


# AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY



## Bulletin

MARCH 1952

Bulletin No. 124

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AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

George W. Peyton, Editor — Rapidan, Virginia

# AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

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Vice-President: Mrs. Earl W. Knapp,  
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## DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

No. 2. Ben R. Massey, Box 406, Pomp-  
ton Plains, New Jersey.

No. 4. Mrs. Earl W. Knapp, Route 1,  
Carmel, Indiana.

No. 5. Marvin C. Karrels, 3272 South  
46th Street, Milwaukee 14, Wis.

No. 6. L. W. Lindgren, 1787 West  
Minnehaha Avenue, St. Paul, 4,  
Minnesota.

No. 7. Frank E. Moots, 1127 West  
Broadway, Newton, Kansas.

No. 8. Mrs. F. B. Eylar, Route 2,  
Box 610, Renton, Washington.

Other districts not yet organized.  
If above are not correct, please re-  
port correct officer.

## OBJECTIVES

The Articles of Incorporation state: Sec. 2. That the particular objects for which the corporation is to be formed are as follows: To increase the general interest in the cultivation and use of the peony; to improve the standard of excellence of the flower; to improve the methods of its cultivation and methods of placing it upon the market; to increase its use as a decorative flower; to bring about a more thorough understanding between those interested in its culture; to properly supervise the nomenclature of the different varieties and kinds of peonies; to stimulate the growing and introduction of improved seedlings and crosses of such flower; and to promote any of the general objects herein specified by holding or causing to be held examinations, and awarding or causing or procuring to be awarded, prizes therefor, or in any other manner.

## MEMBERSHIP

The By-Laws state: All reputable persons, professional or amateur, who are interested in the peony, its propagation, culture, sale and development, are eligible to membership.

The annual dues are now \$5.00 a year. The year begins with January 1 and runs the calendar year. Applicants for membership should send a check or money order for five dollars payable to AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY to the Secretary. If cash is sent, the letter should be registered. The Society will not be responsible for any cash remittances made otherwise. Membership fee is \$5.00 in which is included a subscription for one year to the Bulletin, \$3.00 to members.

## THE BULLETIN

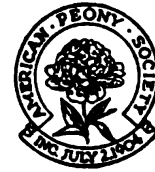
The Bulletin is issued quarterly, usually in March, June, September and December. Back numbers will be charged for at \$1.25 a copy for the current and preceding years and fifty cents for others when available.

## DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRATION

This department was formed "to properly supervise the nomenclature of the different varieties and kinds of peonies." Those who desire to register a new variety, and all new varieties should be registered to avoid duplication of names, should apply to George W. Peyton, Chairman, Nomenclature Committee. Registration fee is \$2.00 for each variety registered.



# AMERICAN Peony Society Bulletin



MARCH, 1952 — NO. 124

## The President's Message

### ABOUT THAT 1952 SHOW

NEAL R. VAN LOON  
*Newton, N. J.*

I promised to tell you something of what we have up our sleeve for the coming show.

First, let me say, it is no whim that our Schedule Cover carries the words in big type "Just For Beauty."

From its inception it has been our constant thought and purpose to strive in this particular show for the highest possible degree of over all, general effect beauty. We want to give you and the public as big an eyeful as we can. We truly crave for each one of us a satisfying meal of this fundamental life-giving substance.

Of course, it is the purpose and aim of any flower show to educate and to inspire people to larger and more serious garden effort. We hope to make more peony apostles. We wish to mark peony progress; but to bring a substantial love offering to the Muse of Beauty—that is our first passion. This thing has obsessed us almost day and night for several years.

### CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

The customary tables and stands for exhibiting the blooms will not be much in evidence. Tables are usually too high. It is the nature of the peony to look upward more than outward.

Instead, we are building a series of racks so we can start close to the floor and so no single flower will hide any other flower. These display racks will utilize three or five planes. It will be possible for the eye to take in a great many blooms at one time.

In the Court of Beauty, which is to be viewed last, (we have a plan of viewing which one might call "the plan of cumulative interest") it will be possible to take in practically every flower in that department at one glance. In this department every container will be clothed with a sleeve. A handsome entry card will mark every exhibit.

Display racks will be covered with cloth of some kind depending on what can be had. Art verses, done by capable persons, will greet you here and there.

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Winners will find the respective seals on their cards. Notations will be made on the Show Charts and when the judging is completed these charts will give a complete picture of the show and your entry cards will be your personal history of this show.

Throughout the show room considerable use will be made of the diagonal line and of the receding line. We shall be alert to appropriate anything at all that may add to the sum total of beauty.

Another thing, of which I am a bit proud, is the series of organ concerts. Live music, emanating from pulsating heart flesh adds much to the atmosphere of any cultural doings.

The artiste will be Mrs. Catherine Harrigan of Manitou Island, Lake Mohawk. This queenly personage plays indeed from the heart. Her playing will, I assure you, reach also the strings of yours.

These concerts will last about thirty minutes each. A few masterpieces will be offered, but for the most part this living music will be in keeping with the pattern of the show which I told you of formerly; "An old fashioned Valentine, the best on the shelf."

You will hear Moore's old "Bendemeer Stream" a melody so wistfully haunting and sweet that no one but an Irishman could ever possibly have dreamed it up. We will have "The Rosary," dear to a million hearts. You may take a flight with the swallow "La Golondrina" through sunny Spain, or dance in your spirit with Strauss in his "Tales of the Vienna Woods." There will be plenty of others of a similar taste and temper.

#### PRACTICAL ASPECTS

Judging procedure and judges' records will be simple and understandable. The judges will simply

indicate their choices with a pencil. The clerks will turn the entry cards, affix the proper seals and check on the charts.

The class place cards will be ample and you will not need to thumb through the schedule when you carry your pet hopes toward the exhibition racks.

For the Special classes and for all Specimens all you need to do is to temporarily affix your entry card to a stem with a garden twistum and take the flower to the staging committee. They will take care of the rest. You can wash your hands of the matter except for the neat little chore yet of collecting your spoils in case Nature working with you has done a better job than Nature working with somebody else.

Let us take the Sword-Swallower from Milwaukee as an example. He does not have to worry even over registration except to check whether his entry cards, already made out, will all be used. He merely unpacts his poison and places the individual doses into bottles and delivers them to the locale of the respective classes. Placement of wins are merely checked on the big charts by the clerks. All he does now is to collect his fat check from our bag carrier for I predict his marks will be many. It may just be though, that if we all concentrate on him, we might be able to subtract from the charge of uranium in his war head.

I remember Fatty Wright on our High School football team. He gained ground like a pile driver, by enormous yardages. One Saturday all the members of an opposing team ganged up on him. I don't think he is over it yet. Final score, 65 to 0 and 22 bruised noggins.

Why is it that everyone seems so anxious to murder the champ?

## EXHORTATIONS AND ENTREATIES

Don't come to this show expecting big-city accommodations. You will be away out in the Country in the hills and mountains of Sussex. A little extra gracious sportsmanship on the part of all of us will be like sweet oil on the bearings.

IN ALL YOUR FAIR AND VAST EXPANSE, AMERICA, MONA, MUCH BELOVED, WHEREVER BURNS YOUR FREEDOM'S CONSECRATED LIGHT, I HAVE FOUND NO LOVELIER SPOT THAN COUNTY SUSSEX.

HER ROCKS AND HILLS ARE GRACED, METHINKS, WITH EXTRA TOUCHES OF CONSUMMATE CREATOR HANDS. THESE GREAT GRAY FRIAR FRIENDS STAND EVER BESIDE ME, MOSS-DRAPE, LICHEN-CLOTHED. SO UTTERLY INTIMATE AND DEAR. ROWON ROWI SEE THEM RISE. THEIR TEMPLED HEIGHTS ARE EVER CROWNED WITH PURPLE HAZE OR MELTING MISTS IN PERENNIAL EXALTATION. THEIR RUSHING RILLS, SUN-SPANGLED STREAMS COME HASTENING DOWN TO KISS THE WAITING VALLEYS WITH LIPS STILL COOL AND SWEET.

Train service hereabouts is poor, infrequent, in fact, practically non-existent. Are you in a hurry all the time my friend? Better take the Toonerville Trolley. You will get there quicker. Busses are known to travel in County Sussex but not very often.

No great hall with ceiling vaulting toward the heavens will house your flowers.

You will be domiciled mostly in private homes, in most cases humble, but in all cases decent and clean.

If you love the peony as you profess to, you will get here all right and we predict you will have one whale of a time.

I have not seen Como yet or Louise but I tell you this lake is a peach! Well, no, let me say it is a "gem".

We feel we can confidently promise, all in all, that you will not be able even to remember "what it was you came to forget."

## An Interesting Experiment

ADRIAN P. GIBSON

*Minneapolis, Minnesota*

Several years ago Professor Van Wagenen secured a quantity of peony seed from a friend and treated half of it with colchicine and had the rest treated with x-rays. Plants from this treated seed are now large enough for the results of the experiment to be evaluated.

The writer, no peony expert, was quite favorably impressed by three of the seedlings that were still in good bloom when he saw them at the close of the season. One that, to him, was most striking was a very broad petaled medium pink double, that had a particularly lustrous enameled quality. The Professor refused to part with any of it last fall, but we are hoping to get a piece of it eventually. Another that we noticed was a very vigorous, much branched plant standing five feet high! The stems, leaves and flowers were red. It was a late single carrying a remarkable number of buds and dark red blooms. The elongated stems on the side blooms gave a candelabra effect. Bracts enclosed the buds and gave them an elongated rose bud appearance. It was a very peculiar peony! There was also a big single white on a very vigorous plant with good green foliage of which we would like to see more.

Frankly, we are not confident enough of our judgment to say whether the professor has achieved anything particularly outstanding or not. This we do believe: his planting is worth careful study by all those interested in peony development. He has three or four acres of plants, all derived from treated seed, growing on the north shore of Forest Lake. Drive out and look them over at blooming time this spring.

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# District Five Reporting

District Five had its first 1952 meeting of officers and members of the Board on January 18 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Those present unanimously elected Marvin C. Karrels, President, and Jerome Host, Vice-President. The President then appointed the following as members of the board: Dr. D. Sanford Hyde, James Mason, Al. L. Volz, Francis P. Tikalsky, and as honorary members: Roy G. Gayle and William F. Christman. Francis P. Tikalsky was elected Secretary without portfolio and Treasurer without bond.

The meeting sort of unofficially began in James Mason's room in Hotel Schroeder, at about three p.m. You can be assured that the topics of discussion were peonies and nothing else.

At five p.m. we were joined by Messrs. Karrels and Host. The latter escorted us to the nationally known and elaborate headquarters of the Cudworth Post of the American Legion for a very sumptuous dinner.

Peonies, Peony Culture and things akin to peonies, became the subjects during meal-time. For this particular occasion it was not considered bad decorum if a member talked with his mug full of grub.

After this delightful dinner we retired to a private room in the Legion Headquarters for the official meeting.

After the aforementioned officers had been elected and the Board members appointed, the fire works really got underway. Possible locations of future Regional Shows were discussed by Board members. Suggestions were made to help increase our color slide library. Consideration was given to certain

things to stimulate and sustain the interest of members.

By far the greatest part of the meeting was devoted to studying the possibilities of a District Symposium. The pros and cons of two plans recently published in the *Bulletin* were ripped apart and analyzed. It can be definitely promised that something good and practicable is in the offing.

That ended the business part of the meeting. However, a bit of newsy information inadvertently slipped out in the meeting. It is so good, that it would certainly be remiss if it were not relayed along to all our members. Do some of you folks remember a cherub-like, golden-haired little girl that went from specimen to specimen, admiring the flowers at last year's Cleveland Show? Do you also remember too, how the press photographers forgot all about the resplendent blossoms and focussed their attention on the little miss? If you do, you will recall the nice picture of her in one of Cleveland's papers. Dr. D. Sanford Hyde, the father of this little girl, purchased a Life Membership in our Society for this lovely tiny peony filbert. She, Jane, is the youngest member in our Society, and possibly the youngest member of any floral society in America. This doctor knew what he was doing when he did this. The membership will not only help prepare the first part of Jane's life for the second, but will also afford her beautiful memories and interests that will help sustain her in the twilight days of her life. Here is really a fine idea to help develop character during those plastic and formative years.

W. F. Christman, our retired secretary, was present and we were all glad to have had his counsel to help formulate our future plans. For the good friends and associates of Will, let it be said that he looks in the proverbial pink and is as sharp as ever. He never seemed to have more pep and energy.

The final hour or so was spent in reviewing color slides of peony varieties that Marvin Karrels and Roy Gayle brought along. As each slide was projected, comments followed and many informative discussions developed. Mrs. Al. L. Volz, the good warden of our illustrious Board member, was present at this phase of the meeting. She entered freely into the discussions with good comments and we certainly appreciated her participation. This viewing of fine records of blooms helped to hop us all up in eager anticipation of what our next year's peony harvest will be.

I have attended a number of good meetings, but this one will long be remembered for the fine co-operative spirit, the desire to accomplish something expeditiously, and the elegance and sobriety of the affair.

The meeting adjourned about eleven-thirty, eight and one-half hours with peony-minded folks. What a treat! When we were bound for home, one of our party dropped this fine and interesting remark:

*Breathes there a man with soul so dead,*

*Who never to himself has said*

*I want to enlarge my peony bed?*

Francis P. Tikalsky, Secretary  
Fifth District.

We fully intended to send our reminder of membership dues in the December Bulletin No. 122, but Uncle Sam said we could not and also said the same about the questionnaire.

## My Twenty-five Best—1951

DR. JOHN L. CRENSHAW  
*Rochester, Minnesota*

I am growing about four hundred named varieties and several hundred divided seedlings. Our first bloom, *Mloko sewitschi*, opened May 20th and the regular procession on June 3rd. We cut our last blooms on July 5th.

Early season blooms opened very rapidly and were not well filled, but our mid and late season flowers were fine. I would not attempt to list our good ones in the order of their excellence other than to say that *Florence Nicholls* was again the best we had and a fine keeper. *Alesia* this year was better than *Elsa Sass* and these were but a shade better than *Margaret Lough*, *Therese*, *Mrs. C. S. Minot*, *Alice Harding* and *Ella Lewis*. *Priam* was I think our best red.

Our best twenty-five were:

*Florence Nicholls, Alesia, Elsa Sass, Margaret Lough, Therese, Mrs. C. S. Minot, Alice Harding, Ella Lewis, Priam, Dorothy J., Victory, Myrtle Gentry, Sensation, R. A. Napier, Mrs. Harry F. Little, Mrs. James Kelway, Nick Shaylor, Judge Berry, Hansina Brand, Dr. F. H. Huxley, Mrs. Wilder Bancroft, Nippon Brilliant, George W. Peyton, John L. Crenshaw, Glasscock's Hybrids.*

Nearly every year some variety that usually produces ordinary flowers will find everything to its liking and will astound you with its magnificence; this year *Sensation* was really a SENSATION—huge, perfect and colored like a perfect *Solange*. Mrs. Crenshaw took several to one of our Italian neighbors and I could hear her half a block away saying, "My Got, I aint never seen nothing so beautiful."

# GARD-Em-KEY

pressing on to better things

President: Ben R. Massey, Box 406, Pompton Plains, N. J.

Vice-Pres.: J. V. Rodimer, Newton, N. J.

Secretary-Treas.: John Rick, Reading, Pa.

## Directors:

J. F. Styer  
Concordville, Pa.

Louis Smirnow  
Elm Court Road  
Sands Point,  
L. I., New York

Martin Viette  
Hicksville  
L. I., New York

Mrs. J. C. Losey  
Newton, N. J.

