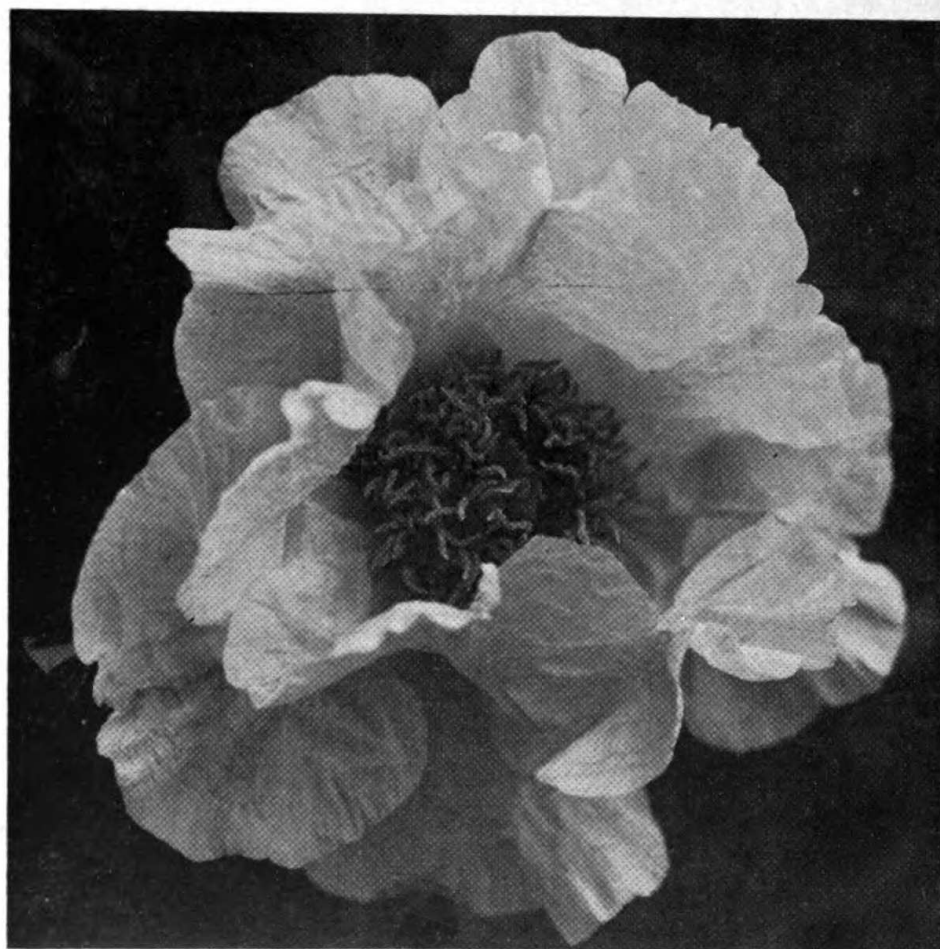


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American Peony Society Bulletin



DECEMBER, 1967 — NO. 187



"TRIA"

DAPHNIS HYBRID F1



AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

107 1/2 W. Main St.,
Van Wert, Ohio 45891
Area Code 419-232-0861

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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



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Cover Picture

"TRIA" We are indebted to Nassos Daphnis for this picture, Mr. Daphnis tells us this is a bright yellow flower, he has named Tri—Greek word meaning three. This Lutea Hybrid carries three buds on each stem which open in succession. See story on page 10.

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Catharine Carroll Pennell, Editor — Van Wert, Ohio 45891

A CALENDAR COMMITMENT

Friday, June 21st, Saturday, June 22nd and Sunday, June 23rd will be calendar dates we hope every member of the American Peony Society will have on their 1968 calendars, for this is when we are going to be in Milwaukee, Wisconsin!!

Reservations may be made at the Ramada Hotel, the Society Headquarters and banquet site. Detailed information about the Hotel and location relative to the Horticultural Domes will be given in the March 1968 Bulletin.

