

**Blooming Begonias Newsletter – November,
2021 – January 2022**

President: Rebecca Stallard
Vice-President: Marcia Bedasse
Treasurer: Frances Drescher
Secretary: Beverly Lichtenstein
National Representative: Sandra Arlund

Next Meeting: Monday, March 14, 2022 @ 7 p.m.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, February 5, 2022 - Gardenfest – Vero Beach (see below)

Saturday, March 19, 2022 – Kit Pannill Garden Tour, Palm Beach – Details to follow

President's Message

Greetings to my fellow Begonia Society Members!

In the last year and a half we have had our eyes opened in a way we would never have imagined. We have had to take many a pause from what we would consider normal life with change and adjustments being more prevalent. Because we were separated from each other, I have recognized I am more interested in and aware of the people I interact with than merely the activity itself. I guess what I am getting at is that although our gatherings may be smaller at times, our getting together as a group with common interests continues to be meaningful.

We have terrific new members, members that are already friends, knowledgeable programs and inspiring field trips on the horizon. We'll keep you posted on upcoming dates with emails and blasts, so try to check regularly.

I wish health and happiness to you and your families!

Rebecca Stallard, President

Minutes - Begonia Society of the Palm Beaches

November 8, 2021 Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Begonia Society of the Palm Beaches was held on Monday, November 8, 2021 in the auditorium of Mounts Botanical Garden at 7:35 P.M. Rebecca Stallard presided in the absence of President Donnie Brown and the Secretary being present. Rebecca thanked Frances for keeping the doors open from 4:45 P.M. to 6:30 P.M.

Marcia moved that the regular monthly meetings start at 7:00 P.M. The motion was adopted unanimously.

TREASURERS REPORT

Frances reported the balance on hand as of November, 2021.

A \$25.00 gift card was sent to Johanna for August program.

NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Marcia will report at a later date.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership

Sandy Sklar reported 30 paid members.

Newsletter

Rebecca thanked Leslie for the latest newsletter.

Refreshments

Nancy thanked all who contributed refreshments. She circulated a sign-up sheet for the January, 2022 meeting. Members present volunteered to bring side dishes for the Begonia Bingo pot-luck dinner.

Webmaster

Linda volunteered to serve as webmaster & update the website.

Program Suggestions

“Bring a friend” to meetings.

January- a field trip to Petra’s garden.

February- auction

March, April, May- review propagation, growing from seed, grooming for a show.

Organize an unjudged begonia flower show and invite outsiders to participate

Challenge- start three different plants or cuttings in November, compare their growth in March or April.

Cuttings provided by the participants or the Fort Worth Botanical Gardens. Investigate seed bank possibilities.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Members voted to approve the following slate of officers, a quorum being present:

President: Rebecca Stallard

Vice President: Marcia Bedasse

Secretary: Beverly Lichtenstein

Treasurer: Frances Drescher

National Representative: Sandra Arlund

Organization of the December meeting, Begonia Bingo

Leslie will give the invocation.

Virginia will move that the slate be accepted.

Sandy will perform the installation of officers.

Set-up at 5:30 P.M., doors open at 6:00 P.M., eat at 6:30 P.M., followed by Bingo

Volunteers for set-up are Frances, Sandy A., Nancy and Rebecca.

Sandy A. will check on the turkey prices, Rebecca will provide the ham.

Patrick will call Begonia Bingo.

Harmony Foliage will provide the begonias.

Announcements: **The Financial Review Committee will meet in 2022 and present the results of the review at the March meeting. Serving are Beverly, committee chair, and Sandy S. and Linda L.**

PROGRAM

Members brought a favorite begonia for “Show and Tell”.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Grooming the Begonia Garden is scheduled on Saturday, November 12, 2021 at 9:00 A.M. at Mounts. The October 2022 regular monthly meeting will be Monday, October 17, 2022 to observe Columbus Day. The Financial Review Committee will meet in February, 2022. Serving are Sandy S., Beverly and Linda L.

Sandy S. moved that the club get an ABS g-mail address. The motion was adopted after discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 P.M

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Lichtenstein, Secretary

Minutes - Begonia Society of the Palm Beaches December 13, 2021 Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Begonia Society of the Palm Beaches was held on Monday, December 13, 2021, at 6:30 P.M, in the Mounts Auditorium, the President being in the chair and the Secretary being present.

