



# BEGONIA SOCIETY NEWS

DELAWARE VALLEY BRANCH OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY  
CHARTERED FEBRUARY 2002

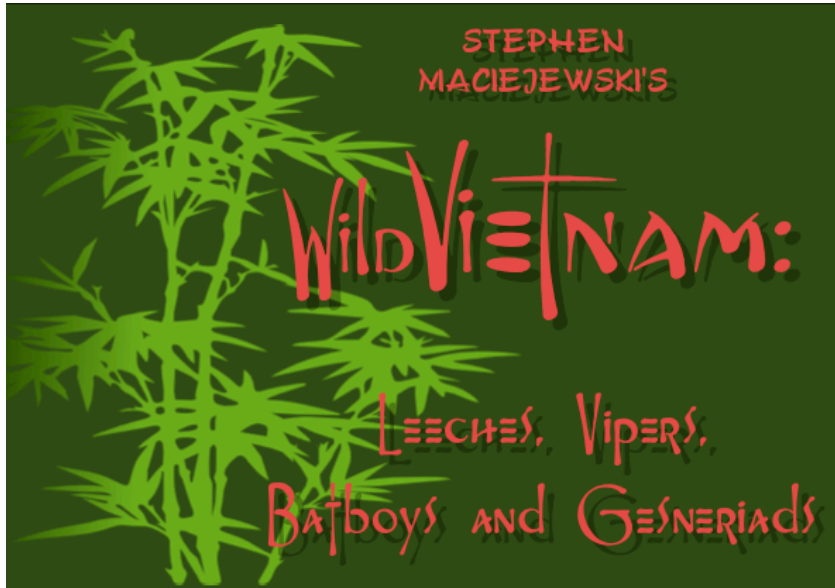
November 2013

President – **Michael Ascher**  
Recording Secretary – **Dave Messer**  
Membership Secretary – **Debby Evans**

Newsletter Editor– **Debby Evans**

Vice President – **Heather Ascher**  
Treasurer – **Lois Keil**  
National Director - **Bernie Wiener**

## NOVEMBER MEETING AND PROGRAM



Stephen Maciejewski joins us again for an interesting and entertaining program on his recent trip to Vietnam. We will join Stephen as he takes us on a 15-day journey into Vietnam, going where few have gone before. Follow him and a group of Chinese and Vietnamese botanists as they travel from Hanoi in search of plants and adventure. You'll visit: Hang Kia Pako, Pu Hu, Pu Hoat, Pu Huong, Phong Nhake Bang and other places. You'll see plants never seen before, plus birds, snakes, frogs, butterflies, Hmong people, a Vietnamese wedding, memorable food, beautiful buildings and also spend a night with the Forest Rangers.

There will be a board meeting following the regular meeting. All members are invited to attend and contribute to the discussion.

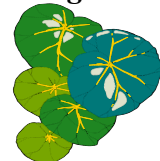
## NOVEMBER MEETING

**Saturday, November 2, 2013**  
**Huntingdon Valley Library –**  
Community Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

625 Red Lion Road  
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

Directions from Meadowbrook Farm Nursery – Continue on Washington Lane past Meadowbrook Farm to Welsh Road. (PA Rte. 63) Turn right onto Welsh Road and go 1.3 miles to Huntingdon Pike. (PA Rte. 232) Turn left onto Huntingdon Pike and proceed to Red Lion Road, .5 mile on the right. Turn right onto Red Lion and go .1 mile. The library will be on the left. The second driveway, after you pass the library building, will take you to the parking lot nearest the entrance to the community room.

*Refreshments at 9:30 AM*  
*Meeting at 10:00 AM*



## REFRESHMENTS

**Helene Stephenson and Debby Kendall**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope that everyone enjoyed the September meeting as much as I did. To me, the two most important aspects of our group is socializing with pleasant people who share a common interest, and learning about begonias and related topics. While all of our meetings satisfy the social aspect, the September meeting addressed the educational component in an outstanding fashion.

First, the show presented an array of begonias that were of a class of such distinction, that not even at the PHS Flower Show could one find its equal. We can all be proud that we were able to present an exhibit of this quality. Congratulations are certainly due those who were able to achieve ribbons in the context of such an outstanding display. The DVC/ABS appreciates the work of the judges Lucy Kuder, Ed MacFarland and Janet Welsh in the difficult task of selecting the winners and in describing the procedures involved in this selection.

Second, our panel of experts provided interesting stories detailing the development of their association with begonias. In addition, their description of all phases of growing and maintaining their begonias yielded invaluable information to supplement the methods of those of us with varying degrees of experience. For their contribution the DVC/ABS thanks the panelists: Tony Ashton, Denise Conklin, Lucy Kuder, Helene Stephenson, and Janet Welsh.

I hope that you are all doing well and enjoying the much-anticipated arrival of the beautiful autumn colors and the cool, invigorating weather. I look forward to greeting all of you at our November meeting.

