

AGRICULTURAL AND  
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES LIBRARY  
THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

# American Peony Society Bulletin

MAY 1 1 1967



MARCH, 1967 — NO. 184



CARL KLEHM RECEIVES AWARD



# AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

107½ W. Main St.,  
Van Wert, Ohio 45891  
Area Code 419-232-0861

## 1966-1967 OFFICERS

President ..... Pharon B. Denlinger, 5362 Free Pike, Dayton, Ohio 45426  
V. Pres. .... Dr. Harold Tinnappel, Rt. A State Rt., 105, Pemberville, Ohio 43450  
Treasurer ..... Chas. D. Pennell, 107½ W. Main St., Van Wert, Ohio 45891  
Sec'y.-Editor .... Catharine C. Pennell, 107½ W. Main St., Van Wert, Ohio 45891

## DIRECTORS

W. A. Alexander 145 Eberly Ave. Bowling Green, Ohio 43402	(1969)	Myles A. Nelson 1875 W. Ryan Ave. St. Paul, Minnesota 55113	(1968)
Myron D. Bigger 201 N. Rice Road Topeka, Kansas 66616	(1967)	Chas. D. Pennell 947 Elm St. Van Wert, Ohio 45891	(1967)
Pharon B. Denlinger 5362 Free Pike Dayton, Ohio 45426	(1968)	Mrs. Catharine Pennell 947 Elm St. Van Wert, Ohio 45891	
Ralph H. Giff 189 Cecil St. Sarnia, Ontario, Canada	(1968)	Miss Silvia Saunders Clinton, New York 13323	(1968)
Frank L. Howell Rt. 1, Box 485 Newton, N. J. 07860	(1968)	W. G. Sindt 1847 McKnight Rd. N. St. Paul, Minnesota 55109	(1969)
Marvin C. Karrels 3272 S. 46th St. Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53219	(1968)	Louis Smirnow 85 Linden Lane Brookville, Long Island, N.Y. 11454	(1967)
William H. Krekler 4030 W. Elkton Rd. Somerville, Ohio 45064	(1969)	Dr. Franklin J. Styer Concordville, Pennsylvania 19331	(1969)
Clarence O. Lienau 9135 Beech Daly Detroit, Michigan 48239	(1968)	Dr. Harold E. Tinnappel Rt. A. State Rt. 105 Pemberville, Ohio 43450	(1967)
Frank E. Moots 1127 W. Broadway Newton, Kansas 67114	(1967)	Loyde C. Thompson 923 Reeves Dr. Grand Forks, North Dakota 58201	(1967)
		Allen J. Wild Sarcoxie, Missouri 64862	(1969)
		Harold E. Wolfe 24 S. 86th St. Belleville, Illinois 62223	(1967)

## DISTRICT V

President ..... Samuel E. Wissing, 93 South Lombard Ave., Lombard Ill. 60148  
Sec'y.-Treas. ... Mrs. S. E. Wissing, 93 South Lombard Ave., Lombard, Ill. 60148

## OBJECTIVES

The Articles of Incorporation state: Section (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 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 therefore 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 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, \$3.00 of which is for a subscription to the American Peony Society Bulletin for one year. Subscription to the Bulletin to non-members, \$5.00 for one year.

## THE BULLETIN

The Bulletin is issued quarterly. Back numbers when available, will be charged at prices which will be furnished by the Editor. Current year back numbers will be fifty cents to members.

## 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 C. D. Pennell, Chairman, Nomenclature Committee. Registration fee is \$2.00 for each variety registered.



# AMERICAN Peony Society Bulletin



---

MARCH, 1967 — NO. 184

---

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Message .....	4
Cover Picture .....	4
64th Annual Meeting and Exhibition .....	5
Exhibition Rules .....	8
Program .....	9
Exhibition Awards and Schedule .....	10
Attention Amateurs! .....	14
What Care Should We Give Our Peonies? .....	15
Peonies Place In Chicago .....	16
Flower Shows In The South .....	16
Growing Tree Peonies From Seed — by Harvey F. Stoke .....	17
Remarkable Tree Peony Discoveries — by Louis Smirnow .....	19
Tree Peonies — by Anthony J. DeBlasi and Leo J. Armatys .....	20-21
From The Editor's Desk .....	22
Personalities In The Peony Realm — Walter A. Alexander .....	25
Polyploids In Peonies .....	26
Tributes .....	27
Contributors' Addresses .....	30
Our Readers Write . . . ..	31
Suggestions On Weed Control .....	34
Publications For Sale and Gifts .....	35
Advertisements .....	36-40

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

These lines are being written as the last horn blows to get it into the March issue. We have been gone for several months, so I cannot report directly on the weather in this locality, but according to all reports it has been very mild here in the Dayton area. We have had very little snow. This may effect our crop this year, because I feel that a good blanket of snow and the moisture received therefrom is an asset to the bloom as well as the plantings.

According to all reports from our most efficient Secretary and Treasurer, the Committee on Arrangements working under the untiring leadership and efforts of Mr. Clarence Lienau, our annual meeting and Peony Exhibition in 1967 in Detroit will be one of the finest. I find that all arrangements are being completed and I know that if all of you will attend the Show and those who have blooms to enter will do so, the history of the Society for 1967 will be written of the show being a huge success.

We need and will welcome NEW MEMBERS! Won't you bring a new member or two with you to Detroit, Michigan, June 17th and 18th? Come early—Have fun!

—Pharon B. Denlinger

### Cover Picture

Carl Klehm, owner of Charles Klehm and Son Nursery, of Arlington Heights, Ill., and a member of the American Peony Society, is shown receiving the Sylvia Award from Paul Bruns, president of Allied Florists Association of Illinois (second from right) and William Kistler, president of American Floral Arts School. We are indebted to Art Kozelka, of the Chicago Tribune for the picture.

Story on page 16.

—o—

For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone;

The flowers appear in the earth; the time of the singing of the birds is come and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land.

—Song of Solomon 2:11-12

---

### TREE PEONIES



**WILLIAM GRATWICK**  
PAVILION - NEW YORK

---

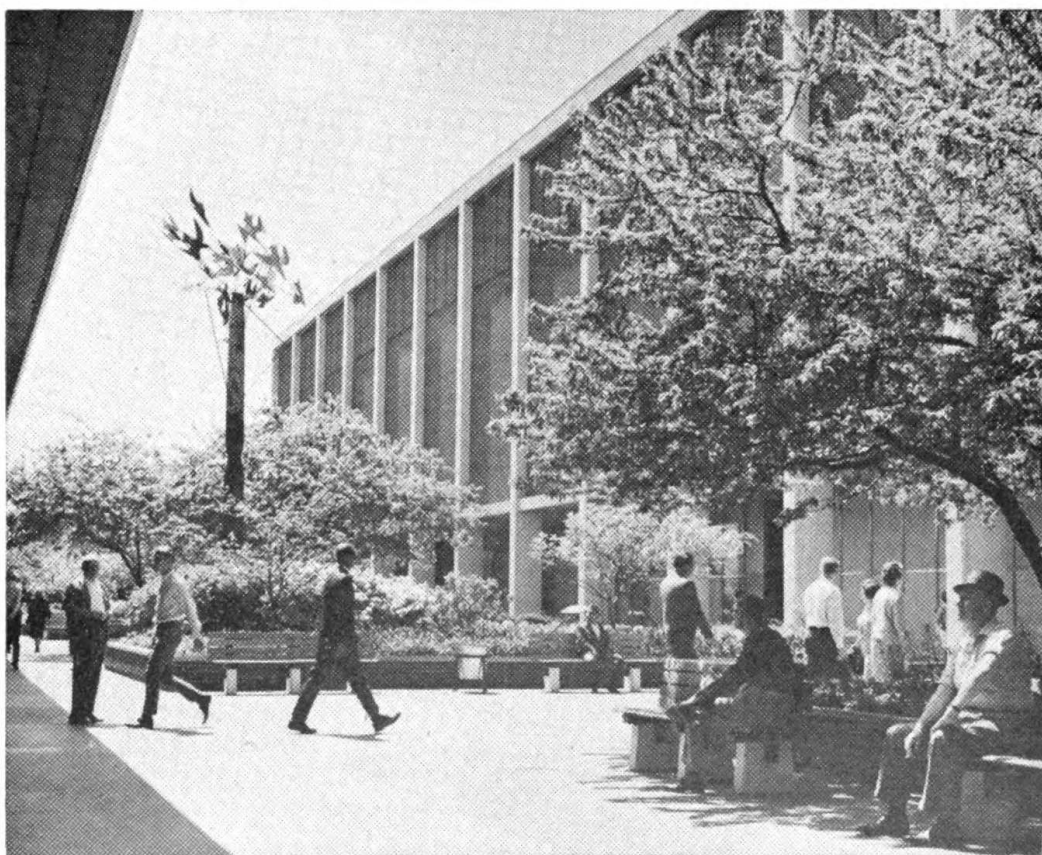
# ***The 64th ANNUAL MEETING*** **and** ***The 62nd ANNUAL EXHIBITION*** ***June 17th, 18th, 1967***

The annual meeting and exhibition will be held at Northland Center, Detroit Michigan. The Special Events Building at the Center is located at the end of the East Mall, directly behind the Fountain Court and on one side of the Garden Terrace.

Plenty of parking space and an excellent facility for unloading your blooms is available and we do hope you are planning to enter many blooms. If you will consult your maps enclosed with this Bulletin we are sure you will find the location easily.

There are many interesting places

to visit in and around Detroit. Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village have long been a mecca for those interested in visiting Thomas Edison's laboratory where the electric lamp was born. Antique collectors will revel in the outstanding examples of early American culture to be seen in the buildings. Those desiring to see the Ford Empire, a Ford bus will take you from the Central Office Building, without charge to the largest of all Ford manufacturing facilities—the River Rouge complex in Dearborn, Michigan. Industrialists, educators, students, government representatives



**East Mall — Northland Center**

and tourists travel all over the world to see this fascinating giant in operation.

If desiring to visit the downtown area, one may drive down Northwestern Highway in 15 minutes without a cross road. If going to Canada, you may reach the tunnel easily.

Mr. Lienau states he will have a list of fine gardens to visit and if one cares to see more peonies he has a few hundred varieties out on Ford Road he will be honored to show.

It is impossible for us to include the many fine brochures of information about Detroit and the southern part of Michigan, however, as soon as we hear from you that you are planning to attend, we will be glad to see that you do receive the information. Sorry, we cannot place it in the Bulletin for everyone—costs too much! !

**IMPORTANT** on the list of events, however, is our own SOCIETY 1967 MEETING AND PEONY EXHIBITION. This year marks another milestone in the Society history. We want all of you to have a part in making it one of the finest of all years!

#### **Travel Information**

Visitors driving by way of U.S. 24-25-75, are advised to stay on U.S. 24 where the 3 highways divide into 2 routes near West Road just past Rockwood.

If going by plane, Detroit Metro. Airport is the proper place to land. Daily Limousine service every hour to Northland Center—rate \$2.00. Mr. Lienau says "this is a bargain."

Please check the road map included in the Bulletin, together with the brochure about Northland Center, site of the Special Events Building.

We are requested by Mr. Lienau to give you his telephone number area code 313 537-1727 to instruct

any of our members needing assistance or information regarding directions or the show to call him. He will help everyone to the best of his ability. What more could we ask?

#### **Accommodations**

**Stouffer's Northland Inn** located at 21000 Northwestern Highway Southfield, Detroit, Michigan, 48075 (Telephone No. 3574700) will be Headquarters for the American Peony Society, for the duration of the Exhibition. It is suggested that reservations should be made 30 days in advance, if you are desiring to stay there. There are many Motels close to Northland Center.

**Rates at Stouffer's Northland Inn** are as follows: Room for one \$11.00-16.00 Room for two \$15.00-\$20.00 (Each additional person per room \$2.00) Two-room suites \$34.00-40.00 (plus 4% Michigan State Use Tax)

Mr. Lienau has given us the following information regarding motels on Telegraph Rd. U.S. 24:

**The Mayflower Motel**, 17729 Telegraph Rd., U.S. 24, one block south of Grand River Ave. U.S. 16). (Telephone KE 1-9855). \$9.36 single -\$10.40 double.