Mrs. Jacob Tanis  
Augusta, N. J.

# WHAT'S COOKIN' IN REGION NUMBER TWO?

Neal R. van Loon  
Newton, N. J.

## Honorary Directors:

Mrs.  
Harry F. Little  
Fine View, N. Y.

Prof.  
A. P. Saunders  
Clinton, N. Y.

John C. Wister  
Swarthmore, Pa.

Recent issues of the *Bulletin* indicate more interest in hybridizing. This is a good sign. Let's have more of it. Granting that the odds are greatly against one in chance hybridizing, the fun is there anyway nothing like seeing blooms from

plants you have nursed from seed. Remember, if the seeds are planted soon after removal from the pods, they will usually germinate the next year. If they lay around and harden, two years will probably go by before any sign of life.

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It seems to me the job of putting the American Peony Society over the top is a long way off. Don't we really need a membership of 1500 or 2000 to do this, paid up members, I mean? During blooming season we commercial people are run ragged. A nice leaflet or card stating some of the advantages and inviting the prospect to become a member, could be used to advantage. It would reduce the alibis for being too busy to discuss the subject with customers. How about it, Mr. Board of Directors?

Holy Smokes! June is just around the corner! Already peonies have been alerted to the situation. Not long now until those tall handsome western gentlemen will don boots and big hats. The trek to the land of the Mohawks for the great roundup of 1952 is about to start. Some garden fans, with a feminine touch, make pilgrimages. This is not a pilgrimage. It is a roundup. Gentlemen, this is it.

Yes, our dreams will be realities. Some of us will see an International Peony Show for the first time. That will go down in the book. Perhaps we will see varieties for the first time that we have read about and wanted to see. But, most of all, to meet peony fans and just talk peonies. What a treat!

Ben R. Massey, *president*

**CONDENSED PROGRAM**  
**48th NATIONAL PEONY SHOW**  
**Lake Mohawk, New Jersey**

**Friday, June 20**—Hall open for exhibitors 7 to 11 p.m.

**Saturday, June 21**—Hall open 6 a.m. Judging begins 11:30. Show opens 1:30 p.m. Directors meeting 3 p.m. Banquet 6:30. Annual meeting 7:30. Show closes 9:30.

**Sunday, June 22**—Show opens 10 a.m. Open House Madylone 8 to 11 a.m. Directors meeting 11:00. Dedication Harry F. Little Memorial Garden 2:30 p.m. Coronation Queen 3:00 p.m. Final closing of show 5:30 p.m.

See complete schedule sent on request to Mr. van Loon.

## *Things To Remember..*

NEAL R. VAN LOON  
*Newton, N. J.*

The entertainment committee for the show at Lake Mohawk consists of Herman A. Ellenberger and Frank L. Howell, both of R. D. 1; Newton. Send in your reservations for rooms as early as you can and thus you will help to get everything in good shape and in good time.

The rate will not be much more nor much less than \$5.00 for a double room and \$3.00 for a single.

All room reservations will be on a cash basis. If you will send a check or money order to one of the gentlemen I have mentioned he will send you the name and address of your host as soon as arrangements are made. Be sure to state whether you are coming by car. Some cabins are available and a few hotel rooms in Newton and in Sparta. Financial adjustments can be made when you leave.

A cancellation will bring you a refund if the rooms are subsequently rented for the time applying.

We cannot undertake to find lodging for you once you get here. We may be able to give you a good steer but you will be on your own. We will all be as busy as beavers with our flowers.

This is a resort area. Write in as soon as you can. Things begin to get crowded with the approach of July.

You can also help us a great deal, and yourself also, if you will send in a list of the classes you expect to enter, and in the case of specimens, whether one entry or two to a class.

If you are shipping blooms for cold storage, prepay the charges and address the package to yourself and mark plainly "Peonies for Show." Ship all peonies for cold storage to Newton.

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There will be no charge for cold storage.

Unless otherwise directed, all peonies from cold storage will be delivered to the Exhibition Hall the evening of Friday, June 20.

Persons not able to attend the show may send in up to 25 blooms. Each one must be labelled and carry a tag giving instruction as to where it is to be entered.

In the East-West class as few as three persons may represent a team but any person who enters more than one group of six varieties may not use any variety more than once. A full team of five persons is highly desirable.

Because of our plan of displaying, many blooms will have advantage or disadvantage of position. Judges will allow for this at all times.

It is our plan to hand out all prizes and all confirmations of wins before you leave. Entry cards with seals will be mailed to you if you request it. See Miss McCutcheon.

All persons are urgently requested not to take or to discuss orders for roots on Sunday. Price lists may be handed out or placed on the table near the exit.

If you come by Pennsy. railroad, get off at Newark and come to Dover via D. L. and W. R. R., then bus to Lake Mohawk.

If by N.Y.C. take Hudson Tubes to Hoboken and D. L. and W. to Dover.

If you fly to La Guardia Field, take bus to Manhattan and Tubes to Hoboken and D. L. and W. to Dover.

Persons coming by rail from the West will find the best proposition to be Michigan Central or Nickel Plate to Buffalo, and D. L. and W. to Dover. You will find the trains first class.

This will be as good a place as any to give my profound thanks to

the peony growers for their root offerings for our attractive prize lists, many of them handsome; and the roots, nearly all of very recent origin, and some not yet even offered for sale.

Thanks also to the good people of Sussex County who open their homes.

Thanks to the school systems of the County who will give us a Queen.

Thanks to all the committee workers, whose loyalty has been absolute.

Special thanks to Mr. Adolph Klein of Baleville who will do the large oil painting of the Grand Champion bloom centrally featured in a simple peony arrangement and with a value of no less than \$150.

Somebody is going to have something awfully nice!

---

## *Picture Contests*

The Fifth District is making a collection of colored slides and offering valuable roots as prizes for pictures accepted. Slides must be metal mounted and correctly labeled. Return postage must be sent for those not accepted. Contest closes December 31, 1952.

Please write Marvin C. Karrels, 3272 S. 46th St., Milwaukee 15, Wisconsin for full details. It is hoped many will compete. The Society needs such collections very badly.

**FLORAL ART**, The Home of Garden Books and Flower Arranger's Supplies is sponsoring a Flower Arrangement photographic competition. They are offering the winner a valuable silver trophy. For full particulars address, Floral Art, Contest Division, 405 Cedar Lane, Teaneck, New Jersey.

# Four Terrors . . . and A Peony Show

A PLAYLET IN ONE ACT

MRS. KNUD S. BAY

Newton, N. J.

CAST:

Louise Bush

"Mr. Bush" (off stage) (he never appears, voice only)

Mary Martin

Jane

Grace Peters

*Scene:* Louise's living room. Right and left entrance. Table with two flower containers, one low, one quite tall. Box of cut peonies. Small table with pencil and paper. A few chairs set around for a meeting, knocker to sound off stage left.

*Louise.* (talking to husband) and if more women come than I have seats for, you hurry up and get some of your mother's old dining room chairs from the garage and dust them, and see that there are no nails sticking out. I wouldn't want to have anyone's nylons on my conscience.

*Mr. B.* (off stage, right) Any woman who would waste a good pair of nylons on a mere woman's committee deserves to get a run. How many more chairs do you need?

*Louise.* Oh how do I know? You'll just have to watch. Mrs. Martin had sixteen on her list, and they were all so enthusiastic about having a peony show, especially when I said I'd take the chairmanship, that I'm sure she's had no trouble filling up the committee.

*Mr. B.* Well gosh, I don't want to hang around all afternoon counting -er- noses. I want to get outdoors and work in the garden.

*Louise.* Oh forget the garden. All you ever raise is broccoli, anyway. It's much more important that I get everything started properly for the show. If you'd brought these flowers home earlier I wouldn't be in such a rush (starts to open box of flowers,) Hurry up and get some of the chairs ready.

*Mr. B.* That's gratitude for you. Here I left my office flat and hustled home without any lunch just to get these blame flowers here in time, and you won't even let me finish my sandwich.

*Louise.* Oh, you poor abused boy. I'm really sorry for you.

*Mr. B.* Well, these cookies are too good to hurry over.

*Louise.* (dashes to door) You leave those cookies alone. I want the committee to go home in a pleasant frame of mind, and I used every last bit of that half pound of butter you stood in line for. Those cookies better be good. But they're not for you, at least not yet.

*Mr. B.* I hope nobody comes.

*Louise.* For goodness sake stop grumbling and let me do these flowers in peace. If I don't have a decent looking arrangement they'll think I'm not competent to be chairman.

*Mr. B.* (voice receding) Huh, you're telling me!

*Louise.* (holds single flowers against containers, to see effect of long or short stems.) The only thing I remember from that lecture is one and one half times the height of the container. (she measures tall vase with her hand, reaching up over her head.) My heavens, nothing but a sunflower would grow that

tall. I must have remembered it all wrong. (starts to put flowers in low container. Knocker sounds off left.) Oh there's someone now. (goes off left; sounds of greeting Mrs. Martin and Jane. All enter, removing coats.)

*Mrs. Martin.* Such a lovely afternoon for the meeting. Oh, Mrs. Bush, your flowers are *gorgeous*. Did you raise them yourself?

*Louise.* Well no, I thought for this meeting I'd like to have something a little - well, special.

*Mrs. M.* They're beautiful. You were just arranging them, weren't you. Go right ahead. Jane and I will sit and watch. We could do with a little instruction, couldn't we, Jane?

*Jane.* Won't do me a bit of good. The extent of my floral decorations is one ten cent geranium from Woolworth's. And I never can remember to water it.

*Louise.* (rather helplessly placing a few flowers) You know I'm not an expert by any means. I really haven't a green thumb, though I do have rather good luck with African violets, and my husband is *quite* a gardener.

*Jane.* African violets. I had a plant given me for Easter once. The florist said it would bloom a long time, and then to let it sleep for a while. He didn't know what kind of hours it had been keeping. It dozed off right away. That was five years ago, and we still tiptoe past the corner of the sun porch to keep from disturbing it. I think it has sleeping sickness.

*Mrs. M.* Now Jane, stop your foolishness. It's a good thing you aren't on this committee.

*Louise.* Oh, isn't she?

*Jane.* No, I'm like an observer at the U. N. O. I think what I please, provided I don't say it. To be exact, I'm here in my reportorial capacity. Publicity is the staff of club life, you know.

*Louise.* That's true enough. But what about the rest of the committee? You said 16, didn't you, Mrs. Martin? That leaves 14 more to come.

*Mrs. M.* Well, not quite. You see, one had an engagement she couldn't break, so she can't come today. Oh but she'll help. She'll be on hand when the time comes.

*Louise.* Who is she? (puts flowers down and sits at table to make list)

*Mrs. M.* You know her. Alice Gray.

*Jane.* What does she know about flowers?

*Mrs. M.* I don't believe she knows anything about flowers. But she's such a good mixer. We put her on for hostess or reception or something like that because she always turns up at the last minute when the rest of us are tired and bedraggled, and she looks so pleasant and pretty that she just makes an affair go over. Everybody knows we couldn't ever get any real work out of her, so we might as well capitalize her one talent.

*Louise.* Who else is there?

*Mrs. M.* (consults notebook) Well, there is Grace Peters. She had a date for luncheon, but she'll be here as soon as she can break away. She's always reliable. Then Mrs. Barst and Mrs. Howdell were out of town. I left word for them. And Mrs. Powers, she really is an expert. She actually gets things to grow. I wanted her for chairman of schedule—the classifications and all that. But she said she was such a new member that it would offend the older ones if she took any important post, so she'd rather just be an exhibitor.

*Jane.* So she can get some prizes. Well, that lets her out.

*Louise.* That's only five, and us two—

*Mrs. M.* Let me see. Oh yes, there's Mrs. Hill. First she con-

sented to take chairman of arrangements, and then she called again and said her husband felt she was too nervous to carry so much responsibility. And then I asked Miss Townley, but she said she was too tired from her Red Cross work—

*Jane.* (fairly screeches) Miss Townley! Red Cross work! That's one committee I *am* on. That woman knitted one sweater and she bound it off so tight that an eel couldn't have got into it with a shoe horn. And then she turned back the rest of the wool because it gave her neuritis to knit—That's all she's accomplished since Pearl Harbor.

*Louise.* That's right. She wouldn't come to sewing because her eyes were bad, and at the time I was simply desperate for help. We were doing men's pajamas and she said she didn't feel that a maiden lady—

*Jane.* You don't mean her eyes were bad, you mean her *ideas*. If there's anything wrong with her eyesight it's from too much reading. She's had "Forever Amber" out of the library six times, and I haven't even read it once.

*Mrs. M.* Jane, you know too much. Let's see, that makes 9, doesn't it. Miss Hawes and Mrs. Welby haven't phones yet, so I wrote them, and it's possible they didn't get the letter in time—

*Jane.* Pass the buck to Uncle Sam.

*Mrs. M.* And Mrs. Jason Smith's son will be out of the Navy by then, and she said she wouldn't have time for anything but him.

*Jane.* That poor kid couldn't call his soul his own before he went, and I bet he'll wish he was back. She's all ready to lasso him again.

*Louise.* Are we going to have any committee at all?

*Mrs. M.* Oh, I hope so. But I really did have a rather unpleasant experience with Mrs. Herring. She said she wasn't going to do any

work because no matter who did it the same old clique got all the credit for everything. She was definitely nasty.

*Louise.* I wish you'd told her that the only ones who ever do any work are just that same old clique. Doesn't this string of excuses prove it? Here we were, thinking a peony show was such a good idea, because we had never had one, and it would interest a new group. We never learn. (she jumps up and starts back to the flowers.) I'm a fine one to talk about a peony show. Here I've left the poor things to wilt.

*Mrs. M.* I've one bright spot in my pitiful story, at least. I phoned Mary Andrews, and she couldn't come today because the two younger children are getting over the measles. She said we could count on her for something as soon as they are out of quarantine. Then she called me back later. She had asked her two oldest boys to help— They've just been discharged from the Army—and she said they laughed their heads off. They said now they knew they were really home, with Mom roping them in to mind somebody else's business, just like old times. But they had done so much KP in unpleasant places that a little club job would be just pie. So she and her husband and the two of them will be responsible for putting all the tables away and cleaning up the room after the show.

*Jane.* That's what I call pretty neat. Five children, no maid and a mother-in-law, but she always has time to do some mean, inconspicuous piece of work that nobody else wants.

*Louise.* Well, more power to her. I wish we had a few more. The way it looks to me, we've got a glamorous hostess, and somebody to clean up, and in between—

*Jane.* An aching void, I'd say.

*Louise.* How in the world are we

going to do it all alone? I have the best of intentions, and I'm willing to work hard, but I simply don't know enough to arrange schedules and all that technical stuff. I thought I would manage the affair, and contribute my share of elbow grease, and depend on the people like Mrs. Powers, who really know something, to do the heavy thinking. They were all so eager for a show—I can't understand it.

*Jane.* They thought they were going to be the appreciative audience.

*Mrs. M.* You know what I think will be the biggest exhibit at this flower show? Dead wood.

*Jane.* You could stack 'em up by the cord. Take my advice and forget the whole thing. Have a bridge. Much simpler to arrange.

*Mrs. M.* But we can't. There was a motion passed, and the admissions were to be for our charity budget.

*Jane.* Suit yourselves. Wouldn't be the first motion that was conveniently overlooked. And speaking of arranging things, Louise, I think you have those flowers all wrong, if you don't mind my saying so.

