a storm that finally brought 3.65 inches of badly needed rain since most of the plants, lawns, and trees were showing wilt. Today the begonias are watered for a week of summer temperatures.

Another shade loving plant that I wanted is pictured above. I had enjoyed the ginger plants, and I happened to be at a local nursery when I found a colorful version. It works perfectly in a large blue pot that my husband purchased.

Nelda

The acrylic painting at the right won the
Alice Clark Award for Pat Maley and Ernie
Belkham in Arts and Crafts in New Orleans,
Louisiana ABS/SWR Convention.