It is suggested that 7-10 days be allowed in making reservations in the following:

**Redford Motel**, 9087 North Telegraph Rd., U.S. 24. Detroit 48239. (Telephone KE 505030). \$12.00 single or double.

**Bon Aire Motel**, 9009 North Telegraph Rd., U.S. 24. Detroit 18239. (Telephone KE 7-7740). \$10.40 single or double. \$14.56—one room with two double beds).

**Cranbrook House Motel**, 20500 Jas. Couzens, Detroit, (Telephone 342-3000 TWX 313-342-0841). Rate 1 person double bed, \$11.00-13.00; 2 persons double bed, \$13.50-16.00; 2 persons twin beds, \$15.50; 2 persons 2 double beds, \$18.00.





**Parking Space for 10,000 Cars.**

#### **Information —**

#### **Shipping Peony Blooms**

If you plan to ship Peony blooms for entry, please prepay all charges. Ship air mail or express addressed as follows:

American Peony Society Show  
Clarence Lienau  
9135 Beach Daly Road  
Detroit, Michigan 48239  
Telephone 313-537-1727

**Be sure to include Telephone number on outside of box** as Mr. Lienau states, "I will then pick them up within the hour and take care of their blooms as if they were my own. Please send instructions along as to your intentions of displaying the blooms personally or if you desire me to do this for you."

#### **Board of Directors Meetings**

The board of directors will have two meetings this year, one to close the business of the year and the

second when the Board for the ensuing year, 1967-68, will meet to carry out the plans and business as dictated at the members attending the Annual Meeting of the Society.

Anyone desiring to advance new ideas regarding the progress of the Society for the benefit of all, is asked to write the Secretary prior to June 10th that all Directors may be apprised of the agenda before their last meeting of 1966-67.

#### **Banquet and Meeting**

The banquet and meeting will be held at **Greenfields** located on Greenfield Road, directly across from the Center and within walking distance. Mr. Lienau has selected a menu that should please everyone and for the modest price of \$5.50 including tax, tip and use of room for meeting. We would like to have your reservations as soon as possible. Please do not wait until the

last minute as last year, when both Mr. James Martin of the Kingwood Staff and your officers were really concerned!

As soon as we hear from you regarding your reservation we will send you further information.

Further information regarding the agenda for the meeting will be printed in the June issue of the Bulletin you should receive the first week in June.

### Root Auction

One of the outstanding program features of the two day meeting and exhibition of the American Peony Society is the ROOT AUCTION. This will be held at 3:30 p.m. Saturday June 17th.

This provides an opportunity for those interested in obtaining different varieties, to bid, and many times one is fortunate on acquiring the new varieties.

Roots are donated by member growers. Mr. Clarence Lienau will again serve as auctioneer, assisted by Dr. Harold Tinnappel as clerk. We hope to print a list of donations of roots in the June issue so that if one is unable to attend, they may designate someone to purchase roots for them.

### Judges Clinic

Due to the many requests from judges of Flower Shows, a Judges Clinic is planned to be held at 2:00 p.m. Sunday afternoon, June 18th. Comparative steps will be used in demonstrating the points and methods used by experienced peony judges as compared with methods followed by accredited judges in the area.

This we hope to use to acquaint others with the emphasis placed upon new varieties and quality of the peony flower.

## Rules

1. All entries must be completed by 11:00 a.m. (Eastern Standard Time) Saturday, June 17th.

2. All entries except those in Division VI Arrangements—must have been grown by the exhibitor.

3. Entry tags supplied by the Society must be filled completely as to class, variety, name and address of the exhibitor. It is essential that both the upper and lower portions of the entry tag be filled out. The lower part of the tag will be the official record of the entry. This must be done before placing the entry in the designated exhibit space. In addition, all blooms must have a small wooden label wired securely to the stem with the variety name printed on both sides. In collection classes each individual specimen requires only the name label but one specimen must carry the entry tag completely filled out except for variety. Completion of entry tags is the responsibility of the exhibitor or his agent. Entry tags may be obtained on request from the A.P.S. Office. Stems should be approximately 16 inches.

4. Exhibitors are limited to one entry in Division I Section C—Division II—Section G.

5. If there are three or more entries of the same variety in a class, the management may create separate variety classes/classes if quality warrants.

6. All entries must be correctly named except in Division II (Amateurs) where

failure to have correct name will not disqualify; however, having correct name will enhance the chances for a prize. Names are not required in Division VI (arrangements) except as specified.

7. Standard containers furnished by Show management must be used except for arrangements. The management will not be responsible for arrangement containers let after the Show.

8. Artificial plant materials are not permitted in the arrangement classes.

9. The American Peony Society's Handbook will govern bloom types and color.

10. Only first, second and third ribbon may be awarded in any one class, but more than certificate of merit and honorable mention may be awarded in the classes where they apply if the judges feel they are deserved.

12. Ribbons and awards may be withheld at the discretion of the judges and their decisions will be final.

13. The management reserves the right to reject for exhibit entries whose quality is not up to exhibition standards.

14. Utmost care will be exercised by the management in moving entries during the staging of the show, but cannot be responsible for damage or loss.

15. Only the judges and the personnel necessary for the conduct of the show admitted during the judging.



# *Program*

(All times are EST.)

## **FRIDAY, JUNE 16TH, 1967**

12:00 noon—through 11:00 a.m. Saturday, June 17th: Prepare and place entries in the Show. (Police protection through the night—building open all night) **Remember** to obtain **entry tags**. These are available on request from the A.P.S. office prior to the Show and that day at the Special Events Building.

## **SATURDAY, JUNE 17TH, 1967**

Continue placing entries. Closing time for entries will be strictly adhered to.

11:00 a.m.—Judging begins. All judges are requested to assemble immediately after entries close at 11:00 a.m. for Orientation period. Building will be closed to everyone during this period except judges and clerks.

1:30 p.m.—Show open to public. (Scheduled opening hour will be strictly adhered to.)

2:00 p.m.—Board of Directors meeting.

3:30 p.m.—PEONY ROOT AUCTION: Certificates for peony roots purchased at Auction will be awarded highest bidder. Roots will be shipped by donor at proper planting time. All profits from auction to be used by and for the operation of the American Peony Society. Excellent opportunity to procure new and rare varieties! Open to public!

7:00 p.m.—Annual Banquet—Greenfields. Reservations required. The 64th Annual Meeting will be held immediately following the Banquet. Awards will be made and officers elected for the year 1967-68. Harold E. Wolf, speaker.

9:00 p.m.—Special Events Building closed.

## **SUNDAY, JUNE 18TH, 1967**

9:00 a.m.—Exhibition open to public.

10:30 a.m.—Meeting of Board of Directors.

2:00 p.m.—Judges Clinic. This is open to all interested in learning how Peonies are Judged. See story in Bulletin about this event.

6:00 p.m.—Show closes. All ribbons will be mailed exhibitors, therefore, all entry tags, etc., are requested to be left in place. Special awards may be removed after 6:00 p.m. Complete cooperation of all exhibitors in correctly and completely filling out entry tags means a factual and detailed report of the Show as well as reducing errors to a minimum.

# *Peony Exhibition*

**NORTHLAND CENTER**

**11:00 A.M. (EST)**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 17TH, 1:30 P.M. (EST) to 9:00 P.M.**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 18TH, 9:00 A.M. (EST) tot 600 P.M.**

— 9 —

## Awards

### American Peony Society Awards:

- A. A gold medal certificate will be awarded in Class 1.
- B. Silver medal certificates will be awarded in Classes 2, 3, and 4.
- C. Rosettes will be awarded in Classes 19 and 26 and to the outstanding entry in Division VI.
- D. Peony roots will be awarded to all first place winners in Division II (Amateurs), and Division VI (Arrangements). Roots will be sent in the fall at the proper time. Be sure name and address are on entry tag and are legible.
- E. First, second and third place

ribbons will be given in classes other than those in which rosettes and certificates are awarded.

### Other Awards:

- F. B. F. Farr Memorial Medal for the best lactiflora bloom in the show.
- G. Charles F. Wassenberg Trophy, donated by the Van Wert County Foundation, for the best entry in Class 1 (best 25 varieties).
- H. James Boyd Memorial Medal for best entry in Class 33 (best collection of ten hybrids.)
- I. The Myron D. Bigger Plaque for best new variety.

## Schedule

### DIVISION I—Open to all

#### Section A. Certificate collections.

- Class 1. Twenty-five varieties, any type; one bloom each in separate containers, each labeled. Gold Medal Certificate.
- Class 2. Fifteen varieties, any type; one bloom each in separate containers, each labeled. Silver Medal Certificate.

#### Section B. Three blooms of one variety in one container. Lactifloras (albifloras) only.

- Class 3. Double white or flesh.
- 4. Double light pink.
- 5. Double dark pink.
- 6. Double Red.
- 7 Semi-double white.
- 8. Semi-double other than white.
- 9. Doubles, one each, red, white and pink.
- 10. Bomb type, any color

or colors.

#### Section C. Specimen classes. One bloom. Lactifloras only.

- Class 11. Double white or flesh.
- 12. Double light pink.
- 13. Double dark pink
- 14. Double red.
- 15. Semi-double white or flesh.
- 16. Semi-double pink.
- 17. Semi-double red.
- 18. Bomb type, any color.

#### Section D. Japanese type lactifloras.

- Class 19. Collection of five varieties, any color or colors.
- 20. Three blooms of white, same variety.
- 21. Three blooms of pink, same variety.
- 22. Three blooms of red, same variety.
- 23. Specimen bloom, white.
- 24. Specimen bloom, pink.
- 25. Specimen bloom, red.

#### Section E. Single type lactifloras.

- Class 26. Collection of five varie-

- ties, any color or colors.
27. Three blooms of white, same variety.
  28. Three blooms of pink, same variety.
  29. Three blooms red, same variety.
  30. Specimen bloom, white.
  31. Specimen bloom, pink.
  32. Specimen bloom, red.

**Section F. Hybrids (inter-species crosses) and species except lactiflora and mou-tan.**

- Class 33.** Collection of ten varieties, one bloom each, hybrids only. In separate containers, each labeled.
34. Collection of three species. Any type or color.
  35. Collection of three double varieties of hybrids.
  36. Collection of three semi-double varieties of hybrids.
  37. Collection of three Japanese type varieties of hybrids.
  38. Collection of three single varieties of hybrids.
  39. Specimen bloom, double. Hybrid or species.
  40. Specimen bloom, semi-double. Hybrid or species.
  - 40a. Specimen bloom, Japanese type. Hybrid or species.
  41. Specimen bloom, single type. Hybrid or species. Note: In case there are enough entries to warrant it, Class 41 will be divided into sub-classes according to color.

**Section G. Tree Peonies**

- Class 42.** Collection of three varieties, any type and color.

43. Specimen bloom, any type and color.

**DIVISION II. — Amateurs only:**

Those who raise peonies for pleasure only, do not sell flowers or roots except casually, and do not have more than 200 plants.

**Section H. Collections. Lactifloras only except as noted.**

- Class 44.** Ten varieties, one bloom each, any type, any color. Separate containers.
45. Three double varieties, one each red, white and pink.
  46. Three semi-double varieties, any color.
  47. Three Japanese varieties, any color.
  48. Three single varieties, any color.
  49. Three varieties hybrids or species, any type, any color.

**Section G. Specimens— one bloom. Lactifloras except as noted.**

- Class 50.** Double white.
51. Double pink.
  52. Double red.
  53. Semi-double, any color.
  54. Japanese type, any color.
  55. Single, any color.
  56. Hybrid or species, any type, any color.

**DIVISION III. Seedlings and New Varieties. Open to all.**

**Section H. Seedlings.**

- Class 57.** Three blooms of one variety that has not been offered for sale but has been divided one or more times. It must be designated by number, code or name.