*Louise.* Not in the least. Take over, if you know any more than I do. You can't know less.

*Jane.* You're supposed to have a focal point. Wasn't that in the lecture?

*Louise.* What's that, a bunch in the middle? I seem to remember vaguely.

*Jane.* (fussing with flowers.) I think it's a kind of clump to catch the eye, maybe down at the bottom, and the rest all working out from there. Sort of—well, windblown. Didn't she say that?

*Mrs. M.* I believe that's just what's wrong with the club. The few of us—the old clique, as Mrs. Herring says—are the focal point, and all the rest of them are just—windblown.

*Jane.* Understatement. Ask 'em to do a little work and they scatter as if they'd been hit by a typhoon. (knocker sounds. Louise goes out left.) That must be Grace Peters.

*Grace.* (dashes in ahead of Louise.) Girls, girls, I've just been to the most marvellous luncheon, that is, it was a rather horrible lunch, everything was made out of something else, and it all tasted alike. But the *idea*. It was marvellous. Forget about your old peony show. This is the easiest thing—

*Mrs. M.* Stop raving and tell us what it's all about.

*Grace.* Oh, it was my church guild. You take a lot of people and the company pays you 25 cents for each one and everything is cooked in stainless steel or glass—or flavored with something—or was it brushes? I sneaked out before the lecture because I had to come here. But the way it tasted, it might have been the brushes they cooked. I wouldn't know.

*Jane.* Seems to me I went to one of those luncheons, years ago.

*Grace.* It's probably a pre-war idea taken out and dusted off, but just think, the club could make all that money for charity, and you could eat your lunch before you went, so it wouldn't really matter—

*Louise.* It sounds awfully easy, and it wouldn't take much of a committee to run it.

*Mrs. M.* The same old clique. Well, I'm for it.

*Jane.* So am I, if that means anything.

*Louise.* Talk it over while I make a cup of tea. (exit right)

*Grace.* (has been pacing about under the spell of her wonderful idea, and now spies the flowers.) Oh, you've been practicing arrangements. Do you know, I believe you've got it all wrong. (she is giving the flowers another going over as the curtain falls.)

# Peony Notes from Ohio

WILLIAM R. TROYAN  
*Independence, Ohio*

## MLOKOSEWITSCHI

During the late winter months, before the spring of 1943, while reading a garden magazine, I came across an article about a herbaceous peony that was truly yellow in color, and it further stated that this was THE peony to have, if limited to a choice of just one.

At the time I read the article, I thought *Mlokosewitschi* was a double, and decided to get a plant for my collection, if one could be had. As it was not listed in any of the peony catalogs received, I wrote to George W. Peyton of Rapidan, Virginia, and asked where it could be obtained. He referred me to A. P. Saunders of Clinton, New York.

Upon writing to A. P. Saunders about this peony, he said that it was worth trying, but he also mentioned that some people could not get it to grow for them, while others claimed it did not bloom. He further stated that he had none of these troubles, but his plants rotted in the middle of the crown, and he could never discover the reason.

In spite of these difficulties, he said try it. A plant was ordered for the fall of 1943. It came by mail on October 13th and was planted the same afternoon.

Being physically unable to do any work, I had my helper take special care to plant it, under my directions, exactly as it is found growing wild in its native habitat which, if not mistaken, I believe is in the mountains of China.

A large hole was dug, steamed bone meal was mixed with the soil in the bottom of the hole, and a mixture of leaf mold and sandy loam, taken from a ravine where leaves

had rotted down year after year, was used to fill the upper part of the hole in which the root was planted.

The plant was held in place while soil was carefully filled in and packed about the roots until they were covered, with the tips of the "eyes" just barely visible after the hole was filled in to the surrounding surface level. Then a mounding was made over the "eyes," using the same type soil as used in planting.

In the spring, this mound was slightly leveled, so that the "eyes" were covered with 2 inches of this sandy leaf-mold soil, but the tips of the "eyes" were just even with the surface level.

This plant of *Mlokosewitschi* is planted in a location where the soil never gets water-logged, and no water stands on top of the ground, regardless of how often, or how much it may rain.

This peony, not only grew, but it bloomed the first spring after fall planting, and has bloomed every spring since.

The first few years, it did have some cultivation, but for the past few years, about all the attention it gets is the cutting off of stems or stalks in late fall.

The root received and planted, was not a division, but a small plant grown from a one-eye-division, probably two or three years old. The roots were large, fleshy, clean, with no sign of any rot or decay none of those "black-woody" thick roots, like one sometimes receives from a division of a very old clump.

This peony grows slowly, but it probably would grow faster with a

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limited amount of watering during extremely dry spells. However, my plant is planted in a location where the ground does not become too dry in summer.

In placing the steamed bone meal well below the newly planted root, the newly formed roots have to grow down in search of plant food, and these may not reach the bone meal before a year after planting. By that time, the bone meal will be well weathered and the roots will be down where they belong, where soil is cool and moist during the growing season.

It takes some types of peonies three to five years to become established, and, in that time, they have a deep root system to carry them through extremely dry seasons. It is not practical to plant a good peony division, and then try to fertilize it on the surface.

#### DEPTH TO PLANT

As to the proper depth to plant peonies, I believe the type of soil, location, and level, or slope of the land, used for the planting must be taken into consideration.

Two to three inches of soil covering the eyes may be just fine in Minnesota or Illinois, where they have light corn ground, but entirely too deep in heavy clay. The late Lee Bonnewitz recommended shallow planting in heavy type ground, just deep enough to feel the tips of the eyes when covered to surrounding surface level. Then sprinkle two inches of fine soil over the eyes. For winter protection, place a big shovel full of soil over the root, mounding it six to eight inches, which should keep the newly planted division from being heaved-out by alternate freezing and thawing. If a division is planted in heavy clay, with two inches of soil over the tips of the eyes, the division will settle just a little, and cultivation will

place more soil over the eyes. Finally it is too deep, and fails to bloom. As an example of how a division can be covered too deep: In the fall of 1937, I had a division of *Myrtle Gentry* planted in the center of a circular bed of tulips, with the eyes two inches below surface level. Late each fall, this bed of tulips was edged, throwing soil towards center of bed, and leveled.

The peony failed to bloom after planting, and during the fall of 1941, it was dug up, and I saw why it did not bloom, as there were three or four inches of soil over the tips of the eyes. The clump was then divided into three divisions, and planted shallow. These three divisions have bloomed every year since then. It is easier to pull more soil over the crown of a shallow planted peony division, than it is to try to dig away some soil, leaving a saucer-shaped depression around the crown. These shallow planting directions would not be advisable on sandy loam, or the rich corn grounds in Minnesota and Illinois, and neither could they be followed in planting peonies on sloping ground. Good drainage is very important, and it is a waste of time and money to try to raise fine peonies on heavy clay soil lacking in a fair amount of humus.

In the fall of 1944, my last order of five divisions of peonies did not arrive until the day before our National Election date and they were planted Election Day, November 7th. We had an early snow fall, covering the ground, before it had a chance to freeze, from the first week in December, until the last part of February. The peonies grew new roots under that blanket of snow, and all bloomed in the spring.

#### WILLMOTTIAE

One of the divisions was a small plant of peony *Willmottiae*, a white

flowered species from the mountains of Western China, which had one eye. It sends up just the one stalk each year, having one flower. The foliage is very thick and leathery, quite different from that of herbaceous peonies. The plant is said to be very rare. It will probably have to be dug up and replanted according to the way peony *Mlokosewitschi* was planted, to get it to increase the number of stems sent up. Both of these peonies have unusually beautiful foliage, entirely different from other herbaceous types of peonies. The blooms on peony *Mlokosewitschi* really are yellow, about the color of the common dandelion blossoms, in fact they look like a dandelion blossom on a long stem, when viewed from a distance.

#### THE 1951 SEASON

The 1951 peony season was quite long. The first early single peonies opened May 12th, although we have had blooms as early as the 25th of April. There were still some buds and small blooms left on July 4th.

The first day of June was hot and humid, with a high of 92 degrees, and the first week of June was mostly hot and humid with high temperatures. On Friday, June 8th, it was cloudy, dark and threatening all day, with the barometer dropping steadily until 4 p.m., when the storm broke in all its fury, a flash flood that dumped an inch and a half of rain water over this section in about three hours. However, it could have been worse, because the down-pour was not steady over those three hours, but really heavy at intervals. That was the fifth flash flood in this section in the past fifty years, and I hope we never have another. The double peonies were just starting to bloom and this heavy down-pour, and the high winds, beat the water-soaked blooms

right to the ground, and no blooms were visible Saturday morning.

My sister went out that morning and shook the water from many blooms and by night, the plants were straightening up again.

For the 1951 peony season, we did have about the best display ever, because every peony bloomed, with the exception of *Mrs. J. V. Edlund* and *Fire Ribbon*. As each named variety started to burst its buds, a bud was cut and brought indoors to open, where they were not faded by strong sunlight, and it was breath-taking to see the huge blooms unfold in their true colors. *Nick Shaylor* was beautiful beyond words, about the best I have ever seen it, while *Edith M. Snook* was a close second, with its sulphur-yellow showing. *Hansina Brand* outdid itself in huge blooms, many could have been "show" flowers. It does not always bloom as it did in 1951. One peony named *Last Rose*, had exceptionally perfect blooms, and a good many were cut from that one plant.

I have only one plant of *Blanche King* in my collection. Several years ago, the wild rabbits cut every stem shortly after they came up in the spring, and I thought I would lose the plant, but it grew again.

Just why, or how they know the high priced peonies, and cut them off, I do not know, but "They'll Do It Every Time." There are plenty of low priced plants, and a few plants of an old white variety to practice on, but those are never touched. This plant was protected with a guard of chicken wire for a few years after that incident, and the blooms this season were outstanding. *Mrs. Livingston Farrand* had beautiful blooms, if one wants to get the true pink coloring. *Elsa Sass* was beautiful as usual, while *Solange* and *Tourangelle* opened fully this season, which they fa

to do some seasons. *Mrs. J. H. Neeley* never fails to have a fine display of blooms every year. *Kelway's Glorious* and *Kelway's Queen* always have nice blooms. *Ziba*, *Philippe Rivoire*, *Judge Snook*, *Baroness Schroeder*, *Mrs. Edward Harding* and *Auguste Dessert*, all did well. Of the singles, *Smouthi* was the first to open, followed by *laciniata*, *Helen*, *Le Jour*, *Krinkled White*, *Pink Delight* and *Arcturus*. In the Japanese type, *Yellow King* always blooms beautifully, and buds cut when they are about to open and brought indoors, have that pinkish cast on the outside of the petals and open with a fine showing of yellow staminodes. *Tamate-Boku* is an excellent Japanese, a slow grower, but once established it has immense flowers, and like *Yellow King*, the buds should be cut when they are about one-quarter open, and brought indoors where they open slowly, retaining their rose-pink coloring. The petals open spoon-shaped, and personally I would like it better, if the petals opened flat, like they do on *Mikado* and the single, *Helen*. *Prairie Afire* must have the buds bagged and then brought indoors to open, if one wishes to see it in true color. *Amano-sode* flowers beyond description. One has to see it in bloom with its immense flowers of rose-pink petals, and a center of long, yellow staminodes to fully appreciate its beauty.

In mentioning the singles, I missed *Mischief*. It should not be, even though it is in-expensive. It is well worth growing in any collection. It blooms late, usually after most singles are through. A soft pink that attracts attention in the peony shows, and it is often a winner in its class. This peony establishes quickly, and a four-year plant will give a grand display of blooms.

We are located only 9 miles south

of Cleveland, Ohio, and the rainfall in this Lake Region is plentiful for growing peonies. Artificial watering is not really needed, except once in a while during blossoming time, if finer and larger blooms are wanted for show purposes.

Unfortunately, peonies and daffodils flower during the spring months. People see them in bloom, rave about them, take down names of those liked best, intending to plant some. By planting time in the fall, they are either forgotten, or ordered too late, and many miss out altogether. Most people expect too much of these newly planted roots, as they seem to think they should flower like an established plant that may be 5 to 8 years old. Perhaps more peonies and daffodils would be sold, if the nurseries planted in tin cans, so their customers could buy the plant in bloom, and take it home with them. Some people spend time in visiting places when these flowers are in bloom, and make a list of named plants, only to forget all about them in the fall. They make the same visits again, in the following years to come, always with same results,—“I'm going to plant some of those next fall.”

One does not have to buy the highest priced plants in order to have a nice selection, as there are medium priced named peonies that win prizes at the peony shows year after year.

When my first order for peonies was made up, I had considered ordering *Alice Harding* for my collection, but after reading the description in Brand Peony Farms catalog, in which they said it was doubtful if there was any disease free stock of *Alice Harding* to be found in this country, but they thought their stock was about, “As disease free as one could get.” I left it out. Within the past year, I

have noticed in the Peony Bulletins, stock of *Alice Harding* listed as "positively disease free." How this was accomplished, I do not know, but, if it has been accomplished with this one named peony, why can't the same results be obtained with *Oliver F. Brand*? I wish I had bought a division while it was still available, because it is fast disappearing, and it will soon be extinct.

Once my sister placed bags over some buds of *Mrs. A. M. Brand*. You probably have all heard the radio ad telling about a washing product that "Gets clothes whiter than white,"—those bagged buds of *Mrs. A. M. Brand* were cut and brought indoors where they opened whiter than white. One would never believe there could be that much difference in a white peony bloom.

Old Jack Frost probably had a lot to do with the display of the many fine blooms in the season of 1951, because he did a grand job of de-budding. All the side buds that were real small—about the size of a common pin head, with a stem about as thick as the common pin, were frozen by a late frost on May 14th.

As this is my first article for the Peony Bulletin, I did not want to make it too lengthy, and all the peony names found in my collection, have not been mentioned.

As I sit here writing this article, the snow is falling, and all outdoors is covered with a white blanket of snow (February 22) but it will not be too long before the 1952 peony season will be with us again.

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We hope as many of you as possible will attend as many shows as possible. Write us promptly your impressions of them, what you saw of interest, what you saw to criticize.

## GROWING PEONIES IN THE PANHANDLE OF TEXAS

J. D. CLARK  
*Amarillo, Texas*

In starting this article let me say that I have been told many times that peonies will not do well in the Panhandle of Texas or anywhere on the high plains. But being Irish, and prone to argue with anyone (except the good wife) about anything except religion or politics, I started out to prove the skeptics were wrong. And it is with no little satisfaction that I have succeeded in growing as fine peonies here as they grow in Wisconsin, Illinois or New Jersey.

I started with a few roots that I dug from my grandmother's garden in West Va. I do not know what the variety was or is. It is one of her neighbor's, brought from Luxemburg many years ago. But I dug them and moved them in the month of August, and they didn't bloom the next year. Soon I discovered that they were planted too deep, so I raised them and they have bloomed fine for several years. And about all else I know about growing peonies (which is very little) I learned the hard way or, in other words, the trial and error method.

I am writing this hoping that I may help some other Southern peony lover to overcome some of the difficulties that confront them. First, let me say, that our winters here are very unpredictable. Some winters the temperature will not fall below freezing more than once or twice. Others it will go to ten below and stay very cold for a week or ten days at a time.

So, here is what I have found to be the best way to have good peonies. First, plant in the fall with the buds or eyes even with

the top of the ground. Late in the fall hill them up slightly, say one to two inches deep. Then early in the spring remove the dirt with a garden hose. Do not use a hoe or a rake or you will break off many of the young buds.