Marvin Karrels, Chairman of the 1968 Exhibition, has informed us that the location for the Exhibition will be one of the finest. Why? Because it is to be at the site of the **Horticultural Domes**, the sensation of the Horticultural World! The fourth Dome (the Temperate Climate House) has been completed.

Hundreds of individuals, scores of groups, and a few key companies combined their talents and knowledge and facilities to make possible the Mitchell Park complex.

The Greenhouse Center alone (North 104th street and Watertown Plank road) with its ten greenhouses, a complete laboratory, and a cold storage building provides the working and growing site for much of the plant material as well as for the annual plantings at all other Milwaukee County Parks, Mitchell Field (the County airport) and the Milwaukee County Zoological Park. Plants are under 75,000 square feet of glass at the Greenhouse Center, where scheduling is on a long term basis.

Each of the four Domes give the appearance of a "bee-hive" form rising at the center to a height of 87 feet. Mr. Karrels stated that the Park Commission told him that it is not uncommon to have 25,000 in attendance at a weekend. Many visitors are registered each week. Certainly with the beautiful background of ferns, green plantings should make this 63rd annual Peony Exhibition one of the most beautiful ever staged.

What a privilege to have the opportunity to exhibit your blooms. We cannot stress enough our request that as **many peony growers** as possible **exhibit blooms** this coming June, 1968.

Shipping instructions will be carried in our March Bulletin. More information about the Horticultural Domes will be also be carried in the March Bulletin as well as the Schedule for the Peony Exhibition.

-- 4 --

Fifth District Meets In Illinois

The meeting of the Fifth District of the American Peony Society was held October 22, 1967 at Lorenz's "Smart Country House" in Antioch, Illinois, with twenty-five members present.

According to the minutes of the Meeting it was voted to hold future meetings of the District the first Sunday in November. A highlight of the meeting was the showing of slides by Len Jugle, taken at the Chicago World Flower and Garden Show.

Prior to the annual Peony root auction which netted the Treasury \$52.50, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Wissing were re-elected president and secretary-treasurer.

Marvin Karrels reported that the National Show in 1968 will be held in the Horticultural Domes in Mitchell Park, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 22nd and 23rd, but that the Exhibition hall would be open all night of June 21st for those bringing in exhibits, both amateur and commercial. Mr. Karrels appealed for help in clerking, setting-up of

exhibits, handling of exhibits for those members shipping blooms and unable to personally attend. He outlined the importance of each member bringing in as many exhibits as possible and asked Sam Wissing to stage a Hybridizers Exhibit to help those interested in plant breeding.

To encourage the entrants in the Arrangement class, it was suggested that we give a first prize of \$25 in cash-second of \$15.00 and third prize of \$10.00 to be paid from our 5th District treasury. Mr. Karrels announced the banquet to be held at 7:00 p.m. the night of the 22nd of June to be followed by the annual Root Auction.

Candid camera shots were taken by Mr. Jugle during the meeting.



Marvin Karrels

**Member—Board of Directors APS
Chairman—1968 Peony Show**



Mrs. Hyde and Mrs. Flynn

**Mrs. Hertha Hyde and sister
attend District V 1967 Meeting.**

44th Annual NORTH DAKOTA PEONY SHOW

The complete report of the 44th annual North Dakota Peony Show, held June 24th and 25th, did not reach our desk in time for the September issue of the Bulletin, however, we are delighted to have the complete list of winners and express appreciation to Mrs. Wallace E. Anderson of Grand Forks, North Dakota, for sending it. This annual Show, held in Grand Forks, is sponsored by the North Dakota Peony Society, a member of the American Peony Society. General Chairman for the 1967 Show was Harold Thomforde of Crookston.

Classifications were as follows:

Group A—Amateur Classes. For amateurs who have not exhibited in the show before 1960 and who have not exhibited in Group B.