**Section I. Recent introductions.**

- Class 58.** Three blooms. Limited to varieties which have been named and regis-

tered with the American Peony Society, and have been offered for sale no more than six years.

Awards in the above two classes will be **CERTIFICATES OF MERIT** or **HONORABLE MENTION** at the discretion of the judges. Varieties having won either award at a previous American Peony Society show are not eligible.

**Section J. The Myron D. Bigger Plaque offered by Myron D. Bigger of Newton, Kansas.**

**Class 59. The best and most distinctive new peony shown under the following conditions:**

1. A specific entry must be made in this class. The number of entries by any one exhibitor is limited to five.
2. Not less than three (3) blooms of each variety must be shown.
3. Any new variety, named or unnamed, any type, color, hybrid herbaceous or tree, may be shown.
4. The varieties must have distinctiveness as compared to existing varieties.
5. No variety that has been offered for sale for more than three years prior to the date of this show may be entered.
6. No variety that has won this award in any previous year may be entered.
7. If any unnamed seedling wins this class, it must be given a name and the name approved by and registered with the American Peony Society. No award will be confirmed until this provision has been met.
8. The award shall be made by the Standing Seedling Committee of the American Peony Society.
9. A photograph in black and white must be furnished free of charge for reproduction in the American Peony Society Bulletin. It will be sent to Mr. Bigger when engraving is completed. Size, preferably, 4"x5".

**DIVISION IV. Visitors from out of State.**

**Section K.**

**Class 60. Five specimen blooms, any type, any color. May be the same or different varieties.**

**Section L.**

**Class 61. Exhibitor from greatest distance.**

**DIVISION V. Court of Honor.**

Specific entries are not required for this division. Participation is attained by excellence and merit of entries. It is composed of the best flowers in the show of the various types and colors as follows: (a) double white or flesh; (b) double light pink; (c) double dark pink; (d) double red; (e) semi-double white; (f) semi double pink or red; (g) Japanese; (h) single; (i) hybrid or species; (j) tree.

**Champion of the Show:** the finest flower in the Court of Honor.

**Note:** Court of Honor candidates will not be limited to the specimen classes. It will be the duty of the judges to search the collection for outstanding flowers for Court of Honor competition.

**DIVISION VI. Arrangements. Open to all.**

**Theme:** "Dawn of Summer". Peonies, Queen of Flower, are appropriate for any room in a house of any architectural style or period. This has been true for centuries.

**Rules for Exhibitors:**

1. Any amateur arranger may enter.
2. Classes 62, 66, 69 are limited in number of exhibitors allowed.
3. Building will be open at 7:00 a.m. June 17th, Exhibits must be in place by 11:00 a.m. and must be removed by 6:30 p.m. June 18th.
4. All containers and accessories must be marked with name and address of owner. Committee will exercise due caution in safe-guarding exhibits, but cannot assume responsibility for loss or damage.

5. Exhibitors may make one entry in any one class.
6. Painted, dyed or artificial material is not permitted.
7. Tables may be buffet setting or sit-down; service for 4 or 6.
8. **Peonies** must be used in all classes.

#### Schedule for Arrangements

- Class 62. **"Young Moderns"** — arrangement for a Foyer of a Modern Apartment — contemporary style — bold and dramatic. Will be staged on pedestals 5 entries accepted.
- Class 63. **"Gardener's Delight"** — arrangement for a Living Room. An elegant arrangement of Peonies with other garden flowers and/or foliage.
- Class 64. **"Wishing Time"**—for a Mantel in a crescent design using only semi-double varieties—other foliage may be used.
- Class 65. **"Peonies and Glass"**. — arrangement for a Victorian parlor — using white peonies in glass container or urn — or using accessories of glass. To be staged on 24" x 36" table height.
- Class 66. **"Simplicity Speaks for Itself"**—arrangement for a contemporary room. Japanese peonies featured. Other foliage and flowers may be used. Accessories permitted. An arrangement of peonies with branches and/or foliage, to be staged on a pedestal 42" high—top is 12 x 12 inches—5 entries accepted.
- Class 67. **"Pairing Off"**—arrangement for buffet to be

done in a pair of containers. Peonies used. Other foliage may be used.

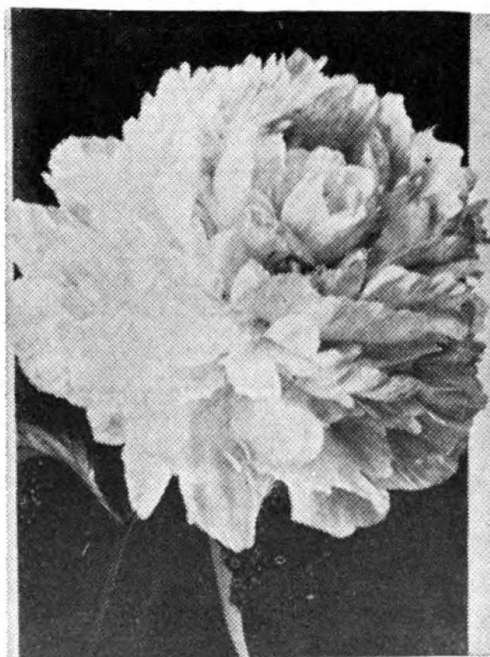
Class 68. **"Reflections"** — an arrangement in a low container featuring peonies —other plant material permitted. Water areas being part of design. Displayed on tables.

Class 69. **"Time for Romance"** — arrangement featuring peonies — exhibitor to name occasion or function of her table. For example: Lunch or Brunch for bride Tea (to view the wedding gifts). 6 entries—registration in advance.

Class 70. **"Kitchen Kaper"** arrangement for kitchen window sill. Red peonies in crockery container. Other foliage may be used.

—o—

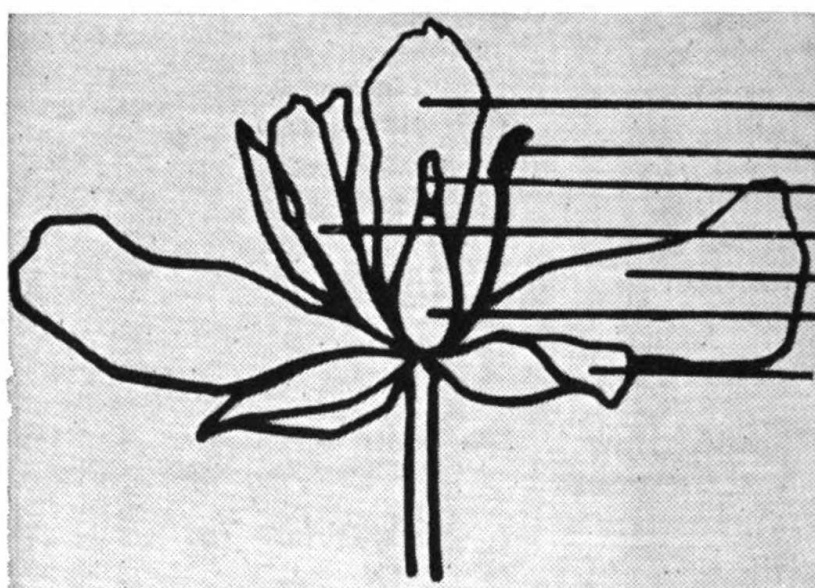
### THE PEONY



Queen Of Flowers



# ATTENTION AMATEURS!



**PARTS OF THE PEONY FLOWER**

We include this line drawing of the peony flower for the benefit of those having become aware of the Peony as an interesting garden flower.

May we encourage our members to use this when calling attention of this flower to children. An early awareness of the beauty and attractive color will develop the younger generation's appreciation of this perennial.

## ***Paeonia tenuifolia***

*P. tenuifolia* is one of the first of the peonies to flower in the spring. The bright blood-red blossoms open about the middle of May here in the middle west. *P. tenuifolia* is native to the region north of the Black Sea and grows to a height of 18 inches. It has fine fern-like foliage.

## ***Paeonia officinalis***

The varieties of *P. officinalis* open their blooms in late May and June. The red peony (*rubro-plena*) of

grandmother's garden is again fashionable. Its low growth and its early flowering make it a favorite and here in my locality we consider it the Decoration Day favorite. It has been cultivated in Europe for probably two thousand years or more.

## **Herbaceous Hybrids**

A true hybrid is produced by crossing a variety of one species with another of an entirely different species.

## **Tree Peonies**

A tree peony is not a tree, but a perennial shrub which is deciduous, that is, sheds its leaves in the winter. The tree peony, when clothed in its beautiful foliage and adorned with its magnificent flowers, ranks as one of the most magnificent of all flowering plants.

## **Peony Types**

Peony blooms naturally arrange themselves into the following groups: Single, Japanese, Anemone, Semi-double, and Double.

## WHAT CARE SHOULD WE GIVE OUR PEONIES?

Peonies will thrive and give good results with amazingly little care, but the real gardener will reap great reward by giving them good care.

Cultivation should begin as early in the spring as the ground can be worked. Keep well away from the crowns of the plants, to avoid breaking the new shoots before they appear above the ground. It should be often enough to keep the weeds down and the ground well aerated. To prevent a crust forming, the ground should be broken after every hard rain. Cultivation should never be deep enough to damage the roots. Two or three inches is enough near the plants. It may be deeper in the centers between the plants. It should continue until fall in the North and until the end of July in the South. In neat gardens it will continue as long as weeds grow. In the South weeds protect the plants from the sun, keep the ground cool and help prevent erosion. They may foster disease.

In order to escape the labor of this cultivation, many mulch their peonies with corn cobs either whole or ground, saw dust, buckwheat hulls, or some other good mulch. When this is done, a good dressing of nitrogen must be applied as these mulches use up all available nitrogen. It is usually applied at the rate of about two hundred pounds to the acre which is only a spoonful or two a plant. Some gardeners grow a cover crop, in the summer, between the plants and plow it under when well grown, to supply needed humus. Soy beans or cowpeas are good for this purpose. Weeds and cover crops sacrifice neatness for utility.

### FERTILIZATION

If your ground has been proper-

ly enriched at planting time, there will be little need for further fertilization for some years. The type of soil will determine the frequency. Porous soils lose their fertility faster than others, as it is washed out by the rains. Keep all fertilizer away from the crowns of the plants. There are no feeding roots there. Spread it over the area where the roots grow, from six to eighteen inches from the crown and thoroughly incorporate it with the soil. Use it with discretion. Plants over fertilized will not bloom well and soon run their course. About half a handful of commercial fertilizer or one or more of bone-meal to a plant will be plenty. If manure is used, it should be well rooted and the greatest care should be taken to keep it from getting over the crowns. Many say it should never be used. Those who use commercial fertilizers should have their soil analyzed and supply the needed elements. Generally speaking, 20 per cent superphosphate, or a good potato fertilizer is excellent. Apply them in the fall. A handful of sheep manure to a plant may be given in the spring to improve the bloom. Liquid manure also may be used with discretion, for the same purpose.

### WATERING

Peonies need a great deal of water from the time they come up until the blooms open, and again when they are making their eyes for the next year's growth. Nature usually supplies enough for their wants. If the season is dry and the plants begin to wilt, from lack of moisture, it is wise to give them a thorough soaking. Enough water should be given to wet the ground down to the bottom of the roots.

Repeat when the soil becomes dry.

## Peonies Place In Chicago

Peonies place in garden design certainly was proven when the Charles Klehm and Son Nursery or Arlington Heights, Ill., received the award at the Chicago World and Flower Show this year. We cannot help but think that this beautiful flower must have captivated the judges as they studied the over-all design and plant materials. Although your Editor did not see the Show this year, she well remembers Mr. Carl Klehm's display in 1966 and the oh's and ah's as well as questions asked about the peony by the hundreds of people viewing the exhibit.

Art Kozelka, Chicago Tribune garden writer, stated in his article "A major garden in the Chicago

World Flower and Garden Show in the International Amphitheatre, won the coveted Sylvia Award of the Society of American Florists for its outstanding display of flowers and plants. The garden called "Nature's Ecstasies" was developed by the Charles Klehm and Son Nursery of Arlington Heights, Ill. . . ."