Keep them well watered during the winter months as well as in the summer, as they seem to make root growth then and the small white feeder roots are developing in winter. After they have come through the ground you don't have much to do except water them and keep the weeds out until the buds begin to form. Then they should be sprayed to prevent thrip and botrytis. And be sure not to use the sprinkler in watering after the buds appear. But lay the hose on the ground and soak thoroughly every few days when the ground begins to appear dry. Do not use any fertilizer until after the blooming season. Then use potassium phosphate or iron sulphate, but use it very sparingly. An overdose will injure more than it helps.

After the buds begin to form I spray with dithane D14 zinc sulphate lime, made up according to the manufacturer's directions. This is to prevent botrytis. I dust a mixture of Tri-6-W, arsenate of lead and dusting sulphur about every 10 days, this for insects such as thrip. It also keeps ants, etc. from spreading fungus, botrytis and other such spores.

I cut ALL BLOOMS and do not let any form seed. I find most diseases and insects do best in ageing flowers. After the blooming season I spread my potash or iron sulphate on top of the ground and soak it with water. I keep them well watered until about Sept. 1. Then let them become almost dangerously dry. About Sept. 1 I cut off all the tops with a sharp knife

although they are green. In this way I force them to become dormant. About Oct. 15 to 20th we have our first frost. I then begin watering again and continue to water the plants all winter, hilling them up for winter protection about Dec. 15 and leave them hilled up until about Feb. 20 to March 10, depending on the weather.

I have wonderful peonies. If you live in the South you might try some of my methods but I cannot assure that they will be helpful for here we have an altitude of 3665 feet. Our land is very tight and heavy alkali and what works fine here may be poison somewhere else.

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### WILL PEONIES GROW IN CALIFORNIA?

They surely will, even though most natives will advise you otherwise. Deep manure loosened soil, little or no shade and never, never let them become extremely dry, seem to be the three golden rules of success.

Mrs. O. Washburn (Senator R. Nixon's aunt) of Whittier, has just been forced by her move to Friendly Hills to transplant many large peony clumps that had thrived in the same spot, where her nurseryman ancestor planted them, over half a century ago. Judging from her description *Felix Crousse* must be the one that flowered best with old *Festiva Maxima* a close second.

Another recent California woman who had grand success with her "piney," which to her delight was the green envy of her wealthy neighbors, whose know-it-all gardeners always failed, confided in me that she put ice cubes on it every night. I think it was this constant medium water supply and not the cold, that paid off so beautifully.

William H. Krekler

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# LYMAN D. GLASSCOCK

## *His Work with Peonies*

Thinking it would be of interest to our members to know something of Mr. Glasscock's work, the species he has used and the results, I have gotten together, rather hastily, the following notes which are admittedly far from complete.

From an article in Bulletin No. 39, September, 1929, from Mr. Glasscock's own hand, it would seem that many years ago he sold cut flowers and found that the *albiflora* varieties failed him for Decoration Day about nine years in ten and that the *officinalis* varieties were not well suited for the cut flower trade. So thinking that a hybrid of these two species might fill the bill he mounded up a plant of *officinalis rubra* with snow and then covered it with ashes to hold back the growth in the spring so he would have it bloom at the same time as his *albiflora* varieties. This was in the winter of 1917-1918. This worked and from the crosses he made that spring he obtained two seed pods. One was pulled off by his small five year old son, so he had only one left from which he got six seeds. These he planted and two germinated. Both bloomed in 1923. One was a deep pink which does not seem to have been named; the other was the rich red we know now as *Legionnaire* and which was first shown at the National Show in Des Moines, Iowa, in 1924.

From that first beginning in 1918 it would seem that he has yearly planted seed from crosses made by using many different species. There were many disappointments and many grand successes.

The *albiflora* varieties used in

these early crosses were *Edulis Superba*, *Queen Victoria*, *Mme. Calot*, *Longfellow*, *William F. Turner*, *Couronne d'Or*, *Mons. Martin Cahuzac*, *Phyllis Kelway* and possibly others. From many of these the results were nothing. For the second parent his best results have come from *officinalis*, *Otto Froebel* and *Sunbeam*. Excellent results have also been obtained with *officinalis rubra* (single, double and Japanese). A few good crosses have resulted from using *officinalis rosea*, *rosea superba*, *alba* and *mutabilis*. His results from using *decora* (varieties *elatio* and *Pallasi*), *violacea fimbriata* and *spherica*, *anomala* (which he says was untrue) and *tenuifolia* seem to have been interesting but not productive of lasting results.

He mentions that in the fall of 1928 he received 170 seeds from *officinalis* from Mr. Edward Auten, Jr. Presumably it is from these seed that *Red Monarch*, (1937) double, red, rating 9.06, F. C. C. *Rose Marie* (1936) double red, rating 9.45, F. C. C. and *Salmon Beauty* (1939) double, brilliant pink, (introduced by Interstate Nurseries), have come. We have no definite knowledge that any others have been named that came from these seed.

Early this year I wrote Mr. Glasscock asking for a complete list of his originations that had been named and also for some account of his work. Under date of February 4, 1952, I received a letter that had the following notes which are given substantially as Mr. Glasscock wrote them.

## PEONY SPECIES I HAVE USED MORE OR LESS

*Officinalis rubra*, double and single, both used many times.

*Officinalis Jap* is good.

*Officinalis alba* (double) used sometimes. Result: one good double white with a creamy or yellow cast No. 28 V 1 (*officinalis alba plena* × an *albiflora* single).

*Officinalis alba* single used occasionally.

*Violacea pomponia* used many times. Produced nothing good.

*Tenuifolia* (single and double) × *Otto Froebel*. *Laddie* is the only good hybrid from these crosses.

*Woodwardi* × *officinalis mutabilis* has been used but do not know how good it is.

*Officinalis rosea*, fair.

*Otto Froebel* × *albiflora* is very fine. First generation seedlings are scarlet to dark red singles. The flowers and plants are large. Second generation on *albiflora* are still better producing semi-doubles and Japs with some white and pink flowers. The plants have branching stems and are stronger than the *albifloras*.

*Officinalis Sunbeam* is my best species for color in the hybrids, producing salmon pink, coral pink, orange, and brightest red. The plants are not tall. *Burma Ruby*, *Eros*, *Flame*, *May Delight*, *Evangeline*, *Brightness* are a few of them. *Obovata alba* has been used to some extent and I have a few fair hybrids from it of which none have yet been named.

I have also tried to carry the second and third generation hybrids further along and I believe with them lies the best chance for improvements such as stronger plants, more double flowers and new colors.

It looks now like I shall not be able to fill any orders this year on account of my health. I can tell

better in August and early September. I am sure this list is not complete, but it is the best I can do now. Well, Mr. Peyton, I am sorry that I did not do a better job, but probably it is too long now. With best wishes I remain

Sincerely yours,

Lyman D. Glasscock.

And so ends the last letter I shall ever receive from that grand man whom I had the honor and privilege to call "Friend."

Here is presented as complete a list of Mr. Glasscock's originations as I have been able to compile from the list he sent me and from other sources. Very probably some have been omitted. If any one knows of such omissions please send me the names and descriptions of such varieties. The descriptions given here are very short. We hope some day to publish a complete list of all named hybrids to date with fuller descriptions. Those who wish better descriptions now are referred to the Department of Registration in Bulletins Nos. 30, 35, 41, 46, 51, 63, 70, 76, 80, 103, 108, 116, 122. Not all are included in these bulletins. The figure following the date of introduction or rating indicates the parentage. 1 indicates *albiflora* × *officinalis*. 1a *albiflora* × *Sunbeam*. 2. *albiflora* × *Otto Froebel* and 12 *officinalis Otto Froebel* × *tenuifolia*.

### ORIGINATIONS OF LYMAN D. GLASSCOCK

The following are all herbaceous hybrid peonies:

*Black Monarch* (1939). 1. Double. Early. Black red. F. C. C.

*Bright Knight* (1939). 2. Single. Very early. Scarlet red with orange tint.

*Brightness* (1947). 1a. Single. Very early. Brilliant bright red.

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*Burma Ruby*. (1951). 1a. 30 B 1. Single. Very early. Bright red.

*Cardinal* (??). 1. Single. Early. Bright red. This name is a duplication.

*Cherry Red* (1939). 1. Double. Midseason. Pure red. F. C. C.

*Commando* (1944). 1. 1M 19. Double. Early. Dark red.

*Convoy* (1944). 1. 33 V 1. Double. Bright red.

*Crusader* (1940). 1. 14 D 1. Semi-double. Early. Scarlet red. F. C. C.

*Cupid* (1950). 2. 2nd Gen. A 1 A 102. Single. Very early. Pink, white edges.

*Dainty Lass* (1935). 1. OF 5. Japanese. Very early. Coral pink.

*Dark Knight* (1945). 1. Single. Early. Brilliant black red.

*Dauntless* (1944). 1. 9 G 7. Single. Early. Brilliant dark red.

*Eros* (1940) 1a. 10 R 15. Single. Early. Salmon pink. F. C. C.

*Evangeline* (19??) No description of this. Mentioned in notes. 1a. Name is a duplication. Never registered.

*Evelyn Clark* (1946). 1. 7 N 68. Double. Early. Cerise.

*Eventide* (1945). 1a. 31 V 1. Single. Early. Deep coral pink.

*Flame* (1939) 1a. Single. Early. Bright flaming red.

*Flash* (1950). 1a. 9 R. 28. Single. Very early. Bright red.

*Gay Cavalier* (1944). 1. 34 G 4. Single. Early. Scarlet red. F. C. C.

*Golden Glow* (1935). 9.15. 2. Single. Very early. Orange red. Gold Medal.

*Illini Belle* (1941). 1. Semi-double. Early. Brilliant black red.

*Illini Chief* (1940). 1. Single. Early. Orange red.

*Indian Hill* (1950). 2. 1 M 25. Double. Very early. Black red.

*Jewel* (1931) 8.76. 1. Single. Very early. Red.

*Laddie* (1941). 12. Single. Very early. Bright scarlet red.

*Legionnaire* (1928). 8.67. 1. Single. Very early. Bright red.

*Little Gem* (1940). 1. 4 N 1. Japanese. Early. Black red.

*Mahogany* (1937). 9.37. 2. Single. Early. Dark mahogany red.

*May Dawn* (1947). 1a. 20 R 1. Single. Very early. Pink.

*May Delight* (1940). 1. Single. Early. Coral pink. H. M.

*Minnie Gertrude* (1931). 1. OF 6. Double. Early. Red.

*Old Ivory* (1950). 1a. 2nd Gen. B 1 B 27. Single. Very early. White, with creamy yellow cast.

*Red Charm* (1944). 1. 12 K 17. Double. Early. Bright rich red.

*Reliance* (1950). 2. 1 M 24. Double. Very early. Pure pink.

*Sable* (1943). 2. 2nd Gen. A 1 A 77. Single. Early. Almost black.

*Salmon Glory* (1947). 1. 28 V 1. Double. Very early. Deep pink.

*Salmon Glow* (1947). 1a. 8 R 44. Single. Early. Salmon pink.

*Sparkles* (1946). 1. 14 K 30. Semi-double. Early. Scarlet red.

*Sunbright* (1939). 1. Single. Very early. Brilliant pure red.

*Zulu Warrior* (1939). 1. Single. Early. Black mahogany red.

#### UNNAMED VARIETIES

In addition to the above Mr. Glasscock listed the following second generation plants from the cross *Otto Froebel* × *albiflora* × *albiflora* which he intended to introduce some day as he said.

A 1 A 1 Single. Dark red.

A 1 A 25 Japanese. Red.

A 1 A 30 Single. Bright red.

A 1 A 46 Japanese. Red.

A 1 A 50 Japanese. Rose pink.

A 1 A 62 Single. Pink.

A 1 A 75 Japanese. Red.

A 1 A 95 Single. Scarlet red.

#### ALBIFLORA VARIETIES

The following are *albiflora* varieties and were introduced from time to time. Few of them are well-known today.

*Belle* (1936) 9.03. Double. Late. Pink.

*Buttercup* (1928). 8.52. Japanese. Late midseason. White. Fragrant.

*Edith Arbeiter* (1929). Double. Late. Pink and white. Fragrant.

*June Bride* (1939) Double. Very late. White tinted pink. Fragrant.

*Mother's Choice* (1950). Double. Midseason. White flushed pink.

*Mrs. Eva Barron* (1932) 8.93. Double. Midseason. Shell pink. Fragrant.

*Red Delight* (1928). Double. Very late. Light red. Fragrant.

*Red Giant* (1939). Double. Midseason. Rich dark red.

*Rosella May* (1927). Double. Late midseason. Deep pink.

*Rosy Glow* (1928). Single. Early. Light violet rose.

## HOW TO CUT PEONIES

L. W. LINDGREN  
St. Paul, Minn.

Peony show time approaches and many new exhibitors have questions in mind which they would like to have answered.

Setting dates for peony shows which would suit all gardens is obviously impossible. Some gardens are early and some are late. Some peonies are early and some are late. The best plan is therefore to hold the show late in the season so that early and late gardens as well as early and late peonies may be represented. In order to do this it becomes necessary to cut the peonies at the proper time and place them in cold storage. A temperature of thirty-six degrees is best but a temperature as high as fifty degrees is satisfactory if the blooms are to be stored for a week or less. Blooms can be kept for over a month when stored at thirty-six degrees. An important point to remember is that even blooms cut the day before the show will benefit

from a chilling of several hours. Peonies are best stored with the stems in about eight inches of water.

Most new exhibitors are troubled determining at what stage of development buds should be cut. The following types may be cut when the bud is showing color or when the first petals begin to unfold: singles, Japanese, semi-doubles. The full double type such as *Hansina Brand* should not be cut until almost fully open. It is important to place in cold storage as soon as possible after cutting.

As the buds develop to near the cutting stage, paper bags should be placed over the buds and held in place with a rubber band. Be sure to make a couple of holes in the bag in order to provide ventilation. If this is not done the buds may be injured if the temperature is high. If the buds have not been bagged before cutting be sure to place the buds in bags before placing in storage. The procedure is this: cut a hole in the bottom of the bag and slip the stem thru the hole, the open end of the bag is then closed by twisting. The bag gives protection to the petals against bruising. The one-pound bag is about the right size for singles, Japs and semi-doubles while the two pound bag is more satisfactory for the larger and fuller blooms.

Cut stems about sixteen inches long and remove all foliage except the top leaf. However, the stems should be cut so that at least two leaves are left on the plant. When the buds are brought to the show room, cut off the ends of the stems about a half inch, place in water and carefully remove the paper bag. It's a thrilling sight to see the buds unfold into beautiful blooms and it is even more thrilling to see a ribbon pinned on your exhibit.

# Tree Peony Topics

LOUIS SMIRNOW  
*Sands Point, New York*

In my opening remarks on tree peonies in the December, 1951, bulletin, I wrote about grafting on tree peony understock—this was an error, for I intended to state “herbaceous peony understock.” It was my intention to convey that instead of using a 3 in. to 4 in. piece of one-half in. to  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. thick herbaceous stock, a 3 in. piece of perhaps  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  thickness would be better. Lemoine and other French growers use herbaceous seedlings about  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. thick as understock for grafting, which explains the fine root system on young tree peony plants. Thick understock requires a longer time to develop a root system whereas young vigorous herbaceous seedlings make a root system quickly. While growers have used tree peony understock—I believe Clarke, Wolfe and Gratwick on *lutea* hybrids have done so—there is the ever present danger of suckers from tree peony understock. I am firmly convinced that grafting on herbaceous understock is far better, everything considered.