Group B — Advanced Amateur Classes which is for advanced amateurs, the classification of any exhibitor the fifth calendar year after he first enters competition—regardless of whether he has entered during the intervening years.

Group C—Garden flowers and arrangements—open only to home growers.

Traveling silver trophies, plus a small trophy which may be retained by the winners are given for the following:

Sweepstakes, given by the First National Bank of Grand Forks.

Founders Trophy, awarded by Mrs. Max B. Kannowski for the best bloom in Group A.

Robertson Cup, given by Mrs. Hugh Robertson for the best flower arrangement.

Grand Champion, the E. J. Lander Memorial Trophy, given by the E. J. Lander Co.

Garden Flower Sweepstakes Cup, given by Mr. and Mrs. Loyde C. Thompson.

The North Dakota Peony Society its purpose "To promote knowledge of peonies and develop interest in growing the better named of North Dakota's most

beautiful flower."

Mr. and Mrs. George Tollefson of Fargo, N.D., won both the grand champion and sweepstakes cups. The Tollefsons' also received Court of Honor Awards in the best light pink, best dark pink and best red peony classifications.

The complete list of award winners is as follows:

COURT OF HONOR

Mr. Geo. Tollefson—Best light pink —(Frances Mains)

John Eliason—Best White (Le-Cygne)

Ralph Rohde—Best flesh (La Lorraine)

Mr. Geo. Tollefson—Best dark pink (Ensign Moriarity)

Mr. Geo. Tollefson—Best red (Trumpeter)

Loyde Thompson—Best hybrid—(Red Charm)

Loyde Thompson—Best single (Dad)

Ralph Rohde—Best Japanese (Choc. Soldier)

GRAND CHAMPION

Mr. Geo. Tollefson (Frances Mains)

FOUNDERS TROPHY

Neal Holland (Pres. Wilson)

NEW EXHIBIT AWARD

Neal Holland (Pres. Wilson)

PEONY SWEEPSTAKES

Mr. Geo. Tollefson

Group A—Amateur Classes

CLASS I—One bloom, white

1st—John Eliason (LeCygne)