The award, a gold plaque, was presented by Paul Bruns, president of Allied Florists of Illinois, in behalf of the Society which has headquarters in Washington, D.C. The garden, designed by David Stibbe, featured two pools and a small stream and an attractive arrangement of **tree peonies**, primroses, petunias, rhododendrons, blue spruce, and spreading junipers."

## Flower Shows in the South

The Fifth District Garden Clubs of Louisiana are having a **big** Flower Show on April 20th. Our enthusiastic A.P.S. members, the K. M. Colbys, Monroe, La., are planning to exhibit peonies. One of our Society posters will be on display, thanks to the Colbys!

\* \* \* \*

Mrs. Benton L. Herring, Shreveport, Louisiana, an accredited Flower Show Judge, is giving a program to the Judges Council in May on the subject "Peonies in the South" and a discussion of "Judging Exhibition Blooms." Mrs. Herring has grown Peonies for the past several years with reasonable success!

\* \* \* \*

A Tree Peony Exhibit is planned by the Swarthmore Garden Club, of Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, in conjunction with their Flower Show to be held May 15-17th. Only educational exhibit in the Show will concern Tree Peonies. We hope our "Tree Peony" members will assist

Mrs. Charles H. Topping, 323 N. Princeton Avenue, Swarthmore, Pa. 19081.

\* \* \* \*

One of the Regional Directors, Mrs. Quentin Elder, of the Ohio Association of Garden Clubs is planning an exhibit on Plant Societies for one of the Regional meetings. A request is made for information about the American Peony Society!

\* \* \* \*

"Memories in Flowers" is the theme for the annual Wichita Falls Florama sponsored by the Council of Garden Clubs of Wichita Falls, Texas, to be held April 22 and 23rd.

The American Peony Society, American Rose Society and American Iris Society will each present Awards if merited.

—————o—————

The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

—Psalm 24:1

# Growing Tree Peonies from Seed

by Harvey F. Stoke

(The Bulletin gratefully acknowledges permission granted courtesy of Mr. Stoke and Horticulture.)

As an amateur grower of tree peonies for many years, I still find it surprising that this magnificent flowering shrub is so little known and grown by the average gardener. The huge blossoms of many colors, shades, and textures lend spectacular beauty to any garden, making the plant worthy of far greater use.

Perhaps the chief cause of the delayed acceptance of the tree peony, *Paenonia suffruticosa*, by American gardeners is the lack of information as to its cultural requirements. Another factor is probably our characteristic demand for immediate results, for the propagation of blossoming specimens of the tree peony takes considerable time, making them expensive. Tree peonies are for patient people.

A native of interior Asia, under natural conditions the plant was a woods undergrowth. Selections have been made and propagated by the Chinese for so many centuries that the identity of the wild native plant, now almost extinct, has been all but lost.

Many generations of cross-pollination and inter-breeding have made the seedlings, even of the named varieties, highly variable in color and type, ranging from pure white to deep maroon and purple, and from singles with their golden stamens to doubles so full that neither stamens or pistils are visible.

The Chinese, whose art and literature concerning the tree peony date back to the sixth century A.D., stressed full doubles in their variety selections. The Japanese, whose period of culture has been somewhat less, appear to favor singles and semi-doubles.

Owing to the great variability of seedlings, the characteristics of the named varieties have been fixed by asexual propagation, which includes grafting, layering and division.

I shall not here enter into the details of asexual propagation, the techniques of which call for skills and training not to be expected of the casual grower. Rather I think it is more interesting to invite the reader to the high adventure of growing the unpredictable seedlings, the area from which the named varieties have been selected. The long period of waiting between the planting of the seed and the unfolding of the flower only accentuates the keenness of anticipation and the climax of satisfaction when one views for the first time a blossom of unique loveliness, the exact likeness of which has never before been seen by the eyes of man.

Tree peonies begin blossoming several weeks in advance of herbaceous peonies of the same district. Here, in the upper South, the season begins in the latter part of April, ranging northward through May to June. Coincidentally the ripening of the seed occurs in August in southwest Virginia and correspondingly later in the North.

My first attempt at growing tree peonies was with seed imported from Japan. These I planted early in the spring of 1932 but none came up until a year later, a result that can always be expected from dry seed. The seed, hard, black and shining and the size of garden peas, are best gathered as soon as the pods open and while they still retain their pristine moisture. Never let them dry out. Immediate planting is satisfactory if one takes the pains

to provide suitable soil, shade, and vigilant care to see that the soil and seeds do not become too dry at any time before the advent of winter.

My personal preference is immediately to place the seeds in sphagnum, peat moss, or vermiculite, and store in moderate temperatures until sprouting begins, a period of about two months. The seed can then be planted, either in a cold frame or out of doors.

The seed of the tree peony has this peculiarity: after the sprouting root appears it definitely will not develop a top until the sprouted seed has passed through a cool or cold "incubation" period of several months. This fact has been demonstrated and scientifically established by the Boyce Thompson Institute. Under natural conditions the acorn of the oak and the nut of the chestnut exhibit similar characteristics, anchoring themselves to the soil by the sprouting root, beneath fallen leaves, and developing the top when they emerge in the spring.

Planting, whether fall or the following spring, should always be shallow, with the seed scarcely more than an inch below the surface. Like the bean and pea, the cotyledons formed by the division of the seed, will rise above the surface, releasing the tender top from the interference of hard soil. A high humus content and sand used in the soil covering the seed will help prevent baking and hardening. Mulching is helpful in fall planting, but the mulch should be removed early in the spring, for the little plants are early risers.

In their first year the plants will develop from one to three leaves. When these fall in the autumn the plant will scarcely show above ground. Winter mulching is desirable during the following few years

to prevent the heaving, due to alternate freezing and thawing, from tearing the tender roots of the young plants.

Plants may be spaced a foot apart in the row and left thus until they reach blossoming stage, which takes five or more years. They should then be moved to permanent locations, spaced not less than four feet apart.

Tree peonies do best in deep fertile soil with a high humus content and good drainage. Unlike the herbaceous peony, they do best in partial shade, especially in the upper South and the middle West. The usual height of a mature plant under favorable conditions is from three to five feet, with an equal or greater spread. The older stalks age and after ten to twenty years are best removed to give place to abundant new shoots. Under congenial conditions plants are known to survive a hundred years.

Annual growth starts very early in the spring and is completed by June, even in the North. Do not remove leaves or healthy growth during the growing season, for the spring's early and almost explosive growth and blossoming is dependent on the nutrients stored in the fleshy roots during the previous season.

Tree peonies are very hardy. In the public parks of Rochester, New York, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin, no special protection is necessary in the winter, though a good mulch is always helpful.

For a real flower lover never to make the acquaintance of the tree peony is to miss one of life's most pleasing experiences.

—o—

The Japanese, we are told, have found that planting of trees particularly needled evergreens are effective in breaking up fog patches. The needles absorb the moisture in the air and release it slowly as rising clouds or as rain.



# Remarkable Tree Peony Discoveries

by Louis Smirnow

The search for a **yellow herbaceous peony** had been on for over fifty years. Every hybridizer of note had been constantly crossing, in the hope of producing this much desired but elusive color. When I had the good fortune to introduce Oriental Gold about twelve years ago, it was generally agreed, the first true yellow herbaceous had been found. There had been claims of other yellow peonies but all of them were in reality, cream colored and not the pure yellow of Oriental Gold. Unfortunately, this variety produces a small pure yellow double herbaceous flower, beautiful but not hardly of exhibition size. Furthermore, for hybridizing purposes, it has questionable value because of its peculiar dehiscence action.

## ANNOUNCING DISCOVERY

It is now my great privilege to announce the almost **unbelievable discovery of seven new full double herbaceous peonies** — large flowered, true yellow doubles. The full story is as follows: In 1948, Mr. Toichi Ito, a famous hybridizer, decided to use tree peony pollen on a white herbaceous. He was aware of the peculiarity of the chromosome count of Alice Harding tree peony (called Kinko in Japan) and felt such cross should be successful. Because of the lateness of the season in Tokyo, he sent his assistant to Niigata Prefecture for the pollen. The cross was made in several hundred plants, using pollen of Alice Harding on a white semi double herbaceous. Only a few fertile seeds were had from this crossing. Nine of the seedlings were almost tree peony in appearance and the others were more herbaceous. The seedlings had buds in 1956 for the first time but the buds died immature.

In the same year, Mr. Ito died and his assistant was left with the care and development of the plants. In 1963, these plants bloomed for the first time and the flowers were really exciting. They were yellow, pure and bright, the stems were perfectly upright. The foliage almost tree-peony like in appearance and the stems die down every winter. These hybrids are heavy feeders and do very well when fed properly. Six have been selected worthy of introduction—of these, only four are available for immediate introduction, the other two at least a year or two later. We now have a very few of each of the four.

When we visited Japan this Fall, we prevailed upon Mrs. Ito to let us have exclusive handling of these peonies and are fortunate to be given exclusive control.

We are now in the process of arranging the patenting of each of these, along with another yellow, described later. First offering will be made in 1967, if we can obtain a few of each variety, otherwise—a year later.

The names of the four yellows are Yellow Haven, Yellow Dream, Yellow Crown and Yellow Emperor.

It is almost universally believed that tree peonies cannot be crossed with herbaceous. This has been tried many times, without success. Mr. Ito, astute and determined, continued his experiment with tree peony pollen on a white herbaceous. The pollen of a pink tree peony was used. This cross was made in 1949 and several varieties will be available for future introduction. Two varieties are now in our garden and will be available in 1967. They are called Pink Heaven and Pink Purity. The former, we are informed, has flowers 12 inches across full double, no sta-

mens showing, bright pink with deeper pink towards the center, free blooming quality. The latter is almost as large and both plants grow 36 inches tall, strong stems.

Prior to leaving the Orient, we learned through several sources that one more successful cross, similar to that made by Mr. Ito, was made two years later. We knew there was one other cross made. This too, to our great fortune, will be exclusive with us and we expect to have a plant here very soon. This variety

will be called Yellow Gem. Its introducer told us it has fine growing habits—tall, stiff stems, large purest yellow 10 inch double flowers of fine substance.

This and the six yellows mentioned above, will be sensational in bloom and their potentiality for hybridizing defies imagination. It is our hope that these varieties will find their way into the hands of our better hybridizers because we are confident, a new race of peonies will result.



## TREE PEONIES

by Anthony J. DeBlasi

Last November New York City's Park Commissioner Hoving arranged a very special "happening". He invited the public to gather in Central Park during the night to witness a spectacular astronomical event: the Leonid meteor

shower, a thrilling radial burst of shooting stars from a common center, a show that occurs only every 30-odd years. Well, in the tradition of all true "happening"—characterized by not knowing exactly what to expect—the skies were overcast that night and not even the moon was seen! What's more, it was reported by the Hayden Planetarium that observers who flew above the cloud cover to see the Leonids could find little more excitement than those who watched from the ground. It was just a bad year for Leonids.

Unlike the vagaries of astronomical events, the performance of a group of **tree peonies** in May leaves no one disappointed. It may be looked forward to with confidence each year. And while the Leonid cluster may thin out with time, producing fewer and fewer meteors during its appointed shower cycles, the number of blooms in a collection of **tree peonies** increases with every cycle. This is an important point to dwell on. I'm sure we all

are familiar with the way such ornamentals as azaleas, dogwood, or forsythia produce ever increasing numbers of blooms as the plants increase in size. But how many have ever stopped to wonder what the effect of such increasing profuseness would be if each **individual** bloom were an **outstandingly** beautiful spectacle in its own right, typically 8 inches in diameter! This is what we mean when we speak of drama and excitement during **TREE PEONY** Time. It is a rich feast for the eyes and for the soul and it "happens" every year.

If you are not yourself surrounded by **tree peonies**, enjoy **Tree Peony Time** this spring in visits to public or private collections. Visitors are most welcome to my garden. In my location the **tree peonies** are at their best between the 20th and 30th of May. Mornings and late afternoons are best in sunny weather—any time during hazy or cloudy

A happy gardening year to all! days or very cool sunny days.