The common belief that tree peonies will not survive cold climates has once more been proven a fallacy. Our good friend, Walter Lindgren has informed me that *Gessekai* and *Hana Kisoi* bloomed beautifully as young plants in Minnesota. The best plants of *Gessekai* and *Adzuma kagami*, I ever saw, thrive in Dundas, Ontario in the gardens of William J. Keagey. Tree peonies definitely grow well in cold climates.

While mentioning Mr. Keagey, his many friends will be glad to know his health is better than it has been this past year. Mr. William Brown of Elora wrote me re-

cently he had visited the Keageys and all is well. *White Bomber*, *Rose Bowl*, *Dieppe*, and *Dunkirk* are some of the fine herbaceous introductions of his. He has many fine tree peonies and besides his love for the Peony, is a scholarly gentleman, and I am proud to acknowledge his friendship. Mr. Keagey is a great believer in pruning his tree peony plants much as one would prune an ordinary shrub and the excellent results he gets is evidence of the correctness of his theory.

It is my plan this spring to visit all growers of tree peonies with good collections and will report results of this trip in the June issue, if possible. If not it will appear in September.

I must again call attention to the unscrupulous Japanese jobbers and nurserymen who are advertising directly to the American public at ridiculously low prices. Patronize American established dealers, there are at least six fine sources of supply. Prices are always consistent with quality.

A timely tip in the spring for all tree peonies is bi-weekly spraying with bordeaux mixture. Try making a thin paste of bordeaux and painting each plant with a brush, using this mixture. Mr. Gratwick has found this successful.

If you know where there is a good collection of tree peonies, look for blooms of *Alice Harding*, *Corsair*, *Gessekai*, *Renkaku*, *Yachiyo tsubaki*, *Yomeimon*, *Nissho*, *Kokko no tsukasa*, *Hana Kisoi*, *Silver Sails* and *L'Esperance*. A more gorgeous array of flowers is difficult to imagine.

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# PEONY AUCTION

## *New - Rare 60 ROOTS Extra Choice To Highest Bidders*

The Auction Committee of the American Peony Society takes pride in presenting the following list of 51 varieties, 60 roots in all, donated by members of the Society for the benefit of its treasury. Several of these are very new; many are quite scarce; all are fine.

ANDROW MEUGHLIG	GEORGE W. PEYTON	MARK TWAIN
ANN COUSINS	GOLD STANDARD	MARY L.
BREAK O' DAY	GOSHEN BEAUTY	MISS AMERICA
CAROLYNE MAE NELSON	HELEN HUGHES	MOONSTONE
CASABLANCA	HENRY SASS	MRS. F. D. ROOSEVELT
CATHIE ANN	JACOB STYER	MRS. HARRY F. LITTLE
CHARLIE'S WHITE	JAMES PILLOW	MRS. J. H. NEELEY
CHIPPEWA	JEAN HARLOW	NANCY NORA
DIGNITY	JOHN HARVARD	RADIANT RED
DONNA JEAN	JOSETTE	RED CHARM
DOREEN	JUDY BECKER	RED CLOUD
DOROTHY J.	LATE WINDFLOWER	RUTH ELIZABETH
ELORA	LILLIAN WILD	SAGAMORE
EMMA KLEHM	LOTTIE DAWSON REA	SATIN ROUGE (tree)
ENSIGN MANNIX	LOUISE LOSSING	TRUMPETER
MORIARTY	LOWELL THOMAS	VANITY
EVENING STAR	LULU LITTLE	VICTORY
GARDENIA		WESTHILL

Send your bids by mail so they will reach the chairman of the Auction Committee by June 15. The Auction will be concluded at the Lake Mohawk Show June 21. Successful bidders will be notified about July 1. Roots will be sent by donors at planting time. Descriptions on request. Committee reserves right to reject bids out of line with recognized values.

*Committee,*

W. A. Alexander, *Chairman*  
207 Eberly Avenue  
Bowling Green, Ohio

Mrs. Earl W. Knapp  
Carmel, Ind.

Clarence Lienau  
25804 Joy Road  
Detroit 28, Michigan

# Tribulations of Your Auction Chairman

When President van Loon got the jump on me and sent an appeal for roots for prizes at the National Show, I thought I had been left holding the bag. I felt that a second appeal would meet with a cold reception and reluctant giving for the auction. In short, your auction chairman was blue and discouraged about the thing and did a bit of worrying, although not a worrier by temperament. Pres. van Loon and Clarence Lienau, my fellow committee member, tried to reassure me, but I still had rather serious doubts. I was never a very successful begger anyhow.

Then when I got out the letter to solicit roots, the questions arose, how many shall I send and to whom? It seemed highly improbable, but what if there should be *too many roots* donated? (I was limited to 40 by decree of the Directors.) Who would respond? What percentage response would there be? I had to go at it blind, without previous experience and little knowledge of the Society's membership. Mr. Lienau's auction experience two years ago was of little value, I felt, because there was no double solicitation then to complicate the matter.

I got out the membership list and, after checking the few I had met at the shows, checked names more or less at random. I set an arbitrary figure of 70 as the number of letters to send. I thought I just might get a 40% response, which would be 28, and that perhaps some eight or 10 would give more than one root so I would not miss the 40 too far. The Directors had set this number as the maximum, fearing that we might tread on the toes of our commercial grower members if the number were unrestricted.

How wrong I was! Letters began coming by return mail. As this is being written, there has been a 32% response with letters still coming. I didn't miss too far on that point. But as to number of roots I was way off the beam. The number now totals 112. More amazing still is their value,—\$811.50 according to catalog listings. A number of people even wrote me to tell me they could not give and explain why they could not. The commercial men seemed to try to outdo each other, and I never once detected any feeling that the auction might encroach on their business. I just didn't know peony people!

So now I had about three times as many peonies as I could use. The improbable had become a reality and my faintly anticipated worry had suddenly become a bad headache. What to do? Would I just sit down and write all those good people a polite letter rejecting the roots I had appealed for and which they had so generously pledged? I didn't like it. What I did was get off a letter post-haste to Pres. van Loon suggesting we raise the limit to 60 and asking his approval of a canvass of the Directors on the matter. His letter by return mail approved the suggestion and sanctioned the vote. Letters to the Directors, air mail to the more distant ones, brought quick and favorable response. So 60 it is. Now I have to refuse only about one out of two offered. It will now be possible to use some of the offering of every would-be donor and still give us some leeway to choose varieties most suitable for the auction.

There are two other points about which I could worry but I don't think I will. Some members to whom I did not send letters may

say— How come you didn't give me a chance to contribute? To them I can only say— Sorry. I had to select the list pretty much hit and miss. You were missed. I suggest you get your name on the list as a contributor to the next auction. The chairman of that next auction, whoever it may be, will love that. The other possible worry is whether we will have enough bidders willing to offer what these peonies are worth. But I have learned a lesson in faith—faith in peony people. I have confidence that you will all want to be buyers even though only a few could be givers because I know all of you want to help the Society, our best means of promoting our favorite flower.

### New, Rare and Choice

Peonies so new that none have as yet been delivered to buyers; others which were introduced just last fall; and many that class as new varieties, or that are little known, altho among the finest,—these make the Auction offering a really notable list. A number are medal or certificate winners. Some are very scarce. For example: RED CHARM (Glasscock), the hybrid double which was Best Flower in the Show at Cleveland last summer, is listed in few catalogs; even the originator has none for sale.

ANN COUSINS (Cousins), the sensational new Canadian variety, will be delivered to customers in this country for the first time next fall. It is a massive, deep flower with reflexed petals like a rose, pure white. VANITY, Brand's brand new pink and cream Jap, has not yet been offered to the public. Two new Canadian varieties, ELORA and DONNA JEAN, both by Brown, are 1951 introductions. The former is a very large white with blush

some petals. The latter is a blush pink Jap.

Not to be outdone by our northern neighbors, we offer three '51 introductions by American breeders: CHARLIE'S WHITE and EMMA KLEHM, both by Klehm. Both received the Certificate of Merit at the 1950 Rockford, Ill. show. CHARLIE'S WHITE is a pure white bomb, blooming with or a day earlier than *M. Jules Elie*, and is tall and strong. EMMA KLEHM is a full rose type, very deep pink, blooming medium late. A third, GOSHEN BEAUTY (Kunderd) is a glowing deep rose, one of the earliest doubles to come in to bloom. A 1948 medal winner from Minnesota MARY L. (Lins) is another white double with some crimson markings. Another Lins variety, GARDENIA, was shown for the first time in '49. It is flesh white and the name is descriptive of its form. Another magnificent white double is HENRY SASS (Inter-State). It was introduced only four years ago. Still another white double which adds distinction to our list is JACOB STYER (Styer), winner of the American Home Achievement Medal at the Cleveland Show last year as the best and most distinguished new peony in the show. It is an immaculate flower.

Two 1949 introductions from Nebraska appear in the list: DOREEN and TRUMPETER, both by H. E. Sass. DOREEN is a two-toned pink Jap and TRUMPETER, a full rose type, dark red. There are many others that date back a few years, but to most of us are just as new as those mentioned. Several, such as RUTH ELIZABETH (Brand) and DOROTHY J. (Jones) have made a great reputation as consistent show winners. Limitations of space make mention of all impossible.

There are, however, several older

varieties in the list which should not be passed over. They are top-notch varieties which for some reason have not been widely distributed and therefore as new to the general public as many of those that bear a very recent date. Among them is **LOWELL THOMAS** (Rosenfield), a dark red that will hold its own in any company. Others are: **JAMES PILLOW** (Pillow), peaches and cream, late, very tall and strong; **LILLIAN WILD** (Sarcxie Nur.), a very large, compact rose type, delicate pink. Late. This variety was little known, although 30 years old, until two years ago when it won a First Class Certificate at the National Show; **MRS. HARRY F. LITTLE** (Little) and **MRS. J. H. NEELEY** (Neeley), both flesh pinks or blush whites, and both among the finest of all peonies.

There is only one tree peony in this list, but it is a most desirable one: **SATIN ROUGE**. It is described as a full double, brilliant red, eight inches in diameter and fragrant. A *lutea* hybrid. It is on its own roots and is a plant of good size.

The fact is, that a good word could be said for every variety in this distinguished list of peonies, if time and space permitted. If you want to know more about any variety listed, write the chairman of the Auction Committee and he will be glad to pass along whatever information he may have.

### Good Reds Offered

Much improvement has been made in red varieties in recent years. Peony connoisseurs have always considered the reds in general to be much inferior to the whites and pinks in form, size, substance, clarity of color and other qualities that are the marks of really fine peonies. However, many of the newer reds

are comparable to the best in the other color groups in these qualities. The auction list includes a number of the best.

Heading the list is the great hybrid double, **RED CHARM** which was the sensation of the Cleveland show last year. Many consider it to be the masterpiece of that master hybridizer, Lyman D. Glasscock. The only other red hybrid in the list is Mr. Auten's **JOHN HARVARD**, always a garden sensation. If you are starting a collection of hybrids, and every peony fan should have some, there is none better to start with than **JOHN HARVARD**.

If you want to be sure to get in the money at the shows **RUTH ELIZABETH** (Brand) is the one you want. It is beautiful in form, clear and brilliant in color. **LOWELL THOMAS** (Rosenfield) is not new but has had very limited distribution. Its form and color are fine and the substance of the flower something special. The foliage is distinctive and very attractive. **JUDY BECKER** (Sass) is a rich dark red, full rose type, late. It is considered by many who have it to be one of the finest of all reds. Only ten years since its introduction.

On tall, strong stems, **CAROLYNE MAE NELSON** (Sass) gives you large, dark crimson-maroon flowers in late midseason. Auten's **RADIANT RED** represents a color break,—cochineal red. He describes it as a trim bomb with the guard petals tending to hug the central part of the flower. **MARK TWAIN** (Franklin) is rather new and not widely disseminated. Those who have it think it one of the top reds. **RED CLOUD** (Jones) is spoken of as the red *Le Cygne* which means a flower of faultless form. It is quite new and not many of us have seen it but a lot of us want it. **TRUMPETER** (Sass Bros.) is another few of us have seen but

is gaining a reputation as one of the best. **CHIPPEWA** (Murawska) is a deep red said to be very long lasting and non-fading. **GOSHEN BEAUTY** (Kunderd) is the newest red of the list, introduced last year. Mr. Stahly describes it as neither a pink nor a red but a glowing rose which stands out in the field. It is among the earliest of all doubles.

If you are dissatisfied with the old timers in your planting, why not bid off some of these fine reds of later origin? Or if you think the old ones are pretty good, try a few of the newer ones. You may be surprised.

### Japs Gaining in Favor

A fine Japanese type peony is one of the most beautiful of all flowers. Many people who do not go for the large doubles find the striking color contrasts, the interesting formation of the flower and the general artistic effect of the better Japs most intriguing. There is no question: they are gaining in popularity. This is due largely to the great improvement in the newer varieties. The auction list includes several of the better ones.

The newest of them is Mr. Brand's **VANITY**, being offered this fall for the first time. His description: The guards, which are of a delicate even pink, are large and broad and lie out flat. The center is composed of a beautiful, great tuft of delicate creamy colored filamental petals. **DONNA JEAN**, by Wm. Brown of Canada, was introduced last fall. He speaks of it as his finest seedling and describes it as follows: The petals, stamens and pistils are all a soft, blush pink. There is no discordant note to mar the entrancing loveliness of this beautiful flower.

Two years older, which is still too new for many to have seen, is **DO-**

**REEN** (Sass), a two-toned pink, giving some contrast but a beautiful blend. **GOLD STANDARD** (Rosenfield) has pale yellow outer petals and a heavy cushion of yellow staminodes in the center. Large and tall on strong stems. **SAGAMORE** (Jones) is a fine blush with unusual petal texture and is quite new.

**DIGNITY** and **BREAK O' DAY**, both by Murawska complete the list of Japs. The former is appropriately named and is recognized as one of the best of its color which is a dark red. It is large, tall and vigorous. A consistent prize winner. Was best red Jap at the Cleveland show. **BREAK O' DAY** is a very pleasing novelty with light red top and long rose-colored staminodes. Something different.

Only seven in the list, but seven mighty good ones.

W. A. ALEXANDER

### Contributors to the Auction

Edward Auten, Jr., Princeville, Ill.  
Floyd Bass Nursery, New Augusta, Ind.  
J. W. Bernstein, Lincoln, Neb.  
A. M. Brand, Faribault, Minn.  
Brown's Peony Gardens, Elora, Ont.  
Elmer A. Claar, Chicago, Ill.  
Roy G. Gayle, Rockford, Ill.  
Hill Iris and Peony Farm, Lafontaine, Kan.  
Inter-State Nurseries, Hamburg, Ia.  
R. H. Jones, Peru, Ind.  
M. C. Karrels, Milwaukee, Wis.  
Charles Klehm & Son, Arlington Heights, Ill.  
R. F. Koby, Superior, Wis.  
Clarence Lienau, Detroit, Mich.  
E. H. Lins, Cologne, Minn.  
Mrs. Harry F. Little, Camillus, N.Y.  
James Mason, Chicago, Ill.  
A. L. Murawska, River Grove, Ill.  
Rosefield Peony Garden, Tigard, Ore.

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Sarcoxie Nurseries, Sarcoxie, Mo.  
Sass Bros. Maple Rd. Gardens,  
Omaha, Neb.

Ernest I. Stahly, Goshen, Ind.

Robert A. Thompson, McHenry, Ill.  
Styer's Nursery, Concordville, Pa.

E. L. White, Fort Atkinson, Wis.

Gilbert H. Wild & Son, Sarcoxie, Mo.

