

The Begonia CHATTER

*Newsletter of the Astro Branch
of the American Begonia Society*



FOUNDER: THOMAS KEEPIN

<p>Astro Branch American Begonia Society 13410 Balcrest Drive, Houston, Texas 77070 Next Meeting: March 1, 2026 2:00 PM Official Meeting starts</p>	<p>PLACE: Plants for All Seasons, 21328 State Hwy 249 PROGRAM: ASTRO'S ANNUAL CUTTINGS SWAP AND PROPAGATION EXTRA- GANZA! Snack hosts: Tony and Donna Robert</p>
<p>February 23, 2026</p>	<p>www.begoniahouston.org</p>

President:
Kathleen Murphy

Vice President:
Jennifer Francois

Treasurer:
Ann Stiefel

Secretary:
Gloria Hunter

President's Message

Hi Fellow Begonians:

Lots of excitement in the air! Spring is springing and full-scale plans for the National Begonia Convention and Southwest Region Get-Together have been implemented!! Now is a good time to narrow down your choices of plant entries, thinking about presentation, grooming and pot cleaning. So save the dates: May 27 through May 30 in Fort Worth.

Back here at home on Sunday we are hosting our FABULOUS Plant Swap and Begonia cuttings. This event everybody looks forward to swapping out your favorite begonias for some special begonia you've been coveting. Razzle and dazzle us with your knowledge of your begonias and be prepared to be bombarded with requests for your plants and cuttings.

We know a great time will be had by all!

See you Sunday!

—Kathleen Murphy

Chairs:

Membership
Ann Steifel

Seed Fund
Janet Carpenter

Webmaster
Malcolm McCorquodale

Newsletter National Rep.
Rosa Brennan, Editor

Begonia Meeting Notes—February 1, 2026

Members present – Gloria Hunter, Gail Warren, Janet Carpenter, Malcolm McCorquodale, Cynthia Moody, Kathleen Murphy, Thomas Keepin, Rosa Brennan, Viola Risinger, Ann Stiefel, Cheryl Lenert, and Dehlia Mullins. Guest- Peter Lloyd.

We had a wonderful program about “SOIL” prior to our meeting presented by Sherri Harrah from Plants for All Seasons.

Kathleen welcomed everyone (3:27 p.m.) and thanked hostesses (Rosa & Janet) for refreshments.

The minutes were presented and read by Gloria, and were approved.

Treasurer’s report – Ann gave treasurer’s report, beginning balance \$7,386.64, ending balance \$7,386.64.

Old Business: Janet commented she received lots of seeds and next date for sorting/mailling seeds is Monday, Feb 16th.

New Business:

Malcolm – Accommodations for Begonia Convention will be at Home2 Suites by Hilton, 1145 University, Ft Worth, Texas. Room rate is \$139.00. The registration form is almost complete. Judging School will be May 26th. Convention will be Wednesday, May 27th – Saturday, May 30th, in Ft. Worth, Texas

Cheryl discussed donations to host speaker from Thailand. She made a motion to donate \$150.00 for the speaker, Janet 2nd. Motion passed.

Kathleen asked about cuttings from Ft Worth we received last year and how they did, discussion followed regarding shipments, growth etc.

Cheryl discussed bringing cuttings to next meeting and have a “swap cutting”. Everyone please brings at least 2 cuttings.

Discussion about planning a road trip to Mercer Arboretum, with Charlene.

Janet did mention that Ft Worth Greenhouse had asked if there were Begonia plants, we wanted seeds from to let her know. They would need to be species seeds.

Next meeting is March 1st and hostess for March meeting are Tony & Donna Roberts.

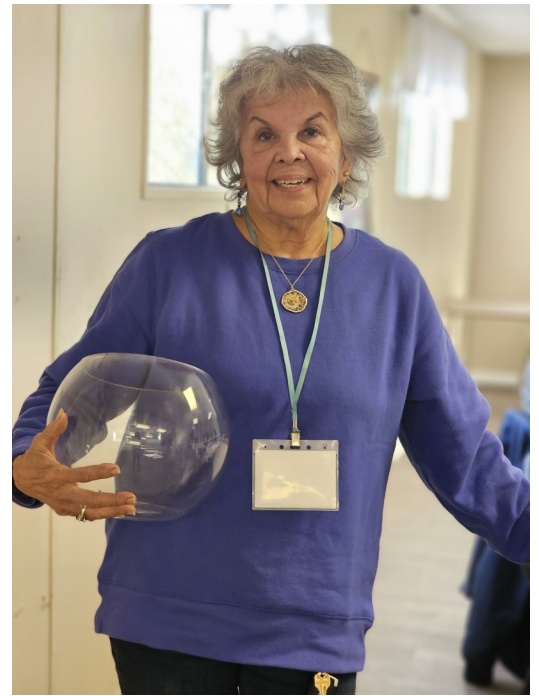
A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, and it was seconded.

—Gloria Hunter, Secretary

AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY—HOUSTON
ASTRO BRANCH'S ANNUAL
**CUTTING SWAP AND
PROPAGATION EVENT!**



Members will bring cuttings of their begonia specimens to share with each other and any guests who would like to learn more about how to propagate!





2026 MEETING DATES



January 11*

FEBRUARY 1

MARCH 1

APRIL 12*

MAY 3

JUNE 7

JULY 12*

AUGUST 2

SEPTEMBER 13*

OCTOBER 4

NOVEMBER 1

DECEMBER 6

*Date adjusted to account for Holiday or Nursery's schedule

PLEASE REMEMBER TO:

1. WEAR YOUR NAME TAG.
2. BRING A DONATION FOR THE RAFFLE TABLE!
3. BRING CUTTINGS!