# TREE PEONIES

by Leo J. Armatys

The king of flowers has found his queen! In a lecture reported in the January 1967 Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society, Honorable Lewis Palmer, F.L.S., V.M.H., made it official. "*P. suffruticosa* (Rock's variety) is the queen of all tree paeonies."

## Rock's Rocky Road:

If the letters received since September could be considered a fair sampling of the entire membership, I'd have to conclude that (1) Nobody has *P. suffruticosa*, var. J. F. Rock; (2) Everybody wants it; and (3) 25% have tried to buy it recently, without success.

I am not so credulous as to believe that fewer than half dozen plants of Rock's variety are to be found in North America,—but **where** are the others? Neither do I put much stock in rumors that one planted by JFK in the White House garden has been replaced by a yellow rose. It is true that the original plants in Kansu Province were destroyed during a scorched-earth raid of some sort that leveled the Choni Lamasery in 1938. It may well be that all remaining plants of this species are those originating in the Highdown garden of Sir Frederick C. Stern, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, Sussex.

In 1931-32, explorer J. F. Rock wandered thru mountainous Kansu, a thousand miles or more west of Shanghai. There he made the discovery that will immortalize his name. He found an elegant white tree peony, a plant with sinewy build and regal bearing too often lacking in flowering shrubs. It was something like finding an orchid that prefers outdoor Nebraska USA or outdoor Tbilisi USSR, to a cozy greenhouse.

Some of Dr. Rock's seeds were sent to the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, and they shared those seeds with Sir Frederick. His first plant is now 9 feet tall. The arboretum records are not very clear for the period that includes the disposition of Rock's seed. They did raise seedlings, but I am informed that half died and the other half turned up missing—an arboretum euphemism means "stolen." Arboretum Director Richard A. Howard reports progress on a tree peony collection. Sixty cultivars have been planted since 1961, but Rock's var. is not among them. There are things money can't buy. At the moment, Rock's variety seems to be one of those things.

Is Rock's variety destined to go the way of the dinosaur? Will it be known as the peony passenger pigeon? Not if those fortunate enough to have this plant will let it be known, and share seeds with others.

For those who haven't seen Rock's var. in bloom, there is a good picture (Plate IV) in Haworth-Booth's book, "The Moutan or Tree Peony." Dr. Rock called his plant a single. It is, compared to most Chinese peonies. It does have two rows of petals, so to me it is semi-double. Call it what you will, but put it on your list for purchase when it becomes more easily obtainable. Meanwhile, there are a host of other Moutan cultivars worthy of space in any garden.

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK . . .

The meeting of the American Peony Society held this year for the second time in Detroit, Michigan, is indeed significant for it was in Detroit June 11, 1903, the Society was organized permanently. Up to that time the Society had been working under a temporary organization. It was the first meeting also when the Society started off with a paid-up subscription list, a review estimating that fully 90 per cent of the peony acreage of the country was already represented.

The Society decided definitely to incorporate and stated "A Charter will be taken out under the laws of the State of New York. A draft of the Constitution and by-laws was presented and carefully discussed." After several amendments had been made the constitution was adopted.

Committee appointments included a five member Nomenclature committee; three member exhibition and three member Press committee. Among the many names participating are several we find on our roster today—Cherry Hill Nurseries (Thurlows & Stranger, Inc.) Charles M. Wild, Sarcoxie Missouri, Klehm's Nursery, Arlington Heights, Ill.

So for the second time in 64 years the American Peony Society returns to Detroit, Michigan. Let's make it a gala occasion!

\* \* \* \*

We have added a new feature with this issue of the Bulletin, that of the news of members whom we shall call **Peony Personalities**. We are proud to present as the first one—a picture and story about Walter A. Alexander, whom many know and love, but many new members do not know.

Mr. Alexander is serving this year as Chairman of the Show Schedule Committee. We are indebted to Dr.

Harold Tinnappel, vice-president of the Board of Directors for the article about Mr. Alexander.

\* \* \* \*

May we call your attention to Walter Alexander's article on page 17 of the June, 1965 issue Bulletin No. 177, in which Mr. Alexander speaks of the A. P. Saunders Memorial Medal. During the past two years this project has gone forward and we were delighted to receive information that the medal will probably be ready about June of this year, in time your Editor hopes, for presentation at our June 1967 Meeting and Exhibition.

We have held publication of our March issue beyond our usual date, hoping for confirmation from Miss Silvia Saunders. Miss Saunders is on an extended tour of western states and not having heard further from her we can only anticipate an article for our June issue.

According to the original plan the Saunders Memorial Medal is to be awarded for "an important contribution in the field of Peony Hybridizing," or some similar wording as this would permit, for example, an important piece of written work, or the discovery of a species which later became significant parent of hybrids, to be eligible.

\* \* \* \*

In a recent issue of the Gardner's Forum—American Horticulture publication—we noted the following letter from Joseph Hudak, Olmstead Associates, Inc. Brookline, Mass.

. . . garden labels available through D. Wheeldon of Gladsgay Gardens, in Richmond . . . I was initially pleased with Dr. Wheeldon's plastic for its coloring, durability and flexibility—although we have not yet personally tested any label with

a client—and we are more pleased with the relatively inexpensive cost of an individual label of 2½" x 5", a size I requested with several type faces used on it. I would be much surprised if any other supplier of labels will match or surpass what Dr. Wheeldon has supplied him so far . . ."

\* \* \* \*

As stated in this column in the June 1965 issue 177 certainly many peony growers need to be schooled in making and keeping records of plantings. How annoying it is to have stakes removed. We asked at that time that we might hear from growers and contributors concerning their methods of labeling and keeping records. Our method has been to use a metal stake with a zinc label, etched with ink containing lamp black. What's your method?

\* \* \* \*

Mr. Pennell and I attended the 21st annual session of the Great Lakes Park Training Institute, held at Pottawatomie Inn, Pokagon State Park, Angola, Ind., February 20th-24th, 1967. Co-operating sponsors of the Institute conducted by the Department of Recreation and Park Administration, Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind. are Nat. Recreation Park Association; Canadian Park and Recreation Association; Illinois State Division of Parks and Memorials, Indiana Department of Natural Resources and Park and Recreation Association, Michigan Dept. of Conservation; Park and Forestry Association; Midwest Institute of Park Executives, National Conference of State Parks and the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources and Ohio Parks and Recreation Association.

We attended only those sessions which dealt with problems in which we, as officers of the Society, are specifically interested in for the

benefit of the Society membership.

Keynote speaker, George B. Hartzog, Director National Park Service, U.S. Dept. of Interior, spoke on the Beautification Program. Wilbur E. Wright, Director of State Parks, New York State Conservation Dept. discussed that State's program. We had a most interesting personal conversation with Mr. Wright during the coffee break that followed and were pleased to have had a "listening ear" to our "soap-box" presentation of **Why Peonies should be included** in plantings. We are pursuing the subject in an exchange of letters.

Mr. Philip Huey, Supt. of Parks, Dallas, Texas was the next speaker.

Mr. Pennell was greatly impressed by Mr. Huey's presentation dealing with comparative costs of flowers used in the park system. These costs were all predicated on an area of 1,000 square feet. The net result was based upon the cost of plant material, preparations of bed, fertilizer, insect control and maintenance, which he includes cost of watering and weeding. Against this cost was applied a factor based upon the number of color days. This means when color exists.

It was interesting to note that certain plants produce a net result of from \$1.60 for Cannas to \$60.00 a day for Azaleas.

Immediately, Mr. Pennell began to calculate that peonies, here in the middle West, would have a **very low cost**, when we consider the days of color, the days when they are a beautiful green, then russet color until late in September when good housekeeping dictates removal of tops. Here is a project for some peony fan, a park superintendent, or a member of our Society to calculate in dollars and cents, just how economical a good planting of Jules Elie would compare with a planting of Festiva-Maxima.

We were delighted in our personal



interview with Mr. Huey to have had him be so interested in our subject of **Peonies**. Proof of his interest is contained in his letter which we share with you: (Growers please take note!)

"Mr. and Mrs. Pennell, I enjoyed visiting with you at the Great Lakes Park Training Institute . . . The information you gave me concerning peony culture I think will be very helpful to us. We will plan to order some more peonies this fall, and in the meantime if you are able to arrange for some plants for us to grow on a test basis we will certainly be glad to try them.

When the peonies bloom here this spring I will look out for those locations where they seem to be doing well and note the addresses for you. I know they will grow well because I can remember seeing some very nice plants.

I arrived back home Monday (February 27th) in 60° weather and we have many bulbs and trees coming into bloom . . . "

\* \* \* \*

Weathermen are perplexed we understand!

Not only are the weathermen perplexed by Mother Nature's vagrancies, but many oldtimers, farmers and sailors whose intuitive wisdom preceded weather bureau prognostications, their wisdom flowing from hunch and experience, from observation of plants, animals, fish, birds and a score of subtle sensitivities.

Heavy snow blizzards and slightly warmer than the same period one year ago" was written in the old Farmer's Almanac for 1967 and to date the prediction has been true.

The northeast had one of the season's biggest snowstorms on the second day of spring! At the same time one correspondent tells us the

usually cold plains of western Colorado, shed their normal heavy coat of snow for colorful blossoms, as peach, apricot and pear trees bloomed prematurely in springlike temperatures that regularly topped 60°.

Here in the Editor's area we have experienced alternate freezing and thawing. At the time this is written Red Charm is poking its head through and LeCygne also. The ground is still cold and few gardeners are out and about because of the extreme wet.

\* \* \* \*

We really need your **HELP!** We mean everyone in the Society. Many Flower, Garden and Home Shows are held throughout the country in the month of March. These are usually sponsored by the press, Landscape Associations, Florists and some times in cooperation with Garden Clubs.

These come to our attention only when someone writes us afterward. If you would write us this year giving us the names of the sponsors and addresses—as well as the 1967 dates, we could immediately contact them about 1968. We could plan to have an educational exhibit at the Show—giving the correct information about planting peonies and the adaptibility of the peony in small garden plantings as well as civic plantings.

We can edit the Bulletin—answer your letters as fast as is humanly possible with our limited staff of one stenographer (your Editor) and make this Society grow, only as well as we can tell our story! We know we can reach many people if given the opportunity.

**WE CAN PROGRESS TOGETHER!** People who work on a problem that is too big for anyone of them, find out that it is not too big for all of them. They don't keep it confined to the people they know. That

is the secret of an effective Society!  
(apology to Murray D. Lincoln)

\* \* \* \*

Speaking of Flower Shows, we have received a unique Schedule from our South American member, Mrs. Stanley V. Coates. The Coates family are ardent gardeners. "Headlines in Flowers" was the theme of the Show and entries were listed as headlines such as International Page, an artistic arrangement inspired by any nation in the news today: National Scene, an arrange-

ment representative of life in Argentina: Fashion News, a line arrangement interpreting the world of fashion: Religion, a mass arrangement for a church celebration: Stop the Press, an arrangement from exhibitor's garden. Every phase of news reporting was covered together with clever cartoons and pictures. Mrs. Coates won second prize for her entry in Fashion News and five first prizes, three second and 3 third places in the Horticultural Division.

## Personalities in the Peony Realm

WALTER A. ALEXANDER



Mr. Walter A. Alexander has served the American Peony Society in many capacities. He was President (1954, 1955), Treasurer (1961-1966), Chairman of the Kingwood Center Project Committee

and is a frequent contributor to the **Bulletin**.

Mr. Alexander delights in recounting how greatly he was impressed when he attended the American Peony Show held at Guelph, Canada. There he met for the first time many of the officers and directors of the Society, the successful exhibitors and well-known growers who specialized in peonies. He saw many of the new varieties on the display tables there which he was soon to grow in his own garden. It was while attending another exhibition of the Society, the Cleveland show in 1951, that he unwittingly initiated a contact with a peony hybridizer who lived in Belle Center, Ohio in relative obscurity as far as the peony world was concerned. Mr. Alexander staged the blooms which Mr. Mains had sent to the show, and

subsequent correspondence and visits ultimately culminated in a close friendship between the two. Mr. Alexander for a number of years was the sole distributor of Mr. Mains' introductions.