Harold E. Wolfe, Belleville, Ill.

Francis P. Tikalsky, La Grange  
Park, Ill. (Cash)

Dr. D. Sanford Hyde, River Forest,  
Ill. (Advertisement)

A total of 112 roots were pledged, including one tree peony, of which only 60 could be used because of the limitation set by the Directors. The 112 roots have a catalog value of \$811.50, proof sufficient of the newness and quality of the offerings. The 60 selected for the auction are valued at \$642.50. The committee reserves the right to reject bids far out of line with recognized values. The donors of roots and others who contributed cash deserve the thanks of all members of the Society, and their generous response is much appreciated by the committee whose work it was to plan and conduct the auction.

#### *Auction Committee*

#### **Louis Smirnow Seeks Help**

Can anyone help me in my effort to find all particulars regarding a herbaceous species called *Chamaeleon*? I have several plants and little is known about it, other than it resembles in foliage, *Mloko-siewitchi* and that it blooms about a week earlier. It is a yellow, sometimes with pink cherry blossoms. It was sent here to Carl Worth by Rosenheim from England. Mr. Rosenheim is no longer alive. There is nothing in Col. Stern's monograph of the peony species. Please send me whatever information you may have.

#### **Some Notes on the Cross *Officinalis Rubra*, Seed Parent; *Albiflora*, Pollen Parent**

BENJAMIN WILDER GUPPY  
*Melrose, Massachusetts*

When I first started making this cross my horticultural status was that of a suburban back yard gardener with a house lot of twelve thousand square feet located in Melrose, Massachusetts seven miles north of Boston.

I had two reasons for attempting the cross. First, could it be made and what would come of it. Second, the hope of obtaining some worthwhile early flowering peonies.

For a pollen parent, I selected Thurlow's *Helen*. A single pink advertised as the earliest flowering of the *albiflora* species. This was planted in that part of the garden where the frost first came out of the ground. Conversely, *officinalis rubra* was planted in that spot where the frost remained in the ground the latest. Thus *Helen* was forced a little and *officinalis rubra* retarded.

Fortunately the buds of *officinalis rubra* do not all open at once so many years I would be able to treat the late blooms with pollen from the first blooms of *Helen*. In the course of years I obtained a few hybrid plants.

I later found a single pink among my *albiflora* seedlings which blooms as early as *Helen* and which I have also used as a pollen parent with some success.

Several years after I started hybridizing I acquired an estate of a few acres in West Newbury, Massachusetts, about twenty-five miles north of Melrose and the fun really began.

The peony season at West Newbury is several days later than at Melrose and the *officinalis* plants

were moved up there. The *albiflora* plants used as pollen parents remained in Melrose.

My early notes of the cross are not available. Between 1930 and 1949 there were only three years when I was unable to make the cross. Four years the cross did not take. During the remaining thirteen years I obtained 233 seeds, 60 of which germinated. Some of these seedlings did not live to bloom but enough have bloomed to give me some definite information about the cross.

The plants resulting from the cross are sterile. This is due to the difference in the chromosome numbers of the two species—*albiflora* 10, *officinalis* 20. This sterility prevents the growing of second generation seedlings to obtain the diversity of types and colors of blossoms resulting from the various combinations of the dominant and recessive characteristics of the two parents. It also necessitates the repeating of the primary cross over and over again in the search for novelties.

Single flowers predominate as singleness is a dominant characteristic. However a few of the various types of blossoms have been obtained. The foliage is similar to the *albiflora* parent.

The plants usually bloom a day or two earlier than the *officinalis* parent. I have found that blooming ahead of the earlier flowering parent is a trait that also occurs when *officinalis rubra* is crossed with one of the earlier flowering species.

The colors range from pink to dark red. Some are brilliant.

Well, I have found out that the cross can be made and I have obtained a few of what I think are worth while early flowering peonies. Some of these have been exhibited at the peony shows of the M.H.

S., Boston. Three of them have received an Award of Merit. These have been named and registered with the A.P.S.

If these notes have roused your interest to the point where you care to carry on with the cross, just set out some *officinalis rubra* roots and get in touch with some other peony lover whose patch is situated far enough to the south of your location so that he can furnish you with *albiflora* pollen when needed. Then go to it and GOOD LUCK.

## Canadian Pecny Notes

ALBERTA, CANADA

HARRY B. MUSGROVE  
Canmore, Alberta

Conditions here are rather severe some seasons and considerable labor must be spent on peonies, particularly in the spring, if good results are to be obtained.

A great many varieties do well, at least the older ones, such as *Sarah Bernhardt*, *Therese*, *Mme. Jules Dessert*, *Martha Bulloch*, *Festiva Maxima*, *Mme. Emile Lemoine*, *Lady Alexandra Duff*, *Reine Hortense*, *Mons. Jules Elie*, *Claire Dubois*, *Felix Crousse*, *Karl Rosenfield*, *Philippe Rivoire*, and many others.

I have some of these and they are fine in the high altitude of the Rockies, also on the prairies, where I have seen acres of them in bloom at Edmonton in Northern Alberta. A few, such as *Solange* and *Le Cygne* do not seem to bloom as well. A neighbor has a *Mons. Jules Elie*, grown without moving or dividing for thirty years, and it blooms well every year. It is also very hardy. I visited the above mentioned peony farm in Edmonton again, a few years ago, and they did not have a single bloom for sale. A sixteen degree frost in June had completely frozen all buds.

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I know of no particular culture here for their growth. One thing I did learn by hard experience, was that the top foot of soil, in which they are planted, should contain neither manure nor fertilizer of any kind, if root decay is to be avoided.

The newer varieties are not too well known in Alberta. Last fall I planted some of these, namely *Kansas*, *Marietta Sisson*, *Elsa Sass*, *Moonstone*, *Nick Shaylor*, *Helen Hayes*, *Westerner*, *Break o' Day*, *Isani Gidui*, *Alice Harding* and *Myrtle Gentry*. I am now looking forward to spring with more fervor than usual, to see how they have wintered.

*Sarah Bernhardt* is a fine variety here. It blooms early after planting, is very hardy and consistent. My hope is that some of the newly planted roots do as well for me next summer.

A winter mulch is advisable, at least in Southern Alberta, to prevent premature sprouting in late winter and spring. Warm, westerly winds, known as "Chinooks," are common here and sometimes last long enough to start sprouting of plants and shrubs.

Our spring is unpredictable and cold weather may return, at times, in May and even in June. The past spring was an example of this. On June 7th we had 24 inches of heavy, wet snow in Canmore and also a light snowfall on June 26th. Usually heavy frosts follow such storms. You may imagine the work trying to protect peony plants from such a weight of snow, using boxes, sacks, etc.

If the mulch is kept on until May 1st or even later, the plants are not so advanced, are better able to stand the frosts and are also easier to cover.

Personally, if I lived in a more favored climate, such as the interior of British Columbia, I would

like to have about one hundred varieties, but under the conditions outlined above, it would be quite a task.

Just what amount of frost peony buds will withstand without serious injury, I have not determined for certain. A great deal depends on how far the buds are advanced and here again the value of a mulch is emphasized. I am wondering how the new varieties will stand up in this respect.

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#### BRITISH COLUMBIA

W. R. JACK

*Hatzic, British Columbia, Canada*

The climate in southwest British Columbia, Canada, is almost the same as that in Seattle, 180 miles distant. Peonies thrive in this area of "The Pacific Northwest." Occasionally slow-developing and late varieties get an oversupply of rain and fail to make perfect flowers.

1951 proved to be a splendid year for blooms. The finest peony garden that we visited was that of Mrs. F. B. Eylar in a truly stunning location southeast of Seattle at Renton.

Our plantings of peonies at Hatzic, B. C., total about 25,000 plants. We use nitrogen fertilizers very sparingly, and avoid organic manures entirely. Some promising results have been secured by the use of sawdust mulching.

Almost all varieties produced quality blooms. Visitors remarked on the excellent field appearances of *Garden Princess*, *Baroness Schroeder*, *Mrs. Deane Funk*, *President Wilson*, and *Souvenir de Louis Bigot*.

The singles and Japanese varieties were uniformly good, with *Amano-sode*, *Fuyajo*, and *Isani Gidui* very superior.

Outstanding flowers were observed on plants of *A. G. Perry*

*Alice Harding, Baroness Shroeder, Dorothy J. Ella Lewis, George W. Peyton, Hansina Brand, Jeannot, Joanne Foreman, La Lorraine, Le Cygne, Mme. Emile Lemoine, Marie Crousse, Nick Shaylor, Philippe Rivoire, Robert E. Lee, Ruth Elizabeth, Solange, and Therese.* It was a good season for fully double varieties.

The finest bloom of the season in our planting was produced by *Odile*. It was quite a revelation. Perhaps the Society members have not yet rated some of the foreign varieties according to their true worth?

## Coming Events

Notices have been received that the following shows will be held as noted. It is hoped that all who can will take part in them and so bring the Peony into prominence as it deserves.

### OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

The Tenth Annual Peony Show of the Peony Garden Flower Unit will be held May 10-11, 1952, weather permitting. A change of date may be necessary. Please address all inquiries to Mrs. Delbert Askew, Secretary, 2635 N. W. 12th, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. This is a grand opportunity for all peony-minded folks in that part of the world to see a good show and to try their skill at exhibiting.

### KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

Mr. Walter N. Prescott, No. 4002 Garfield, Kansas City 4, Missouri, writes me that the Greater Kansas City Iris Society invites peony growers to exhibit peonies at their show to be held May 24-25, 1952, in the Municipal Auditorium, (Exhibition Hall), Kansas City, Missouri. They have plenty of room so come and bring all the peonies you

can. Here is the opportunity you people of Kansas and Missouri have been looking for. Take advantage of it. Are you going to let the Iris people do all the showing? The admission is free.

For further information write Allen Harper, 7300 Brooklyn, Kansas City, Missouri, who is Peony Chairman.

### LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA

The Garden Club Council of Lynchburg, Virginia, is planning a Spring Show about May 14, 1952, in which Peonies will be a major feature. Mrs. William Goode Robinson, 107 Huron Avenue, Lynchburg, Virginia, will be glad to answer all inquiries. Lynchburg is noted for its beautiful shows. It is hoped many of our readers will attend and take part.

### NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

The Horticultural Society of New York holds monthly flower shows in the Colonnades Ball Room on the main floor of the Essex House, 157 West 58th Street, New York, 19, New York. Some of the dates are: April 23, May 28, June 18, October 15, November 6, 7, 8, and December 17. Special inducements are offered nurserymen to exhibit. Many fine awards are made including four by prominent horticultural publishers. If you cannot come yourself your exhibits will be staged for you. Any one interested please communicate with the Secretary at the above address. These shows offer a splendid opportunity to make you and your offerings known to a vast gardening public. If your exhibit is judged worthy it may be shown by a major television studio. The May and June dates are excellent for peony exhibitors. Why don't you try your hand?

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**LAKE MOHAWK, NEW JERSEY**  
**FORTY-EIGHTH NATIONAL**  
**SHOW** of the American Peony Society. June 21-22, 1952. This is preminently your show. Make it the best ever. Come and bring your exhibit or send it if you cannot come. Be sure to send in your request for the full schedule and program if you expect to exhibit. Do not forget to make your reservations for accommodations in advance and as soon as possible. See the articles by our President elsewhere in this issue.

As we go to press we do not have definite information about the following shows which are always held annually. We shall try to give more in the June bulletin, but it may not reach you in time to make your preparations so write the persons listed for information.

**BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS,** about June 18. Address: Arno H. Nehrling, Show Chairman, Horticultural Hall, 300 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston 15, Massachusetts.

**DULUTH, Minnesota,** about July 1. Mrs. W. E. Wipson, 903 Arrowhead Road, Duluth 3, Minnesota, will be able to give you the required information. The name of the secretary of the Duluth Peony and Iris Society which stages the show is not known to us at present. This will be their 33rd show.

**GRAND FORKS, North Dakota,** about end of June. Mrs. M. B. Kanowski, Grand Forks, North Dakota can give you any information desired. This show is staged by the North Dakota Peony Society. It is their Thirtieth.

**SUPERIOR, Wisconsin,** Seventh Annual Show of the Superior Peony Garden Club. Mr. R. F. Koby will be able to give you exact information. His address is 2217 Banks Avenue, Superior, Wisconsin. It is

usually held at about the same time as the Duluth show.

**MINNEAPOLIS - ST. PAUL,** Minnesota, Thirty-Third Annual Peony Show of the Minnesota Peony and Iris Society, about June 29. Definite dates may be had from R. C. Schneider, 708 Osceola Avenue, St. Paul 5, Minnesota.

**FIFTH DISTRICT REGIONAL SHOW.** Rumors only at the present. Tackle Tikalsky for information. Address: Francis P. Tikalsky, 312 North Spring Avenue, La Grange Park, Illinois.

Doubtless there are many other such shows of which we have no notice. We shall always be glad to publish dates of any shows we may know of. We invite all officers of such shows to send us definite information as soon as possible. We hope to get the June Bulletin out in early June if possible. Let us have your dates at once.

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#### SHOWS

If any show is held in your neighborhood in which peonies are featured, and which is not regularly reported in this Bulletin. please send us as full a report as possible. Be sure to give the names of the winning varieties. This is the information most desired, as the names of the persons are secondary. We shall also welcome your comments on the regularly reported shows.

#### ADVERTISERS—ATTENTION!

Your attention is called to the fact that our June Bulletin is a good place to advertise your wares, especially your new introductions. Let us have your copy by May 1 if possible. Also keep in mind the September issue which will have as many reports of shows and of the blooming season as possible. This will not be out until late August or possibly a little later. It will depend on many circumstances.

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# Favorite Peonies

## KANSAS

MRS. JOHN A. THARP  
Winfield, Kansas

My favorite twenty-five peonies are:

*Karl Rosenfield, Mons. Jules Elie, Le Cygne*, my top three.

*May Queen*, my earliest to bloom.

*Grace Batson*, huge buds and blossoms.

*Pres. Roosevelt* for reliability.

*Therese, Kelway's Glorious* have not failed since they started to bloom.

*Tourangelle* bloomed gloriously for the first time.

*Avalanche*, so pure and white.

*Souvenir de Louis Bigot* always blooms.

*Inspecteur Lavergne*, most beautiful red.

*Cherry Hill*, scintillating deep red.

*Grover Cleveland*, a plump red.

*Philippe Rivoire*, luscious favorite red.

*Thor*, always good.

*Solange, Sarah Bernhardt*, not so good this summer as they have been sometimes.

*Walter Faxon*, so meek and humble, but what a surprise when lifted up.

*Baroness Schroeder*, always delightful.

*Moonstone, James Pillow, Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt, Mildred May, Auten's Pride*, young but promising.

From an array of bouquets for Memorial Day one lady's first choice was *Edulis Superba*. We always fill in with *Festiva Maxima* when we run out of everything else.

Singles and Japs get lovelier every year. First place goes to:

*Le Jour, L'Etincelante, Fuyajo, Flanders Fields, Mikado*.

This is my vote for Southern Kansas.

## IOWA

LAWRENCE E. CRAIG  
Salix, Iowa

Mr. Peyton: I am complying with your request for a list of my favorite peonies and those varieties that do well in this locality.

First a word about our location. This is in the extreme western edge of Iowa and is in what is known as the Missouri River Bottom Land. It is all level and very rich.

To any one reading this article I wish to invite you to drop in and see us in case you are driving by. If you would let us know in advance when you are coming, my wife might bake a cake.