2nd—Mrs. T. W. Thorson

- (Festiva Maxima)
 3rd—Mrs. Vern Schainilec
 (Festiva Maxima)
 Honorable Mention — Mrs. Fold
 Pastrig (Festiva Maxima)
 CLASS III—One bloom, light pink
 1st—Neal Holland (Theresa)
 2nd—Mrs. Robert Stephens
 CLASS IV—One bloom, dark pink
 1st—Neal Holland (Mrs. Frank
 Beach)
 2nd—Tom Harig
 (Sarah Bernhardt)
 3rd—John Brenna
 (Sarah Bernhardt)
 CLASS V—One bloom, red
 1st—Mrs. W. R. Axtman (Kansas)
 2nd—Mrs. Gransberg
 (Carl Rosenfield)
 3rd—Debra Turnlund
 (June Giant)
 H.M.—Mrs. Fred Gjilsness
 CLASS VI—One bloom, hybrid, any
 color
 1st—Mrs. Charles Hvidsten
 2nd—John Eliason
 (Walter Mains)
 CLASS VII—One bloom, single, any
 color
 1st—Neal Holland
 (Sea Shell)
 2nd—Kim Turnlund
 (Pink Sprite)
 3rd—Debra Turnlund
 (Elfin)
 CLASS VIII—One bloom, Japanese
 any color
 1st—Neal Holland (Charm)
 2nd—Debra Turnlund (Sentinel)
 3rd—Kim Turnlund (Sentinel)
 CLASS IX—Three blooms, one va-
 riety, white
 1st—John Eliason (LeCygne)
 2nd—Neal Holland (Henry Sass)
 3rd—Mrs. Jack Lien
 (Festiva Maxima)
 CLASS XI—Three blooms, one var-
 iety, light pink
 1st—Neal Holland (Theresa)
 2nd—John Eliason (Sea Shell)
 CLASS XII—Three blooms, one var-
 iety, dark pink
 1st—Neal Holland (Mother Jo)
 2nd—Mrs. Pearl Bohnen
 3rd—Mrs. Gertrude Guntsburger
 CLASS XIII—Three blooms, one var-
 iety, red
 1st—Neal Holland (Highlight)
 2nd—Mrs. Guy Wright (Kansas)
 3rd—John Eliason
 (Ruth Elizabeth)
 CLASS XV—Six specimen blooms,
 any one named variety
 2nd—Mrs. Gransberg
 (Festiva Maxima)
Group B
Advanced Amateur Classes
 CLASS XVI—One bloom, white,
 named
 1st—Geo. Tollefson (Tokalon)
 2nd—Mrs. Stuart McDonald
 (Festiva Maxima)
 3rd—Mrs. Laura Attendorf
 (Mrs. J. V. Edlund)
 CLASS XVII—One bloom, flesh,
 named
 1st—Mrs. Wallace Anderson
 (LaLorraine)
 2nd—Effie Graham (Moonglow)
 3rd—Geo. Tollefson
 (Mattie Lafuge)
 CLASS XVIII—One bloom, light
 pink, named
 1st—Geo. Tollefson
 (Frances Maines)
 2nd—Anna Tronson (Mrs. FDR)
 3rd—Mrs. Wallace Anderson
 (Mrs. FDR)
 CLASS XIX—One bloom, dark pink,
 named
 1st—Geo. Tollefson
 (Ensign Moriarity)
 2nd—Mrs. Stuart McDonald
 (Blanche King)
 3rd—Ralph Rohde
 (H. Wigell)
 CLASS XX—One bloom, red, named
 1st—Geo. Tollefson (Kansas)
 2nd—Mrs. Wallace Anderson
 (Kansas)
 3rd—Mrs. Stuart McDonald
 (Kansas)
 CLASS XXI—One bloom, any color,
 hybrid, named

- 1st—Loyde Thompson (Dad)
2nd—Ralph Rohde (Gay Cavalier)
3rd—Mrs. Wallace Anderson
(Red Charm)
CLASS XXIII—One bloom, single
pink, named
1st—Mrs. Harold Thomforde
(Sparkling Star)
2nd—Mrs. Wallace Anderson
(Sea Shell)
3rd—Ralph Rohde
(Sea Shell)
CLASS XXIV—One bloom, single,
red, named
1st—Mr. and Mrs. Harold Thomp-
ford (Red Velvet)
2nd—Ralph Rohde
(Fortune Teller)
CLASS XXV—One bloom, Japanese,
white named
1st—Loyde Thompson (Carrara)
2nd—Mrs. Stuart McDonald
(Carrara)
3rd—Ralph Rohde
(Gert Allen)
CLASS XXVI—One bloom, Japa-
nese, pink, named
1st—Geo. Tollefson (Westerner)
2nd—Mrs. Wallace Anderson
(Ama-No-Sode)
3rd—Mr. and Mrs. Harold Thom-
forde (Sentinel)
CLASS XXVII—One bloom, Japa-
nese, red, named
1st—Mrs. Wallace Anderson
(Mikado)
2nd—Geo. Tollefson
(Nippon Beauty)
CLASS XXVIII—Three blooms, one
variety, white, named
1st—Geo. Tollefson
(Amalia Olson)
2nd—Mrs. Stuart McDonald
(Festiva Maxima)
3rd—Mrs. E. W. Johnson
(Festiva Maxima)
CLASS XXIX—Three blooms, one
variety, flesh, named
1st—Effie Graham (Moonglow)
2nd—Ralph Rohde (LaLorraine)
CLASS XXX—Three blooms, one
variety, light pink, named
1st—Geo. Tollefson
(Frances Mains)
2nd—Mrs. Wallace Anderson
(Mrs. FDR)
3rd—Mrs. Anna Tronson
(Mrs. FDR)
CLASS XXXI—Three blooms, one
variety, dark pink, named
1st—Geo. Tollefson
(Ensign Moriarity)
2nd—Ralph Rohde (H. Wigell)
3rd—Mrs. Anna Tronson
(Sarah Bernhardt)
CLASS XXXII—Three blooms, one
variety, red named
1st—Geo. Tollefson
(Ruth Elizabeth)
2nd—Ralph Rohde (Kansas)
3rd—Ida H. Lein (Kansas)
CLASS XXXIII—Three blooms, 1
variety, hybrid, any color,
named
1st—Ralph Rohde
(Gay Cavalier)
2nd—Geo. Tollefson
(Chocolate Soldier)
3rd—Mrs. Wallace Anderson
(Red Charm)
CLASS XXXIV—Three blooms, 1
variety, single, white, named
1st—Mrs. Wallace Anderson
(Marie Jacquin)
CLASS XXXV—Three blooms, 1
variety, single, pink, named
1st—Ralph Rohde (Sea Shell)
2nd—Loyde Thompson (Dorothea)
3rd—Mrs. Anna Tronson
(Sea Shell)
CLASS XXXVI—Three blooms, 1
variety, single, red named
1st—Ralph Rohde
(Fortune Teller)
CLASS XXXVII—Three blooms, 1
variety, Japanese, white,
named
1st—Ralph Rohde (Plainsman)
CLASS XXXVIII—Three blooms, 1
variety, Japanese, pink, named
1st—Geo. Tollefson (Westerner)
CLASS XXXIX—Three blooms, 1
variety, Japanese, red, named
1st—Geo. Tollefson