Walter Alexander was born at Bellaire, Ohio about seventy-five years ago, the son of a Presbyterian minister. His father left this southern Ohio town for one in northwestern Ohio at McComb when Walter was sixteen years of age. In this little town he met his future wife, Joyce Ewing. He received his Bachelor and Masters degree in Agriculture Science from the Ohio State University. He did some advanced work at the University of Minnesota. In the recent past he had the double pleasure of attending his class's fiftieth reunion at Ohio State and also observing his golden wedding anniversary.

In addition to teaching in a rural school he has taught vocational agriculture at Hudson Academy, at Forest and at Bowling Green, Ohio. He has done some rural extension work and following World War II he conducted some special on-the-job training in agriculture.

Although he had retired in 1953

from Bowling Green High School he was called back to teach a class the following year. He and his wife fortunately share a great love for flowers, shrubs, and trees and together have operated a nursery for a number of years. Not only have they handled fine stock, but have also helped educate the buying public to appreciate the finer species and varieties that can be chosen. A customer who came to their nursery with the intention of buying a quick growing silver maple or Chinese elm soon found himself persuaded to try a sweet gum, a pin oak, or some other tree or shrub suitable for the site to be planted. Similarly, a customer asking simply for a white or pink peony is counseled to choose from the best available. Both the casual visitor and the intent garden clubber are met with a welcome at the Alexanders and soon find someone who would take time to give information on the habits of the plants and to give directions concerning the planting of

them.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander have a host of friends in Bowling Green. They take great interest in the families of their two sons: the older resides in Bowling Green and the younger lives in Columbus, Ohio. Mr. Alexander belongs to the local garden club and frequently assists in their programs. He is a regular visitor of the city Library. He takes advantage afforded a resident of a college town; he enjoys attending sports and musical events alike at the university. He for a number of years has been a member of the Town and Gown Club, and profits from the intellectual stimulation derived from presenting and discussing papers presented before the club. His integrity and fair-minded approach to issues has won him not only the friendship but the respect of those who know him.

\* \* \* \*

(Editor's Comment) We are appreciative of Dr. Harold Tinnappel's contribution regarding Mr. Alexander.

## "POLYPLOIDS IN PEONIES"

Those attending the Annual Banquet Meeting of the American Peony Society this year have a rare treat in store. Harold E. Wolfe, a past president of the Society and presently member of the Board of Directors, will speak on the subject of "Polyploids in Peonies."

Mr. Wolfe stated in a telephone conversation, he had not forgotten his promise of a year ago that he would speak in 1967! He will have samples of plant material with him as well as leaves for comparison, tell how to identify and show slides.

Southern Illinois University is assisting Mr. Wolfe in the preparation of Kodachromes for his presentation. Mr. Wolfe gave the University 3,000 Japanese type Tree Peonies. These are planted on the

Carbondale, Ill., campus. The University has included over 2,000 plants in their landscaping of the Edwardsville campus.

Mr. Wolfe stated last year that his principal area of interest is in further development of the herbaceous hybrids, "I aim for progress in this area by (a) inter-species crosses (b) . . . and succeeding generations from existing hybrids. (c) pollinating lactiflora with pollen from hybrids, particularly lactiflora x officinalis. (b) and (c) are the areas from which the finest results will be obtained".

Mr. Wolfe is a busy man—constantly on the go in the interest of his vocation. We know we have a treat in store for all of us when he discusses his avocation!

# Tributes

## Dr. D. Sanford Hyde

In the passing of Doctor D. Sanford Hyde the American Peony Society has lost one of its most outstanding exhibitors. Not only was he one of the finest showmen in the history of our regional and National shows but he was also a loyal and devoted servant of our Society. He was a past President of our 5th Regional District and a past member of the National Board of Directors. He had a deep interest in the A.P.S. and the Peony.

I first came to know Dr. Hyde at the Chicago Regional Show at Garfield Park in 1942. Thereafter we met across the show tables in 11 National Shows and almost as many Regional Shows. He was a fierce competitor but a fair one. It was not uncommon for Dr. Hyde to bring 500 to 600 blooms to a show. At the Dixon, Ill. show he brought over 1500 flowers. He probably reached the climax of his exhibiting career at the Van Wert, Ohio show of 1960 in which he won among other firsts the best flower in the show and the Gold Medal for the large class. He was a perfectionist. He never cut his flowers promiscuously but selected only specimens as he went up and down his rows. He had a large planting at Des Plaines, Illinois to which Garden Clubs and the public was often invited. This planting included almost every good peony in commerce. It made it possible for him to bring in specimens in such great numbers. He had an uncanny knack of picking a winner even in the bud stage. His principal motivation was the competitive urge but he loved to see fine peonies set up on the show tables in exhibition form. After the judging was over he would walk back and forth amongst the tables and carefully observe each bloom. He was

a fine judge of a peony bloom and rarely missed picking the winner.

Dr. Hyde and I spent many highly competitive moments together in many peony shows and I can recall many hilarious and exciting times. One that stands out in my memory was the Cleveland National Show of 1951. My flowers, which I had shipped by air ahead of my arrival, became lost. When Dr. Hyde became aware of my predicament he offered to help me find them. We spent most of the night looking for them and only after routing the store receiving clerk out of bed to come to the receiving room did we find them. It was imperative that the flowers get into water that night. The show room was locked for the night and the only source of containers. Dr. Hyde came up with the idea that we scrounge around the all night restaurants to find some. We found one that had 15 20-18 inch potato salad cans. They were gooey with the residue of the German Potato salad but we thankfully took them all and borrowed some rags and detergent to clean them up. We finally got all my flowers safely in water for the rest of the night. The next day I got the James Boyd Medal. Dr. Hyde ruefully remarked he should have let me look for my flowers alone.

Dr. Hyde was a busy obstetrician and head of the Department of Obstetrics at the Lutheran Deaconness Hospital but he always found time to devote to his peonies. Each year for a number of years he would set up a large display at the hospital. It was a source of great enjoyment and interest to the patients, hospital personnel and visitors. He called it the Silver Exhibit. A large silver bowl was placed in front of it. Donations for the benefit of the

hospital were placed in the bowl. Dr. Hyde also offered a free root of any variety on display for each new member in the A.P.S. It was not unusual to find Doctor Hyde in his peony garden in the wee hours of the morning after coming home from the hospital with a flash light in hand or with the help of the light of the moon, disbudding peonies. He said the best time to disbud peonies was in the rain. He would don his rain coat, hat and boots and the problem of sticky fingers was solved.

I shall long remember Dr. Hyde but the one incident I shall never forget happened in 1959. I had committed myself to a large commercial display at the Gambel-Schuster Department store. They had contracted for newspaper ads, television and radio time. About 10 days before the show I came down with a severe attack of uric acid in my knee joint. It was swollen and even the slightest touch profused excruciating pain. I was placed in traction in the hospital. This went on for 5 or 6 days. I had nothing cut as yet for the display. In desperation I phoned Dr. Hyde and asked him if he could send me a couple of dozen labeled specimen. He said not to worry as he would send up a number to help out. I was finally released from the hospital the day before the show but imagine my surprise when the Doctor and his good wife, Hertha, drove up to the show room with his station wagon loaded with hundreds of specimen bloom. He said the show had to go on. It left a deep impression upon me as I knew his professional commitments were heavy.

It is persons such as Dr. Hyde who are the stalwarts of the A.P.S. Their loss is irreplaceable. We of the 5th District especially will miss him. I hope the great beyond has some place for such God-Given

beauty of nature as the Peony.

Marvin C. Karrels

\* \* \* \*

### ROY G. GAYLE

I am sure that during the life of each of us some one person qualifies as "My most unforgettable character". Such a person was Roy Gayle. His deep interest in the Peony and the American Peony Society, his colorful personality and his ability to impart his own enthusiasm to those who were privileged to know him intimately has left its mark upon all who were his close friends. As I look back over the past twenty-five years that I have shared and enjoyed my peony hobby with him, numerous incidents come to mind.

I first met Roy in Chicago at a regional show at Garfield Park in June of 1940. It was a very hot day and under the glass of the Conservatory the temperature rose to over 100 degrees. The flowers began to show a considerable amount of wilt. By late Saturday many went limp. Roy drove back to Rockford and returned early Sunday with a load of replacements. A fine show was on exhibit for the Sunday P.M. public attendance.

Roy was a regular exhibitor at both our National and Regional shows. He nearly always got a share of the blue and purple ribbons but I always had the feeling that he was less interested in the competitive aspect of exhibiting than he was in just seeing fine specimen blooms set up in show style. He was a stickler for correct labeling of blooms set up on the show table. Woe be to the exhibitor who inadvertently mislabeled a variety. Roy would be sure to detect the error. He would not hesitate to disqualify an entry if even but one was mislabeled. He said a mislabeled bloom misled the viewing public. He was one of our most competent judges of



show peonies. I recall an expression he often used "You cannot recall a blooms past or can you predict its future". A bloom had to be in its prime to get his nod.

Roy was an astute discerning student of the peony. Through constant observation and careful discernment he became familiar with the minutest characteristic of a variety. I have seen him correctly name 45 out of 50 varieties in an unlabeled collection. His enthusiasm for peonies was unbounded. He would travel a long distance for the sake of engaging in an intelligent peony discussion. He came to my home here in Milwaukee several times during the blooming season bringing along a number of specimen blooms and together with a number I cut for the occasion we would set up a show just for the two of us. Then followed the most interesting, engrossing and enjoyable time of that years blooming season. His analysis of each variety was an education for me. A good deal of what I learned of peonies came from this master. Not only was he an avid student of the peony flower but the plant engaged his discerning appraisal. He could then correctly name some varieties by examining the root structure and eye formation. He was without doubt one of the greatest authorities on the Peony in the American Peony Society.

It was Roy's contention that permanent members of the A.P.S. were made by gradual building of their interest in peonies. He always had many visits to his large planting in Rockford. He carefully noted those that showed above normal interest and then whetted their appetite by sending selected and labeled varieties to their home in blooming time. He then followed it up by sending a root or two of choice varieties at planting time. His own enthusiasm was infectious

and he more than any other person was responsible for Illinois having the largest number of A.P.S. members.

Roy was extremely interested in the organization of the A.P.S. However, he always turned down any suggestion that he become a Director or an officer of either the National or Regional organization. He said he felt that he would be more useful as a critic than as a participant in the governing body. He was however a strong supporter of our National and Regional organizations. He was one of the original group when our own 5th District had its birth here in Milwaukee in 1938. Roy was the principal mover together with Will Christman, Francis Tikalski, Al Volz, Jerome Host and myself. He was a confirmed believer in Regional Districts and felt our own District should set the example. Each fall for these almost 20 years Roy and his wife Lois would come to our annual Regional meetings. This continued even when Lois became a wheel chair patient. Roy also rarely missed a National meeting. Much of our present constitution and By-Laws were the result of his efforts.

He has now passed on. The American Peony Society has lost one of its most staunch and loyal men. We of the 5th District mourn his passing and I for one feel part of me has gone with him. In my book of memories he will be "My most unforgettable Character".

Marvin Karrels

\* \* \* \*

**ROY GAYLE, AS I KNEW HIM**  
by Neal Van Loon

"Thank God for you good friend of mine,  
Seldom is a friendship such as thine.  
How very much I wish to be  
As helpful as you've been to me.  
Thank God for you.  
When I recall from time to time

How you inspired this heart of mine. I find myself inclined to pray God bless my friend this very day. Thank God for you."

That suggests the way I feel about Roy and that is the way I do feel.

It was a case of love at first sight and of love at last sight.

I was enormously pleased when I received a rather lengthy letter from him after he was first stricken. The effects of the stroke were plainly in evidence in every line. Yet, there was the same meticulous handwriting; the same splendid diction; the same characteristic; patrician way of expressing himself; not the least suggestion of self-pity.