We have plenty of rainfall here for growing flowers, the average being 26.76 inches. However in 1951 we had 34.80 inches.

As beauty is in the eyes of the beholder, I hope my choice of varieties meets with the approval of a few people.

I shall run through the doubles and semi-doubles first. In the whites I begin with *Elsa Sass*. It is superb. Other good garden subjects are *Alice Harding, Baroness Schroeder, Mary E. Nicholls, Nimbus, Minnie Shaylor, Kelway's Glorious, Rose Shaylor, Le Cygne* and *A. B. Franklin*.

In the near-yellows, I like *Matchless Beauty* and *Golden Dawn*. I have not grown *J. C. Legg* long enough to report. *Primevere* has weak stems.

In the reds I like *Tempest*. I believe that it has given me the best flowers of any red variety. *Philippe Rivoire* is also top notch. *Rose Marie* (hybrid) is outstanding for purity of color. *Janes Oleson* is a good garden subject. I prefer *Martilda Lewis* to *Mons. Martin Cahuzac*. *Priam* is also a good red. *David Harum* has excellent stems and so does *Mary C. Wedge, Judy Becker*

is a low grower, but has large flowers. *Winnifred Domme* is dwarf, but has excellent color. I have not had the following long enough to make a report: *Burma, Onondaga, Ruth Elizabeth, King Midas, Sir John Franklin, Lowell Thomas* and *Carolyn Mae Nelson*.

In the pinks we have a large class to choose from. *Myrtle Gentry, Nick Shaylor, Minuet, Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt, Mons. Jules Elie, Therese, Blanche King, Hansina Brand, and Walter Faxen* are among my best pinks. *Anna Sass, Judge Berry, Katherine Havemeyer, Martha Bulloch, Mme. Emile Debatene, Edwin C. Shaw, Pres. Wilson, Ella Christiansen, Reine Hortense, Marietta Sisson, Lady Kate, Sarah Bernhardt, Tondeleyo, and Mrs. Livingston Farrand* are all good here. *Elizabeth Huntington* is also a good garden variety.

In the Japs, *Polar Star, and Isani Cidui* are both beautiful. *Yellow King* is good. *Nippon Gold, Ama-no-sode, Prairie Afire, Geisha* are good pink Japs. *Mikado, Nippon Beauty, Nippon Brilliant, Mrs. Wilder Bancroft, Mrs. Hobart M. Cable* are excellent reds.

In the singles I grow *Imperial Red, Pride of Portland, Silvia Saunders, Watchman, Marie Jacquin, Harriet Olney, Vera, May Oleson, Helen* and like all of them.

If you have space to spare, by all means raise a few semi-doubles. I think they add beauty to flower arrangements. Among the good ones are *Luetta Pfeiffer, Minnie Shaylor, Phyllis Kelway, Rose Shaylor, Lady Alexandra Duff*.

Here is an idea for any of you people who grow an abundance of bloom. Most churches need additional money to carry on their varied activities. So with this in mind, I told the ladies of our church, that, if they would put on a dinner, I would stage an exhibition of peonies

and that they might sell them and keep the money. They accepted and the Peony exhibition has become an annual affair.

I have staged these exhibitions in churches in the surrounding towns, always donating the flowers. While no attempt is made to sell roots at these shows, you can hardly help yourself as always someone wants to get a root of this or that one.

My experience with peonies is not extensive. I have been growing peonies for about twenty-five years, gradually growing more and more varieties, until now I have better than two hundred and about six thousand plants. I expect to continue to improve my planting as long as I am able to take care of them.

I will close with this thought. I would like to meet all of you people that I read about in the Bulletins and talk peonies. Perhaps some day I shall meet some of you.

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R. F. KOBY

*Superior, Wisconsin*

The secretary of the American Peony Society came to me with the most untimely request. "Will you send me a list of your favorite peonies and give me a list of those that do best in your locality," right in the middle of the winter.

By now he knows they are all my favorites and that he is just as apt as not to get a list as long as your arm. I know that is not exactly what he wants. And too it was not so very long ago that I had occasion to ask Mrs. Frank Moots a very similar request on behalf of The Superior Men's Garden Club. She did such a nice job that I feel obliged on this occasion to respond to the fellow in the secretary's position that makes the Society click.

Looking over my notes which run back to about 1926, to find ap

priate comments for Those That Do Best, I find that I was very conservative in selecting peonies, sticking to the older varieties that had been tried. *Edulis Superba* headed the list. *Felix Crousse*, *Karl Rosenfield*, *Sarah Bernhardt*, *Philippe Rivoire*, *Auguste Dessert* were all in that list. Where were the whites? I do not know. I guess no white caught my fancy at that early date. It was not long tho till the whites came in and if whites are mentioned from here on it is because they perform excellently here in the cool of the north.

Those that I shall include are all beauties and grand performers, consistent year after year. In the Red Double Class we have *Carolynae Mae Nelson*, *Felix Crousse*, *Lora Dexheimer*, for its early bloom, *Mons. Martin Cahuzac*, *Matilda Lewis*, *Pfeiffer's Red Triumph*, *Philippe Rivoire*, *Ruth Elizabeth*, *Tempest*, *Cleopatra*, *Bonanza*, and of course *officinalis rubra*. This group performs every year and tho I have won best reds with numbers not mentioned here, they have not proven that they are stalwarts for our north country. *Mons. Martin Cahuzac* is included because it furnishes pollen from the very dark reds for breeding. *Matilda Lewis* draws a rating because of its darkness and its regular performance. *Pfeiffer's Red Triumph* polls a position because it is a very early deep red that always does well. It stands from a day to several days in that semi-open stage in the cool of our long late springs and looks much like an immense rose bud. You never see it in the shows because it is a little too early, but it deserves a place among the reds.

Oh! I don't like this task a little bit, for I know every time I go out to my garden this summer and pass one of those friends of mine, my will be crimson with chagrin

for not having included their names among the All Americans. So for the double deeper pinks I would include *Blanche King*, only rated 8.9 by the elite in the peony world, but she heads the parade of deep pinks to be followed by *Loren Franklin*, *Ann Pfeiffer*, *Henry Webster* and *Tondeleyo*. *Tondeleyo* looks better each year. *President F. D. Roosevelt* might well be added to this class, yet it may logically fall in the lighter pinks.

Here we are in real trouble, the lighter pinks—all that get into this class are good ones. Old and new, here they are: *Auguste Dessert*, *Dolorodell*, *E. C. (Shorty) Shaw*, *Ella Christiansen*, *Franklin's Pride*, *Chief*, *Lady Kate*, *Myrtle Gentry*, *Nick Shaylor*, *Queen of Hamburg*, *Mons. Jules Elie*, *Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt* and *Sarah Bernhardt*. I notice that authorities throw *Mrs. F. D. R.* and *Sarah Bernhardt* into different classes, but here their shades are almost identical.

Flesh pinks require the guidance of a color rating sheet which I do not have right handy, so memory is my guide this time. This group includes *Solange*, *Hansina Brand*, *Mme. Jules Dessert*, *Mandaleen*, *La Lorraine*, *Auten's Pride*, *Therese*, and *Peach Glow*. *Solange* and *Le Cygne* of the white class both open well and only a very bad season causes them to perform badly. *Peach Glow* and *Mandaleen* look like they might be real finds for our climate.

White doubles are the toughest. These are tops: *A. B. C. Nicholls*, *A. B. Franklin*, *Casablanca*, *Ches-tine Gowdy*, *Elsa Sass*, *H. P. Sass*, *Evening Star*, *Kelway's Glorious*, *Duluth*, *Le Cygne*, *Lois Q. Gayle*, *Marilla Beauty*, *Dorothy J.*, *Mrs. Frank Beach*, *Mrs. J. H. Neeley*, *Mrs. J. V. Edlund*, *Prudence*, *White Delight*, *Yukon* and last but not least is *Mme. de Verneville*, always

a profuse performer. *Charlene*, a '42 introduction of Kelsey does well and gives a wonderful bloom, and while new deserves a spot among the top performers.

Red singles probably are headed by *Arcturus*, and a close second with a wonderful deep red bloom comes *Jimmie Franklin*. Pink singles are headed by *Sea Shell*; *Fairy Pink* is nice too. White singles find *Krinkled White*, just about the best, yet *Atlanta* gives a wonderful bloom that stands weather well. An old variety, *Innocence*, is short with us, but its bloom is profuse, good quality and if properly used makes a very nice home number.

*Lady Alexandra Duff* is queen of the white semi doubles, with *Phyllis Kelway* a grand number in the pink class.

*Charm*, *Hari-ai-nin* and *Someganoko* are three very fine red Japs and *Rashomon* in the pink Japs is hard to beat. *Isani-Gidui*, a white Jap, in and out, performs wonderfully well and is usually found in some place on the show tables.

The very earliest still is *anomala*, the cut leaf peony out of Russia, but it is being pushed very hard by a native from right across the bay in Duluth, Minn., introduced as *Helen Dancer* in 1933 by Mrs. H. A. Dancer. Mrs. Dancer states this peony of undetermined origin was found as a seedling near one of her peony clumps and was moved to a setting of its own to develop after its own fashion. It will open a day or two after *anomala* and a day or two ahead of *tenuifolia*. This peony will probably never make the commercial market nor the show table, the first because of plant habit which is rather snap dragon type with soft bending stems as I viewed it in Mrs. Dancer's garden, and secondly because the blossom cannot be refrigerated long enough to produce a live awake bloom for

competition. The flower is on the order of a semi-double, with petals intermingling with the stamens which are large but cannot be termed staminodes, for they do produce some pollen. The over-all picture color of the bloom is a yellowish cast of delicate pink overlaid on a translucent petal. The carpels are pink and the stamens are a very light yellow. You folks that live north of parallel 41 ought to try and wangle Mrs. Dancer out of a chunk of her stock, for she tells me that she lifts her roots about every five years, prepares new settings and the first year she has her new roots set they give her nice blooms. To this last statement I can attest, for my cutting of this peony gave me four nice blooms the first season it was planted.

It is true that this last paragraph is a little more than you ask regarding my choice of peonies, but like the rooster when he rolled out the ostrich egg for his flock to view, said, "See what the neighbors are doing."

I think if I could have but one peony, one peony of all that I have seen perform, my choice would be *TONDELEYO*. This is the middle of the winter and the white snow lies feet deep all around. It may be something else tomorrow,— who knows? I choose *Tondeleyo* because of its wonderful stem length, its erect habit, its leafy growth that extends to the ground, its average or better root growth and last of all, its wonderful deep pink bloom that stands in the garden or as a cut flower for days and days. I cut a bouquet and took it in for the folks at the Green House to enjoy, requesting that they place it so all the people working there with plants and flowers could see it every day and watch its performance. One day a few weeks later a very pretty lady from the office wanted to know

the name of that pretty peony bouquet that I had given the staff, and upon being informed that it was Lin's *Tondeleyo*, she said, "My that was a wonderful bouquet." One day in September I again visited the Kotter-McKee Green House and Mr. McKee, while waist deep in gladiolus, called to me, "Hey, what was the name of that peony you brought over to us last summer?" Upon being informed that it was *Tondeleyo*, he said, "That was the finest peony we ever had—it just

stood and stood in the vase out in our customers room." With the vote of pretty ladies and practical business men back of my selection, I am sure the peony fancier will squint a second time at *Tondeleyo* in 1952. I notice that our friend Tikalsky spells that word (fancier) another way. It starts out all right then he goes astray. His version goes something like this, F-I-L-B-E-R-T. And by this time I know you are all saying, Nuts To You Mr. Koby, you don't strike my fancy at all.

## Secretary's Notes

As we write these notes March 20, 1952, Old Man Winter is in his death throes and Spring is a-borning. The King is dead. Long live the Queen.

We had a very pleasant visit from Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smirnow.

The article on growing Peonies in Pots aroused much interest. We find it is practiced more generally than we thought with the result that the plants are sold out before blooming season.

Do not overlook the Peony Auction if you wish to get some of the many great peonies offered. Send in your bid at once and help the Society.

We have in mind getting out a small handbook of the Peony of about 25-30 pages to sell at a modest sum. There is a constant demand for such a book and we should like to be able to supply it. It would be a stop gap until we can publish the larger manual. One suggests a Fiftieth Anniversary Manual in 1954. It might be a good idea.

Mr. Christman has sent the back Bulletins and as soon as they can be gone over thoroughly we expect to publish a list of those still available.

Mrs. John F. Daly tells us she

has sold the bound copies of the Bulletin. She received many inquiries for them.

We find that some errors have crept in the published By-laws of the Society. We shall endeavor to have them corrected at the coming Annual Meeting at Lake Mohawk.

Please send us a report on your present blooming season as soon after its close as possible. List also your favorites. We especially desire reports on the performance of all new ones introduced in the last twenty years to see how these Sham Battle Heroes have done in actual conflict. Rate them if you wish. Space gone—Notes ended.

## Visit Swarthmore

I have repeatedly advised my friends to plan a visit to Swarthmore College, not far from Philadelphia. There is no finer display of tree peonies anywhere in this country and the setting of a thousand specimen plants in that huge bowl is breath-taking. Write to Mr. John C. Wister, who is in charge of the Swarthmore Foundation, for blooming time. He has done a most magnificent job on this display and Mr. Wister is to the tree peony in this country, what George W. Peyton is to the herbaceous peony.

—Louis Smirnow

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# OBITUARIES

## LYMAN D. GLASSCOCK

Saturday, March 1st, 1952 the writer received a phone call from Mrs. Lyman D. Glasscock of Elwood, Ill., advising me that her husband had just passed away that morning after an illness of several months.

Thursday preceding his death he had passed his 77th year of life. He was born in Cayuga, Ill., Feb. 28th, 1875.



Mr. Glasscock was known to peony lovers as one of our outstanding originators of hybrid peonies and his originations will live long to beautify outstanding collections of peonies throughout the country. He developed over forty new varieties recognized by the American Peony Society during the forty years he worked with his favorite perennial.

In 1946 he received the Gold Medal of the American Peony Society for his origination *Golden Glow*, an exciting hybrid variety that is beautifully described by its name, for it possesses a golden, iridescent glow, that is thrilling to behold. He has won many awards of merit and first class certificates at the various exhibitions of the American Peony Society, which he greatly prized.

Fortunately, his work will be carried on by members of his family who state that his flowers will be exhibited at future shows of the A. P. S., including the present year.

His widow, a daughter, Mrs.

Simon Falk of Plainfield, Ill., and a son, Elton of Elwood, Ill., will be waiting in May for the first signs of hybrid seeds planted so carefully by Mr. Glasscock last fall. It will take seven or eight years before the plants bloom and the success or failure of his final experiments will be known. He has left records of his crosses that will enable his family to carry on where he left off, and it is hoped they will receive divine guidance that will enable them to emulate his successful career.

In spite of failing health, Mr. Glasscock, in company with his son, visited the Annual Exhibition of the Society in Cleveland, Ohio, leaving his hospital bed to make the trip. Little did we realize it was his farewell trip. He seemed so delighted to be present and meet his many friends.

Among Mr. Glasscock's favorite varieties were *Mother's Choice*, *Red Giant*, *Bright Knight*, *Cherry Red*, *Dainty Lass*, *Red Charm* and his first recognized type, *Legionnaire*.

I am taking the liberty to quote the closing lines of his daughter's letter to me which beautifully expresses the sentiments of all who knew him, I am sure.

"I want to join the American Peony Society. It was dad's wish that I do so. The Society and its members were very dear to him. No one can know how much we miss him. I know I lost the most precious possession and the best friend I ever had or ever will have, when I lost him."

