

Begonias: Tres Bien
Seminars, Tours, and Meeting Descriptions
ABS Convention/SWR Get-Together April 2-8, 2018
Hilton Airport Hotel
New Orleans, Louisiana
Updated 1/6/2018

Meetings

Wednesday, April 4

Evening

Training Session for those who wish to learn to use ABS Show Scheduling/Entry Program. If you wish to attend please email Linda Kammerer at elkay6@gmail.com prior to the Convention. Participants should bring an IBM type laptop and a thumb drive to exchange for one containing the ABS program. Laptop should have the Microsoft Office Access program in order to run the program. Contact Linda if you have other questions.

Saturday, April 7

Afternoon

- ABS Business Meeting
- SWR Business Meeting
- Louisiana E-Branch Annual Meeting
- Branch Newsletter Editors Meeting led by Linda Tamblyn

Seminars

Monday, April 2

Evening

Eddie Martin: Growing Begonias in Louisiana, Hospitality Room.

Wednesday, April 4

Evening

Randy Kerr: Update on the ABS U Number Program

Yu-Min Shui: The author of the new book *Begonia of China* (in English and Chinese) will discuss the begonias contained in his new book.

Wen-Ke Dong (Victor Dawn): One of the key authors of the book *Cultivation and Appreciation of Wild Begonias* will discuss the book, conservation efforts and the upcoming First International Begonia Symposium at the Xiamen Botanical Garden in Xiamen, China in August.

The two books will be available for inspection and instructions for ordering will be provided.

Thursday, April 5

Morning

Antoon Hofnagels: ‘The Nagoya Protocol’ - Very important new information for Begonia growers and hybridizers on an international issue.

Mark Hughes: New Begonia Research at the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh where he is a lead researcher

Rosario Rubite: Will discuss begonias of the Philippines. She is with the University of the Philippines in Manila and is also interested in helping us identify the unidentified Philippine species we have in our listing. If you have one, bring a small plant for her to see.

Afternoon

Rekha Morris: Some Species Begonias from Mexico and Central America.

Panel on the Practical Side: *Mary Sakamoto, Janet Brown and Martin Delgado* will demonstrate the pruning of canes, thick stems and shrubs.

Saturday, April 7

Morning

Don Miller: Who are the Southwest Region Hybridizers? There will be a booklet listing the hybridizers and their hybrids for sale at a nominal fee and Don will describe his experiences with many of them.

Panel: *Don Miller, Bobbie Price, Tom Keepin with Cheryl Lenert Chairing* on questions about hybridizing.

Deborah Garrett: The Species Bank of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, Current Status and Future Plans.

Tours

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

Pre-Convention Tour -Travel by bus to capital city of Baton Rouge. Visit private rare plant nursery and large local retail nursery. Guided tour and box lunch at Burden Plantation Rural Life Museum and Windrush Garden.

Wednesday, April 4, 2018

Bus to Houmas House Plantation. Guided tour of Ante-bellum sugar plantation mansion (voted #1 by USA Today), visit 38-acre tropical garden. Buffet Lunch at renowned Louisiana restaurant.

Friday, April 6, 2018

Shuttle bus to New Orleans Botanical Garden, City Park, New Orleans Museum of Art and Besthoff Sculpture Garden. Return to hotel on shuttle for Judges' Luncheon (or lunch on your own). Fee includes Botanical Garden—OR—Art Museum. Sculpture Garden Free. Shuttle returns to park after Lunch and back to hotel late afternoon.

Sunday, April 8, 2018

Post-Convention Tour. Bus picks up at hotel and Drops off at World War II Museum or Stay on bus for 3-hour guided tour of New Orleans if preferred. Bus returns to museum, lunch on your own at the American Sector Restaurant in museum. Bus leaves Museum after lunch for private garden tour.