(Nippon Beauty)

CLASS XL—Collection of three double peonies, 3 different Varieties named

1st—Geo. Tollefson (Trumpeter, Frances Mains, Myrtle Gentry)

2nd—Mr. and Mrs. H. Thomforde (Red charm, June Giant, Kansas)

3rd—Ralph Rohde (Kansas, Mrs. FDR, Duches Nemours)

CLASS XLI—Collection of three hybrid peonies, 3 different varieties, named

1st—Ralph Rohde (Walter Mains, Red Charm, Red Red Rose)

2nd—Loyde Thompson (Dad, Carina, Red Charm)

CLASS XLIV—Collection of five double peonies, 5 different varieties, named

1st—Geo. Tollefson (Trumpeter, Moonstone, Amelia Olson, Helen Hayes, Gilbert Wild)

2nd—Mr. and Mrs. H. Thomforde (June Giant, Wilfred Johnson, Yukon, Queen of Hamburg, Laura Kelsey)

CLASS XLV—Collection of five hybrid, 5 different varieties, named

1st—Geo. Tollefson (Golden Glow, Crusader, Choc. Soldier, Diana Parks, Jean Bockstoe)

CLASS XLVI—Collection of five single, 5 different varieties, named

1st—Ralph Rohde (Fortune Teller, Sea Shell, Angelus, Crinkle White, Imperial Red)

CLASS XLVIII—Collection of 10 varieties, 1 bloom each named

1st—Geo. Tollefson (Helen Hayes, Mrs. FDR, Shaylers Dream, Ruth Elizabeth, Mary Brand, Bonanza, Marilla Beauty, Trumpeter, Oriental Gold, Kansas)

2nd—Ralph Rohde (Kansas, SB White, Sea Shell, Judy Becker, H. Wiegell, Mary Eddy

Jones, LaLarraine, Dutchess de Nemours, Plainsman, Mrs. FDR)

3rd—Mr. and Mrs. H. Thomforde (Silverstar, Red Velvet, Kansas, Red Cloud, Sentinel, Tempest, Mrs. Little, Festiva Maxima, Ed Flyn, Oklahoma)