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Mr. Glasscock possessed an attitude of brotherly helpfulness, diffusing the gospel of kindness with everyone interested in his work. He was extremely modest, to a fault; and as far as his health and age would permit, was a fountain of boundless energy. The excellent results he attained were the fruit of downright hard work, and many disappointments. The course he followed took unlimited courage, painstaking effort, constant checking and a will that would not be dismayed. He has left some wonderful examples of his diligence and skill in the few varieties I have named above. He will be deeply missed, and to those of us who have known him personally, we have lost a wonderful friend and peony lover.

W. F. Christman

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### GEORGE C. THURLOW

George C. Thurlow, 71, died about February 1 after a long illness. He was a lifelong member of the firm of T. C. Thurlow and Sons, now known as Thurlows and Stranger Inc., which operates Cherry Hill Nurseries, West Newbury, Massachusetts. This nursery was established by Mr. Thurlow's grandfather in 1832.

He was a member of the Massachusetts Nurserymen's Association and was president of the New England Nurserymen's Association in 1916. He was also a thirty-second degree Mason and for fifty years a member of the Laurel Grange. Burial was in Walnut Hill Cemetery, West Newbury. His wife, Anne, four daughters and a son, George H. survive him. He also has two brothers who survive, Rev. Edward K. Thurlow of Sheffield, Mass. and Winthrop H. Thurlow of West Newbury. Our sincere sympathy goes out to them in their loss.

Mr. Thurlow's connection with

the American Peony Society seems to have begun when he was elected a member at the annual meeting in Ithaca, New York, June 27, 1907 when he was also elected a director, in which office he served six years. He has been a life member of the Society for twenty-five or more years. His was the master hand that staged those beautiful displays for which his firm is so well known, at the annual shows of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in Boston and also in their own show room at the Nursery.

All of us who have been privileged to be guests of his firm at those famous sea-food dinners well remember him as the life of the party. He always took great delight in explaining the mysteries of eating the strange creatures of the sea to the greenhorns from the Hinterland.

The Society mourns his loss as a loyal member and many of us as a personal friend.

The Secretary

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### ERNEST I. STAHLY

On February 19, about 11 a.m., Mr. Stahly was instantly killed when his car skidded on a slippery road into the path of a tractor-trailer. It happened about two miles east of Elkhart, Indiana, when he was enroute to his office in Elkhart. He was County Parole Officer which position he had held since 1937.

He was born Nov. 7, 1893, in Lagrange County, Indiana, graduated from Shipshewana High School in 1913, won his bachelor's degree from Bluffton College, Ohio, in 1924 and his master's degree in 1928 from the University of Illinois. He took postgraduate work at Syracuse University, Syracuse, N. Y., in 1930.

From 1914-1916 he taught school

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at Wellman, Iowa, and served as a Red Cross relief worker from 1917 to 1920. For the next three years he was principal of the High School, Ephrata, Pennsylvania, and then served as a departmental instructor at Ashland, North Carolina, Purdue University, University of Illinois, Urbana, Bluefield College, West Virginia, and Urbana Junior College, Urbana, Ohio. From 1934 to 1937 he was employed as an adult education teacher by the Works Progress Administration, when he joined the county welfare department.

He is survived by his wife, Nellie, a daughter, Mary, who is a student at Goshen College, and two sons, Daniel and Ernest, both of whom are serving in the Air Force and stationed at Biloxi, Mississippi.

Some years ago he bought the garden of Mr. Lee R. Bonnewitz of Van Wert, Ohio, and has developed a nice peony business on the place just outside Goshen, Indiana. He also has been growing the peony seedlings of Mr. A. E. Kundred whom we all know as the celebrated gladiolus man, but who is also much interested in peonies. Last fall six of these were introduced to the Peony World.

Those of us who have had the privilege of knowing Mr. Stahly, personally, will keenly feel his loss as a friend. He was kindly, considerate, a loving husband and father, a true Christian gentleman in every sense of the word. Our deepest sympathy goes to his family in their sorrow.

The Secretary

#### NEW MEMBERS

We welcome into our fellowship the following new members:

##### *Life Member*

Miss Jane Hyde, 810 Bonnie Brae, River Forest, Illinois.

##### *Annual Members*

Glenn Ayres, Greenleaf, Kansas.  
Hobart Block, Sarcoxie, Missouri.

Mrs. John F. Daly, 1613 Harvard Street, N. W., Washington 9, D. C.

George E. Dunoon, 784 9th St. East, Owen Sound, Ontario, Canada.

Don Edwin, Wentworth, Missouri.

Harry H. Ferrall, 1812 Glenmount Avenue, Akron 19, Ohio.

Mrs. Sam W. Hall, Whitehaven, Tennessee.

Anthony S. Jendrasek, 1630 Prospect Avenue, La Salle, Illinois.

Mrs. George E. Kirsten, 501 Mine Hill Road, Fairland, Connecticut.

Library, Bowling Green, Ohio.

Frank Marker, Layton, New Jersey.

Chan Mingsin, Tai Yin Co., Box 2315, San Francisco, California.

Mrs. Robert E. McNeill, Jr., 52 Wayside Place, Montclair, New Jersey.

Franklin Page, Hamilton, North Dakota.

Mrs. William Goode Robinson, 107 Huron Avenue, Lynchburg, Virginia.

Kenneth Sampson, 1307 Oakton Street, Park Ridge, Illinois.

Guy E. Tomlinson, Oblong, Illinois.

Mrs. Ross Wilson, Star Route, Watertown, New York.

#### CORRECTIONS

The following are the correct addresses of two new members which were not correct as published in the December Bulletin.

Mrs. Lena Hansford, Smithville, Missouri.

Fador Kernin, Route 2, Shelby, Nebraska.

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## DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRATION

The following varieties, whose names have been approved by the Nomenclature Committee, are presented for registration by the originators or owners as noted:

By **Henry E. Sass**, Maple Road Gardens, Route 1, Benson Station, Omaha 4, Nebraska, owner:

**ETHEL HALSEY** (Hans P. Sass, 1952). Seedling No. 13-27. Parentage not known. Double. Midseason. Medium pink. Large flat flower with tall, strong stems that withstand storms well. Glossy green foliage. Full double. Named for Mrs. Clifford Kaufmann, Colt's Neck, New Jersey.

**MARGARET** (Hans P. Sass, 1952). Formerly known as *Hans' Blush White*. No seedling number and parentage unknown. Double. Late. Blush white. Large full double opening flat with tall, strong stems that hold up the blooms in all weathers. Named for the daughter of Mrs. Floyd Armstrong of Omaha.

**MAXINE ARMSTRONG** (Hans P. Sass, 1952). Seedling No. 21-29. Parentage unknown. Double. Midseason. White. The flower is a full double white that in cool weather will often have a decided pink tint. It is somewhat higher built than

the two above. Its stems are adequate but sometimes bow to hard storms. It was formerly known as *Maxine* but to avoid confusion with Mr. Auten's *Maxine*, the full name *Maxine Armstrong* will be used in the future. It was named for Mrs. Floyd Armstrong of Omaha, a flower lover and friend of the Sass family.

By **Charles Klehm and Son**, Algonquin Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois; Originator and owner:

**PINK MOUND** (Klehm, 1952). Double. Midseason. Light Pink. Seedling No. 780 A. Parentage not given. Huge light pink full double bomb, no stamens, rather short, strong stems, midseason. A good garden variety. Flower builds to immense size with stems strong enough to hold them upright. The color is pleasing.

**VIVID ROSE** (Klehm, 1952). Double. Late midseason. Bright rose pink. Seedling No. 76 A. Parentage not given. A bright rose pink full double, no stamens, medium height, strong stems, late midseason bloomer. An unusual color that stands out among other varieties. A good garden peony and also a good cut-flower. Flowers keep well in storage.

### CORRECT ADDRESSES NECESSARY

Let me repeat that it is necessary to have your address correct in every detail. Bulletins are returned even if they are off half a block, or if North, South, East, West, is omitted when a part of the street address. Zone numbers in cities which are zoned are also necessary. We lack a great many of these. Let us have your correct address if there is the slightest error in it as it appears on your Bulletin.

### Information Wanted

Mr. Louis Smirnow reports that someone sent him a collection of colored slides and failed to mark it in any way so he does not know from whom they came. If any of our readers did this please notify Mr. Smirnow at Elm Court Drive, Sands Point, Long Island, New York. He would like to know to whom he is indebted for them.

*Plant a new peony in 1952. Buy it from the Auction Committee.*

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## ADVERTISING RATES

Small, about 1 x 2 inches.....	\$ 5.00 an issue
Quarter page, about 2 x 4½ inches.....	12.50
Half page, about 4 x 4½ inches.....	25.00
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Other sizes at proportionate prices

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River Drive Peony Garden

Growers and originators of fine Peonies and Iris. Price list on request.

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*Have Northern Vigor  
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**FERNCLIFF GARDENS**

W. R. JACK  
HATZIC, B. C., CANADA



**PEONIES, IRIS,  
POPPIES,  
DAY LILIES,  
MUMS, BULBS**  
Color catalog free  
**C. F. Wassenburg**  
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## Maple Road Gardens

IRIS—DAY LILIES—PEONIES  
UMBELLATUM LILIES

**S A S S B R O S.**  
R. R. 1, BENSON STATION  
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## PLANT A B-I-G-G-E-R PEONY IN 1952

Send for my 1952 price list which will offer a large selection of the better peonies at reasonable prices. Included will be my own originations as follows:

**Great Garden Varieties:** KANSAS light red, ANNE BIGGER, medium pink, KAW VALLEY bright red, MISS DAINTY fragrant white shaded rose pink, PINK WONDER brilliant pink, PRAIRIE BELLE creamy pink, all full doubles and AERIE . . . the best blush semi-double.

**Excellent cut flower varieties:** SHAWNEE CHIEF bright red. JAY-HAWKER light pink and SNOW MOUNTAIN white.

**Japanese type:** WESTERNER . . . the great pink Jap of today, PLAINSMAN, large blush.

Also offered a select list of the best in SPURIA IRIS.

**MYRON D. BIGGER**

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## THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

The American Iris Society, since its organization in 1920, has published 124 Bulletins which cover every phase of iris growing. These Bulletins go four times each year to all members, who may also purchase any back numbers in stock for 50c a copy. Because the Bulletins are not for sale except to members, a

### SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER of SIX FOR ONE DOLLAR

is made to non-members. The six are our selection from surplus stock.

All orders should be sent to the office of the Secretary,

**American Iris Society, Franklin Road, Brentwood, Tennessee**

# PEONIES OUR SPECIALTY

## OUR INTRODUCTIONS:

**1952—PINK MOUND (780A).** A huge light pink double bomb. Midseason. No stamens, short strong stems. A good garden variety with pleasing color and flowers that build to immense size ..... **\$25.00 per div.**

**VIVID ROSE (76A).** A bright rose pink double. Late midseason. No stamens. Medium height, strong stems. An unusual color that stands out. A good garden variety and also a good cut flower. **\$25.00 per div.**

**1951—CHARLIE'S WHITE.** We believe this to be the best white commercial cut flower peony ..... **\$40.00 per div.**

**EMMA KLEHM—**An outstanding dark pink peony ..... **\$25.00 per div.**

Send for our price lists, wholesale and retail. We invite you to visit our fields, especially in June.

## CHARLES KLEHM AND SON

ALONQUIN and STATE ROADS

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS

# THE FINEST MODERN PEONIES

... THE BEST OF THE OLD ...

1952

For fall shipment we shall offer our usual assortment of fine peonies to which we shall add several new ones not before offered including **HIGHLIGHT**, one of Mr. Auten's new seedlings, a very distinctive red double; **MAY MORN**, Nicholls No. 66, a beautiful blush, a sister seedling of *Florence Nicholls*, and **PINK FORMAL**, Nicholls No. 877, a soft mauve pink, exquisite coloring.

For full descriptions of these and other fall offerings of new peonies see our new color catalog which will be issued about May 1. Do not forget that **Ann Cousins**, **Doris Cooper** (Grand Champion at Minneapolis in 1951), **Pink o'Dawn** and many of the newest Nicholls' seedlings are listed for 1952 delivery.

*For spring shipment we have the best in iris and hemerocallis*

**GILBERT H. WILD AND SON** - **Sarcoxie, Missouri**

## GROVESIDE GARDENS

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## CHERRY HILL STRAIN

of PEONIES embraces the FINEST VARIETIES IN PEONYDOM and their consistent winnings of GOLD AND SILVER MEDALS prove beyond doubt their intrinsic value.

Please ask for catalog showing varieties and list of awards.

**CHERRY HILL NURSERIES**  
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## TREE PEONIES

FINEST NAMED VARIETIES

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We grow only the best show and cut-flower varieties, including the early "officinalis" varieties.

Also we have large collections of iris, tritomas, hemerocallis, eremurus, etc. Catalog gladly sent on request.

**Chautauqua Flowerfield Co.**

GREENHURST, N. Y.

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Their usual fine assortment of first-class Peonies, Irises and French Lilacs on their own roots.

### FIFTEEN DIFFERENT FLOWERING CRABS

We have one of the largest and most complete collections of Flowering Crabs in America, Crabs in many colors and combinations of colors from the purest whites, the most delicate pinks, through the medium pinks and deeper pinks and into the reds and red-purples. All are hardy clear across Northern United States and far up into Canada.

OUR LATEST CATALOG, THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WE HAVE EVER SENT OUT, IN COLOR, IS FREE.

During the last 15 years the following Brand Peonies have been awarded Best Flower in the National Show:

HANSINA BRAND, 1933, 1934, 1946.

MARTHA BULLOCH, 1940.

MRS. A. M. BRAND, 1943.

BLANCHE KING, 1941, 1947.

### Other Court of Honor Awards

Best light pink: R. A. NAPIER, 1948; MYRTLE GENTRY, 1949, 1950.

Best medium pink: MYRTLE GENTRY, 1948; MARTHA BULLOCH, 1951.

Best dark pink: BLANCHE KING, 1948, 1949, 1951.

Best red: RUTH ELIZABETH, 1948, 1951.

Best white single: KRINKLED WHITE, 1948, 1949.

Best red single: PRES. LINCOLN, 1950.

**BRAND PEONY FARMS - FARIBAULT, MINNESOTA**

# MRS. HARRY F. LITTLE

*announces*

**T**HE sale of divisions from 2, 3 and 4-year-old plants of the best and choicest peonies introduced and recognized during Mr. Little's lifetime. Being a close friend of the late W. L. Gumm, all of Mr. Gumm's outstanding varieties are listed. We have donated for auction at the time of the show at Lake Mohawk, several of Mr. Little's best seedlings. We have the best of Auten's, Brand's, Nicholls', Glasscock's, Bigger's, Freeborn's and a few of all other hybridizers' good ones, along with the old masterpieces. Meet us at the June convention. Direct all correspondence to our Sec'y.-Treas.—

Mrs. Dorothy Nyberg  
Broad Road R.D. 2  
Syracuse, N. Y.

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THEY ARE ALWAYS RIGHT AT

THE TOP IN THE SHOWS

Our **BONANZA** was the best red and **PRESIDENT F. D. ROOSEVELT** was the best dark pink in the Annual Show of The Minnesota Peony and Iris Society, Minneapolis, in 1951.

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Japanese, European  
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COLLECTION of seven fine young  
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Herbaceous Peonies . . . new varieties  
from Japan and Europe.

**IRIS KAEMPFERI**—Higo Strain,  
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**SEED** ..... **\$4.00 per hundred**

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