SPECIAL PROGRAM ARRANGEMENT: BEGONIA BINGO

The set-up committee met at the Mounts Auditorium at 5:30 P.M. to decorate the tables with greens and ornaments. Members arrived from 6:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. with side dishes and desserts for a pot-luck dinner.

A stunning assortment of begonias was displayed for members to choose from for a Bingo prize. Thank you, Frances, for selecting and delivering the plants.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 P.M. Donnie Brown welcomed members and guests. Dinner was enjoyed until 7:35 P.M.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Sandy Sklar officiated at the installation. She welcomed members and guests and introduced new member Lois Petzold.

INTRODUCTION OF INCOMING BOARD MEMBERS

President: Rebecca Stallard

Vice President: Marcia Bedasse

Secretary: Beverly Lichtenstein

Treasurer: Frances Drescher

National Representative: Sandra Arlund

COMMITTEE REPORTS

President

Rebecca Stallard reminded the membership that meetings will start ½ hour earlier as of January 10, 2022.

Vice President

Marcia Bedasse reported that there will be a program at the January 10, 2022 meeting. A field trip is planned for the February meeting. Details to follow.

REFRESHMENTS

Nancy thanked everyone who contributed to the pot-luck dinner

Members signed up for monthly refreshment responsibilities.

PROGRAM

Begonia Bingo started at 7:50 P.M. with Patrick explaining the rules of the game.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

*Respectfully submitted,
Beverly Lichtenstein, Secretary*

The Vero Beach “Gardenfest” is around the corner. This is a superb garden festival and not to be missed! There are many vendors, some of whom will have begonias for sale. Riverside Park in Vero is a wonderful venue for this event – easily accessible, plenty of parking and a beautifully shaded area where the many vendors are set up. Gardenfest will be held both days – Saturday, February 5 and Sunday, February 6. Of course, you are welcome to attend one or both days. We are hoping to have our members meet there on Saturday so that we may get together and visit while we shop and enjoy GardenFest! The brochure below has all the pertinent information.

Take One

“Ask The Experts”
both days

Great Raffle Prizes!
...no need to be present to win!

Free Admission & Parking

Quality Vendors!

- ✦ Plants
- ✦ Flowers
- ✦ Orchids
- ✦ Trees
- ✦ Pottery
- ✦ Furniture
- ✦ Native Plants
- ✦ Garden Art

Great Food! & Youth Activities

Riverside Park in Vero Beach

3260 Riverside Park Drive.....Off Rt. 60, beachside, in Vero Beach

Saturday, Feb. 5, 9 am - 5 pm
Sunday, Feb. 6, 9 am - 4 pm

Rain or Shine

Bring your wagon

Check our web site for more information and directions...
www.gardenclubofire.org

Our Holiday meeting was delightful! We were able to enjoy each other’s company, eat delicious food, install our new officers and play “Begonia Bingo.” Thank you to all who were able to attend and share your treats. We are grateful, as always, to Patrick Dempsey for calling Bingo for us.

All of us, including our guests, won Begonia prizes!

We thank Donnie Brown for her service as President of our branch. It's been a challenging time to act in this capacity but she stayed the course and always with her pleasant demeanor and positive attitude.

We're grateful to our new officers for stepping up to the plate to keep our Society moving forward in furtherance of our love of Begonias. The board is busy working on plans for our upcoming meeting programs, field trips and membership growth. Please consider submitting ideas for a garden tour or even a visit to your own garden. All submissions are appreciated.

Let's all pitch in and commit to attending meetings and field trips. It's wonderful to get together and share our love of Begonias.



Begonia Prizes



Beautiful and Delicious Cookies!



Swearing in of our new Officers



Outgoing President, Donnie Brown

If you're not already doing so, propagate your plants and share the fruits of your labor with your fellow Society members. It is certainly a welcome sight to walk into a meeting and see members who've brought in plants to share or sell.

If you have a Begonia or general gardening topic, or have taken some great pictures of your Begonias in all their beauty – please send it in for inclusion in our newsletter. Email me: eldee1027@aol.com.

Stay healthy, friends!
Leslie Fee, Newsletter Editor