*Michael Ascher*

## FACEBOOK USERS - INFORMATION

Please visit our page, called Delaware Valley Branch American Begonia Society, and make yourself known with comments or indicate that you LIKE the postings you see. When readers come to our page they learn that DVB exists and also see our meeting announcements. This is meant to be just another means to find potential new members. As an added benefit you may find a lost friend or relative, which makes it even more interesting. So remember to visit our Facebook page and become part of the family.

*Bernie Wiener*

## SHOW AND TELL / PLANT CLINIC HELD AT EVERY MEETING

Please remember to bring an interesting plant that you may have for Show and Tell. All of us have an interesting plant to share and let others drool over. We always have the most interesting conversations and learn the most from one another, so do your part.

If you have a plant that you don't understand, bring it along and someone will try to figure it out for you.

Remember, **bugs** are not welcome.

## MEETING MINUTES

### Regular Meeting, September 7, 2013, Meadowbrook Farm

Meeting opened at 10 am by President Michael Ascher. Debby Evans handed out copies of the updated Constitution, By-Laws and Membership List. Bernie Wiener presented an example of a rhizomatous begonia growing out of a light volcanic rock as an example of a different way of growing begonias. Dave Hower handed out potted plants of B. 'Little Darling' as the new challenge plant for the membership to grow.

**Main Presentation:** Michael Ascher moderated a panel of DVB experts – Lucy Kuder, Tony Ashton, Helene Stephenson, Janet Welsh and Denise Conklin – on the care of rhizomatous begonias. The panel discussed their own personal experiences with growing begonias in general, and rhizomatous begonias in particular, covering soil, watering, propagation, light and fertilizing. Most of the discussion centered around optimum watering – the general consensus was to not water until the soil feels dry to a finger poked in a short distance.

**Begonia Show:** The winners are as follows:

Class 1a, Cane Begonia Flowering – 1st, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> place Tony Ashton

Class 4b, Rhizomatous Begonia Non Flowering – 1<sup>st</sup> Tony Ashton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grace Beatty & Dave Hower, 3<sup>rd</sup> Lois Keil, Honorable Mention Steve Breman, Michael Ascher

Class 5b, Begonias Grown in a Container – 1<sup>st</sup> Helene Stephenson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lois Keil

The usual plant raffle followed.

Next DVB – ABS meeting – November 2<sup>nd</sup>, Huntingdon Valley Library Community Room

*Dave Messer*

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IS HERE!!!

Those members who have a **January 1<sup>st</sup>** renewal date should plan to pay their dues at the November meeting or during the month of November in order to expedite a timely renewal of their membership and to ensure that the Begonian will be delivered without interruption.

Please note that **if your renewal date is not in January, this notice does not apply to you.** If in doubt, contact Debby Evans, Membership Secretary – [dfevans@msn.com](mailto:dfevans@msn.com) for clarification, or call.

The membership renewal form will be found on the last page of this newsletter. Please fill it in clearly and bring to the November meeting, or mail it directly to Lois Keil, Treasurer. Other than your name, there will be no need to fill it out again unless your information has changed, i.e. your email address. When in doubt, fill it out CLEARLY so it can be read.

## CALENDAR FOR 2013 - 2014

Please put these dates on your personal calendar for planning purposes. Details and additions will follow as they become available.

November 2<sup>nd</sup> – Huntingdon Valley Library – Community Room

January 4<sup>th</sup> 2014 – Annual Meeting, Huntingdon Valley Library – Community Room  
February 1<sup>st</sup> – Huntingdon Valley Library – Community Room  
March 1 – 9, Philadelphia International Flower Show  
March 19 – 23, National ABS Convention in Florida (Visit the ABS web site at Begonias.org for details)  
April 5<sup>th</sup> – Huntingdon Valley Library – Community Room  
June 7<sup>th</sup> at Meadowbrook Farm – spring picnic

**DELAWARE VALLEY BRANCH OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA  
SOCIETY  
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM - 2013**

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National ABS should receive annual membership dues for most of our members before January 1, 2013. Please fill out the attached form and either bring to the November meeting (preferred) or mail it directly to the Treasurer. Those or are on a different billing schedule will be contacted at the appropriate time.

The annual membership fee continues to be \$33.00

Please make your check payable to: DVB - ABS

If you have any questions regarding dues, please contact Debby Evans, Membership Secretary at 215-836-1590.

Send payment and form to: Delaware Valley Branch – ABS  
% Lois Keil – Treasurer  
62 West Pickering Bend  
Richboro, PA 18954

**RENEWAL DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 9, 2013**

If you send your dues in after this date you run the risk of not receiving the next Begonian.

Cut here \_\_\_\_\_

**DELAWARE VALLEY BRANCH OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA  
SOCIETY**

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**Membership Renewal**

Please print *clearly*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_