One of the neatest insights to his character that came to me was the time he showed me his garden of sick peony children. "These babies were just about goners" he said to me. "By careful surgery, by the use of Semesan, and some other things like patience, I have brought 'em back. See how strong they are. Just look at 'em" and his face would shine.

He reminded me of an especially kind and skillful nurse who picks out the sickliest and the most seriously crippled of the pediatrics and brings them back to health and wholeness.

His writings were always worthwhile, informative and uniformly interspersed with delightful boyish humor.

He was a keen observer, and as a judge, careful and penetrating.

"Mr. Intelligentsia of the Peony Society" he might be called and not without reason for his was a magnificent brain.

I call him my Friend, using the capital "F".

Standing in that pretty spot beneath overhanging branches of the trees, the memory of Lois comes back like a benediction and with the fragrance of a rose, she is gone

"for a little while". Here rest, now too, the mortal remains of Friend Roy. "Dear Lois" and "Dear Roy" let us call them.

They will be sorely missed by me and by many—Many!

## Contributors' Addresses

We are pleased to print the addresses of our contributors to the **Bulletin**. Thank you Mr. Stoke and Mr. Wissing for answering Mr. Wyrick's request in Our Readers Write columns. As has been said many times, our associated members are most unselfish in sharing their ideas, opinion and cultural knowledge in an effort to advance the results and enjoyment of peony growing for all members. Following are names of those who have contributed from time to time:

Alexander, Walter A., 154 Waverly Ave., Bowling Green, O 43402

Armatys, Leo J., Box 598, Central City, Nebraska 68826

Auten, Edward Jr., Princeville, Ill. 61559  
De Blasi, Anthony J., 81-18 261st St., Floral Park, N.Y. 11004

Fletcher, Lyle Rexford, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, O. 43402

Giff, Ralph H., 189 Cecil St., Sarnia, Ontario, Canada

Gilbertson, Ben, Kindred, North Dakota 58051

Gratwick, William H., York-Pavilion Rd., Pavillon, N.Y. 14525

Harper, Allen C., 100 East 81st St. North, Kansas City, Missouri 64118

Henau, Clarence O., 9135 Beech Daly, Detroit, Michigan 48239

Saunders, Miss Silvia, Clinton, New York 13323

Smirnow, Louis, 85 Linden Lane, Brookville, Long Island, N.Y. 11454

Stoke, Harold F., 1436 Watts Ave., 24017  
Tinnappel, Harold A., State Rt. 105, Pemberville, O. 43450

Van Loon, Neal R., 511 Birkinbine Dr., Sun Prairie, Wisconsin 53590

Wissing, Samuel E., 93 S., Lombard Ave., Lombard, Ill. 60148

## OUR READER'S WRITE . . .

### California

William H. Krekler, our Somerville, Ohio, summer resident and California winter resident, a **Life Member** in the American Peony Society wrote March 1st as follows: "I hope to be able to bring a few flowers to Detroit to the Show. I should have quite a few seedlings worth naming this spring . . .

Mr. Krekler further stated that one of the best dates to see his peony plants in Somerville, Ohio, is Memorial Day (when the early doubles and the late hybrids overlap) but, he states, "this varies. I have ten acres in flowers, including peonies," Mr. Krekler said, "Also iris and hemerocallis. And the army has claimed my best helper so my problem now is to find someone to hoe them."

### Canada

Ralph H. Giff, 189 Cecil St., Sarnia, Ontario, wrote they "had a mighty cold winter . . . lots of snow to shovel." This statement is a familiar one to those of us in this area of Ohio. Mr. Giff, a member of the Board of Directors, representing the Canadian membership, will be exhibiting flowers in Detroit.

\* \* \* \*

Mrs. Rosa Ionson, R.R. 3, Georgetown, Ontario, Canada states that, "Two years ago June 14th my husband took a heart attack just outside the house and died instantly. We were packing peony blooms to go to the Airport for a Montreal Show; it was a terrible shock for me. The next morning, I went out in the field and cut a fresh lot about 200 peonies so the Show went on. This was in a large department store they take orders from the Show for roots to be shipped the end of September. Sending fresh blooms had to be done every day for a week

and although I had help I had to be there to supervise it. Only another ardent Peony grower would know how it would feel to be cutting blooms at 5 in the morning with a heavy heart but the beauty and fragrance of these blooms all around me seemed to comfort me.

My husband and I started to grow peonies 35 years ago, first as a hobby and after about 10 years, commercially. I knew Dr. Brethour and we were also close friends of Mr. W. Brown from Elora, Ontario. At present I have at least 15 acres of peonies, 75 tree peonies and 500 more coming from Japan. I used to import them from Europe before but could not get any last year.

Some years ago we visited the Wild's in Sarcoxie and also the grower just outside of Chicago, name won't come to me, it was a delightful trip.

For quite a few years we had planned to visit Mr. Smirnow's place and also Miss Saunders' but were always too busy. I am going to try very hard to attend the Annual Peony Show this year."

### Illinois

Howard S. Martin, 1916 Greenleaf St. Evanston, Ill. 60202: . . . My interest in flowers goes back a good many years. It, of course, is a hobby but I have grown and am still growing quite a large number of peonies and roses. In years past I hybridized glads and at one time had about 120,000 bulbs in the ground. But age and time caught up with me and I had to abandon the glad venture.

I have a summer home in Canada about 165 statute air miles north of International Falls, Minnesota. The temperature in this region frequently reaches 65° below zero and stays there for a week or two at

a time. I have about 150 peony plants at the lodge which have done beautifully. Should the Society be interested I will be glad to send you a color picture taken of the peonies in bloom. One thing I have noticed is that those grown in Canada (where nights are quite cold) open more fully and more beautifully than the ones that I have in the Chicago area. The cool weather holds them in bud for a longer period of time. The only disadvantage is that when they do open they are very vulnerable to damage by wind and rain. I only wish I had two or three more life-times—one of which I would most certainly devote entirely to flowers.

#### Nebraska

Leo J. Armatys, our dedicated Tree Peony contributor to the Bulletin, expects his son home from Viet Nam in April. We hope so and welcome him back!

#### New York

Robert Curren, Dildine Rd. Box 91, Union Springs, N.Y. 13160 wrote that the field where Dr. Little had some peonies planted in Camillus, N.Y. has been plowed up and put into wheat. This we regret to learn for Dr. Little had some excellent varieties. Mr. Curren further stated "I was able to locate the tree peonies at Aurora, N.Y. There are 14 large plants there. The blossoms were nearly gone before I found them so was unable to get any good slides. Hope to have better luck this year.

I have 40 varieties, planted by Mr. Webb at Mrs. Austin's. These are herbaceous peonies. As they were not marked I wish there might be some way of finding out what I do have."

**Editor's Note:** Am sure members in New York State will want to visit Mr. Curren's place, for we remember he stated he could not

attend the Peony Show in Ohio last year because of the strawberry season ! ! !

#### Oregon

Carl H. Phetteplace, M.D.F.A.C.S. 634 Eugene Medical Center, Eugene, Oregon 97401 graciously responded to the Editor's request for information on the plants he has as follows: "I had only recently become interested in peonies and only in the fall of 1965 ordered about 25 roots. Only a few of them bloomed at all in the spring of 1966 and I am sure these first flowers were not of the quality that I will eventually have. I feel it would be most unfair to judge them at that time. I believe that almost all of them are living and growing and I have high hopes of the future. I do not know why I haven't gotten into peonies earlier in life."

Dr. Phetteplace responded late in the fall to our request. We all wish him success this year—1967 ! ! !

#### Ohio

Fred Brubaker, 2675 Wingate Ave., Akron, Ohio, has given us the courage we need to carry on this tremendously important job—keeping the American Peony Society a going Society. Mr. Brubaker wrote "Thanks very much for the kindness expressed in the note you included with my membership card. The interest you show for the welfare of your membership is rather unusual . . . My interest in peonies is not at all professional—I just happen to enjoy the plant. I didn't move any of my plants with me to the farm. I left them all with the people who bought my home, as I did with my roses. Probably so that I can drive by them and check up on how the new owners are caring for my garden and glare at them if they don't do better than I did.

**My reason for belonging to the Peony Society is only to help sup-**

port it, as I am truly an amateur with very little knowledge of the plant—only an appreciation.

So you see that as a contributing member to the Bulletin, there is very little I can offer, but your note was so friendly I felt an obligation to answer you." Thank you so very much Mr. Brubaker, we can now take new hope and encouragement. Would that there were more like you as appreciative of the Peony, the Queen of Flowers!

#### **Pennsylvania**

William Newhard, 26 W. Zion Hill Rd., Quakerstown, Pa. 18951 writes "I have been growing peonies in limited numbers for about twelve years. Was taken with a plant of Chocolate Soldier seen in full bloom during a tall bearded Iris tour a few years ago. The garden immediately following this was Mrs. Gustave Landt's, Morristown, Pa., which had many herbaceous hybrids and Lutea Tree Peonies in bloom with tall bearded Iris. In the past two years I have put in around fifty hybrid herbaceous Peonies and twelve Lutea Tree Peonies.

I have acquired some species that I felt could be used in a breeding program and I would like to start hybridizing on a limited scale. My plant interests besides Iris and Peonies include Daffodils, Primroses, Dwarf Conifers, rock garden plants and Day Lillies.

\* \* \* \*

Lee W. Rodgers, Star Route No. 3, Porcupine Run, Tionesta, Pa. 16553 wrote when sending in his check for years 1966 and 1967 that he moved three years ago upon retirement from West Richfield, Ohio. "I moved about one hundred and eighty plants and this will be the third blooming season and should do well from now on as I notice more intense color and substance to the blooms, may be accounted for due to a more acid soil, sandy loam,

heavy humus. I have planted quite a few new plants each fall and added a few tree peonies last fall. More in the future I hope. I am interested in securing a root of Elwood Pleas".

Mr. Rodgers states he would appreciate hearing from anyone who may have this variety.

#### **South Dakota**

Mrs. Evangeline Martindale, Rt. No. 4, Sioux Falls, S.D. wrote us January 23, 1967 "I had a good peony season here. All of Main's do well here and Ann Cousins and Doris Cooper give exhibition blooms of highest award at our local and state shows. Red Charm and Walter Mains have won honors at shows if I can store them successfully for the late shows. The tree peony, Sou. de Maxine Cornu blooms well here if given winter protection.

#### **Washington**

D. F. Sanderson, 717 15th St., Bellingham, Wash. 98225, was kind in answering our questions (1st) "We are very sorry we are unable to attend the National Show but wish it the greatest success. The distances involved are just to great. Perhaps in a few years, we will have a western regional show. One only has to be here in the spring to know this is also PEONY country.

(2nd) Yes I already have Dr. Wister's book and it is well thumbed and read. Is the membership familiar with Michael Haworth-Booth's "The Moutan or Tree Peony"? It is published by St. Martin's Press, New York. Mr. Haworth-Booth is a great English peony booster and his books are really excellent for west coast gardeners.

We have yet to acquire sufficient land to gratify our desire to raise and hybridize many peonies. Until then, I'm afraid my role in the Society must be that of a student. For this purpose, your bulletins are

really excellent tests. You are to be commended. Again, "best of luck." Thank you Mr. Sanderson. We too look forward to a Regional Show in the West.

#### Wisconsin

Mrs. Jane C. Gustin, 1425 Illinois Ave., Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54481, wrote last fall wondering how far north the new tree peonies will grow. She stated "Our soil is sandy and may not contribute what they need to live through a long cold winter. I have about 25 peonies, all I can care for, but during the latter half of June and possibly a week in July we have a swarm of beetles to battle. Most people have just dug up their peonies, but I put plastic bags on the buds before there is a loose petal. Then when the buds feel soft enough, so I think they will open, I bring them inside.

LeCygne was very small this year (1966) and Myrtle Gentry and Mary Brand didn't bloom. But Hansina

Brand was better than usual—the buds seem to water-log or for some reason they turn greenish. But when they open they are lovely. Jules Elie is always good, also Festiva Maxima and Phyllis Kelway. None of them grow large blooms in this soil but the bushes are large and stems are strong. I feed them a little powdered bone meal each year."

Writing again Mrs. Gustin stated "I was glad to read that Mr. Bringe of West Salem, Wis. had a couple of tree peonies bloom last year and has some other 3 year old plants that may also bloom next year . . . it is warmer over at West Salem and their soil is a rich dark colored loam—very productive. I hope I can see his garden this summer." Mrs. Gustin told again about using transparent plastic bags over the buds and when the bud is nearly open she cuts, takes inside and has a continuous flower show for nearly a month.

## SUGGESTIONS ON WEED CONTROL

The current issue of **Plants and Gardens** published by the Brooklyn Botanic Garden Record, is devoted to a Handbook on Weed Control. In the Index to Weed-Control Recommendations is noted the following with regard to PEONIES:

#### Weeds to be eliminated

1. Weeds in General
2. Annual weeds

**Dasthal** and **Chloro IPC** are safe and will control many weeds in peony plants. For the peony specialist **simazine** at a low rate (2 to 4 pounds of active ingredient per acre, 1 to 2 pounds of 4% granular per 1,000 square feet) is safe on most varieties. It should be applied in the fall, and not followed by simazine treatments the next year.

To the two members who wrote for advice on control of **quackgrass** we noted the following . . . Quackgrass spreads by underground rootstocks and regenerates readily after tops are removed. Since ornamental plantings are usually invaded from

#### Recommended herbicides

##### Simazine

**Dacthal** and **Chloro IPC** adjoining patches, it is wise to attack the source of infestation as a preventative measure. Quackgrass growing a few feet from valuable plants can be treated with Amizine or dalapon (Dowpon) applied to actively growing grass as directed on the container. When it is growing in the ornamental planting hand removal is probably the only safe answer. A 3 inch mulch can be surprisingly helpful. Although the grass will push through the mulch, after one season most of the rootstocks will be immediately under the mulch, so hand removal becomes a simple matter.

## PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

**Handbook of The Peony.** 36-page booklet of concise articles on why, when to plant, care, propagation, culture of peonies of all kinds including tree peonies, 8-pages, 3 line drawings, 8 black and white illustrations. Short lists of varieties and sources included. Price 50c each; 35c each in quantities of 25 and 25c each in quantities of 50 or more.

**Back Bulletins.** Current issues 50c each. Other issues \$1.00 each when available. Send list wanted for quotation on purchase of more than one Bulletin prior to current year.

**Recommended List of Peonies For Planting.** 65c each non-members. Members price 50c. We are forced to raise our price of this pamphlet. This is due to cost of printing and mailing. Special price if ordered in lots of 25.

**Peonies Outdoors and In.** Arno and Irene Nehrling. Hearthside Press Inc., New York. About 300-pages, 100 black and white illustrations and 11 color plates. Contents similar to those of the Handbook with the addition of a section of Peonies Indoors, arrangements and how to stage a show. About 40-pages are devoted to the Tree Peony. Price to members of the American Peony Society: \$4.95 each. To non-members \$5.95.

**Color Slide Collection.** (35-mm slides), about 200 slides of all types, including hybrid and tree peonies. Rent \$5.00. Return Postage must be paid by renter. Insure for \$50.00. Renter supplies projector.

**The Peonies.** Edited by Dr. John C. Wister and published by American Horticultural Society, 1600 Bladensburg Road, N.E., Washington 2, D.C., has over 200-pages and many illustrations. It treats both Tree and herbaceous peonies. Write direct to American Peony Society Office for full information.

## GIFTS

**Birthday Cards:** Attractive cards with colored pictures of peonies that were painted in West Germany and with a verse applicable to any person, may be procured from this office. Packages of 10, 25, 50 or 100. Prices reasonable. Write for price stating quantity and giving four weeks notice prior to date needed.

**Party Napkins:** White, soft, paper napkins with peonies in color (pink) are available in packages. Write for price stating quantity and date needed, giving four weeks notice. Order cards and napkins from:

**THE AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY**

107½ W. Main St.

Van Wert, Ohio 45891

**Beverage Glasses:** Glasses with a beautiful peony etched on the glass may be procured by writing Mrs. Pharon B. Denlinger, 5362 Free Pink, Dayton, Ohio 45426. These come packed in sets of eight. Give plenty of time for delivery.



Growers of Cut Flower Peonies over 75 years.  
Varieties Tested for Eastern and Southern climatic conditions.

Write for wholesale and retail lists.

**J. FRANKLIN STYER NURSERIES**

Concordville, Pennsylvania 19331

---

**RIVER DRIVE PEONY GARDEN**

Home of Moonstone, Mildred May, Dignity,  
Lotus Queen and other high grade peonies and iris.

--- WRITE FOR PRICE LIST ---

**Arthur L. Murawska & Sons**

8740 Ridge Street

River Grove, Ill. 60171

---

**LINS' PEONIES**

PRICE LIST ON REQUEST

NEW VARIETIES...NEW COLORS  
NEW PRICES

**E. H. LINS**

Cologne, Minn. 55322

---

**Did You Ever Plant A  
"BIGGER" PEONY ?**

PRICE LIST ON REQUEST

**MYRON D. BIGGER**

201 North Rice Road

Topeka, Kansas 66616

---

**DISPERSING**

**SMALL COMMERCIAL PEONY GARDEN**

About 700 large healthy clumps, 12 good cut-flower varieties.

Sell all or any part, \$1.00 or \$1.50 per clump,  
plowed up by seller.

Write: Mrs. D. G. Dunn, 144 Cherokee Park, Lexington 3, Ky.  
or Phone: 278-3586

## HEMEROCALLIS

(Daylilies)

Enjoy this wonderful flower when your Iris season is finished. Its long bloom season will greatly expand your garden enjoyment.

Constant improvement in color, size, form and habits insure rapid growth of interest in this fine plant.

Three quarterly journals and a large year-book filled with informative data on varieties, culture, performance and progress. Many Round Robins open to participation.

**ONLY \$5.00 PER YEAR**

**Join THE AMERICAN HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY**

**Robert B. Coker, Secretary**

## INTERESTED IN DAFFODILS?

**Join THE AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY, INC.**



### MEMBERSHIP BRINGS YOU . . .

Basic information on daffodil culture, types and classification, recommended varieties, show procedures and places to buy bulbs.

The Daffodil Journal, a quarterly of the Society, just full of information you should have.

The privilege of attending local, regional and national meetings.

And new friends all over the USA, all enthusiastic about Daffodils.

**Annual Membership—\$5.00 Don't delay. Send your check today to:**

**AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY**

**1120 Craig Road, Creve Coeur,  
Mo. 63141**

## *Especially For IRIS Lovers!*

**AIS membership brings you . . .**



**JOIN US NOW!**

\***What Every Iris Grower Should Know:** beautiful free handbook on all kinds of irises, their culture, color, awards and details of many AIS activities you can enjoy.

\***The Bulletin:** each quarterly issue packed with interesting helpful articles, variety reports, iris information.

\***Invitations to join letter robins;** choose from over 20 iris subjects; get to know irisarians in your own area, across the country, around the world.

\***All this plus local, regional, national meetings, garden tours, shows and much more For only \$5 a year.**

**The AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY**

**2315 Tower Grove Avenue**

**St. Louis, Missouri 63110**

## SAUNDERS HYBRID PEONIES

FOR GARDENS: Finest colors, particularly  
the brilliant salmon and coral pinks.

FOR HYBRIDISTS: Special Strains and Plants  
reserved for Breeders only.

**SILVIA SAUNDERS**

Clinton, New York 13323

---

## THE ROCKFORD PRESS



"Quality Printing Since 1883"

**PRINTERS — PUBLISHERS**

**GUARANTEED NEW and USED TYPEWRITERS  
and ADDING MACHINES**

Phone (419) 363-5971

Rockford, Ohio

---

## KAY SEE GARDEN MARKERS

**RUSTPROOF**

**WEATHERPROOF**

**PERMANENT**

All aluminum nameplate 2½x4" - takes three lines printing. Rolled top prevents cutting hands when setting. Bent back for easy reading. Stiff plate has matt finish, takes crayon, ink, paint or lacquer.

Heavy vinyl coated wire stem, offset to reduce turning. No rust, no corrosion from fertilizer or sprays. 16½" long, no bending or stooping to read.

Ideal for Peonies, Iris, Hemerocallis, Dahlias or other tall blooming flowers.

### PRICES POSTAGE PAID

1 Dozen \$2.95

25 for \$5.50

100 for \$17.50

Also packed bulk, 200 to carton @ \$16.00 per 100, transportation collect.

Send 25c for sample, deductible from orders of 100.

**Top O' The Ridge**

100 East 81st North

Kansas City, Missouri 64118

---

## PEONIES — IRISES HEMEROCALLIS

Send 50c for our 82nd Anniversary Catalog

(1967) 88 pages (all in color)

deductible from first order

**GILBERT H. WILD & SON, INC.**

Dept. APS-37

Sarcoie, Missouri 64862

**ANNUAL MEETING  
AND EXHIBITION**

**June 17, 18, 1967**

**Northland Center  
Detroit, Michigan**

**Peonies  
Officinalis Peonies  
Species and Hybrid Peonies  
Lutea Hybrid Tree Peonies  
Japanese Tree Peonies  
Tree Peony Seeds  
Free Peony List**

**ATHA GARDENS  
West Liberty, Ohio 43351**

---

**ADAMS PEONY SUPPORTS**

**--- MADE OF STRONG GALVANIZED WIRE ---**

After peonies have bloomed, supports can be removed and used for bushy late bloomers such as hardy asters, heliniums and mallows.

The weight that is developed as the plant grows is readily supported.

For such plants as Delphinium and Lark-Spur, we make wire flower supports and for long stake plants, wire plant props.

We also make wire trellises and wire fencing loops.

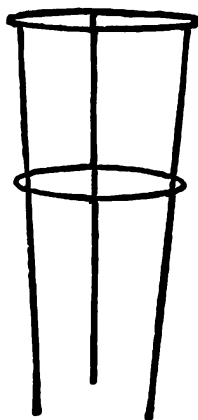
**BUY ADAMS KNOWN QUALITY**

Manufactured By

**THE ADAMS COMPANY**

**Box 269 -- Dubuque, Iowa 52001**

**ESTABLISHED 1883**



---

**CHERRY HILL STRAINS**

...have been grown for **MORE THAN THIRTY YEARS** and we have endeavored to maintain our **USUAL FINE QUALITY**.

Please send for our catalog listing the varieties we can furnish.

**Cherry Hill Nurseries**

**(THURLOWS & STRANGER, INC.)**

**West Newbury, Mass. 01985**

---

**WE PROGRESS TOGETHER**

People who get to work on a problem that is too big for any one of them, find out that it is not too big for all of them. They don't keep it confined to the people they know. That is the secret of an effective association. It must have an open door.

... Murray D. Lincoln

**THE CHALLENGE**

**Every Member Add A Member**

# THE BRAND PEONY FARMS

--- PEONIES, IRIS, FRENCH LILACS ---

Color Catalogue Sent On Request

FREE

## Brand Peony Farms

Box 36

Faribault, Minn. 55021

### New Tree Peony Introduction . . .

#### STOLEN HEAVEN

Enormous pure white — 11 inch flowers — Japanese full double with exquisite yellow center — fringed, wavy petals — five rows of large round petals — medium tall plant — variety of sheer refinement — best white in our gardens — only one to a customer — 3 year plant

**\$15.00**

---

Sale of Tree Peony Horticultural Master Pieces

20 year old magnificent specimens.

Special list on request.

Supply limited.

---

Have added several nice varieties to our collection — Send for free **COLOR** catalogue of peonies, listing hundreds of tree, herbaceous, hybrids and species — America's tree peony headquarters — home of Oriental Gold, the only true yellow herbaceous peony.

#### LOUIS SMIRNOW

85 Linden Lane, Glen Head P.O., Brookville, Long Island, N.Y. 11545

#### “THE BEST”

--- PEONIES, IRIS AND DAYLILIES ---

Free Price List

**Krekler Farms, Somerville, Ohio 45064**