CLASS XLIX—Collection of 15 varieties, 1 bloom each, named

1st—Geo. Tollefson (Inspecteur LaVergue, Jay Hawker, Mrs. J. V., Edhlund, Hansina Brand, Bonanza, Phillip Rivoire, Shaylors Dream, Trumpeter, Sarah Bernhardt, Alice Harding, Andrew Muehlle, Hifalutin, Helen Hayes, Mary Brand, Mrs. FDR)

2nd—Ralph Rohde (Sea Shell, Kansas, F Maxima, LaLarraine, S. White, S. Bernhardt, Wiegell, Oklahoma, Judy Becker, Hargrove Hudson, M. E. Jones, Mrs. FDR, Plainsman, Imperial Red, Dutchess de Nemours)

3rd—Mr. and Mrs. H. Thomforde (Burma, Red Velvet, Sentinel, Highlight, Queen of Homberg, Seedling, Alice Reed Bates, Ruth Elizabeth, Red Charm, Anne Bigger, White Eagle, Seedling of Sea Shell, F. Maxima, Marina, Big Ben)

CLASS LI—Seedling peony

1st—Mr. and Mrs. H. Thomforde
Mrs. Wallace E. Anderson,
Secretary-Treasurer

—o—

Man masters nature not by force but by understanding. This is why science has succeeded where magic failed: because it has looked for no spell to cast on nature.

. Joseph Bronowski

Introducing: NASSOS DAPHNIS

Nassos Daphnis, whose summer address is 11 Bangs Street, Provincetown, Mass., winters at 400 West 23 St., New York 10011, New York, has become a member of the American Peony Society. We all welcome Mr. Daphnis and extend our appreciation to Mr. William Gratwick, whose courtesy and encouragement has, we are sure, inspired this new relationship with the Society.

Mr. Daphnis and Mr. Gratwick are sharing with us the following excerpts from Mr. Daphnis recent contribution to the Tree Peony Hybridizers Round Robin.

"In 1938 Mrs. William Gratwick bought one of my paintings from an exhibition that I had in New York. The following spring I was invited to their place at Pavilion, New York for a couple of weeks. There was where I first saw a tree-peony and had the good fortune of meeting Bill (Mr. Gratwick.) My first impression on seeing the flower was one of an artist. How can I capture their beauty through the means I knew best, painting. For the next three years, till the year 1942 when I went to the army, I painted quite a few paintings in oils, pastels, and water colors. (A great number of these paintings are in the Gratwick collection.)

After the war was over, I came back. This time it was more interesting to create new flowers than to paint them as before. From 1946 to 1949 I did a lot of crosses, crossing Jap Moutan to Lutea. Both parents from these crosses were selected for their good qualities. Stem, color, form of the flower, substance of the petals and so on. To-day we have about 15-20 of this type of Lutea Hybrids—F1's which we think have a distinction of their own. We have already named 10 of them. "Tria" (one of the ten) was the first ~~to be~~ offered for sale in 1966. Tria (Greek means three and low flower (3rd plant)

to be crossed and is beautifully formed with strong stems. It carries 3 buds on each stem which open in succession. This way it extends its blooming season for at east 2 weeks from the first flower to the last. It blooms at the same time with the Moutans and is the last to go with the Lutea Hybrids. Next year we are putting two more on the market. (Hybrids-F1's) "ARTEMIS" is one (named after my daughter) with pure yellow and a very big flower, the other, called "GAUGUIN", the most exotic flower of them all. (The color is like the sun bursting in flames).

It took 20 years before these plants were ready to go on the market, eight years for the first blossom and twelve years to create enough stock. After 1949 for three years I was in Europe traveling and studying art and in 1953 the work began again. This time when I came back Mr Gratwick had most of Dr. Saunders hybrids (F1's) plus 2 F2's that Dr. Saunders managed to grow.

A F2 (Saunders No. 12788) and B F2 (Saunders No. 16718). Dr. Saunders thought at one time these F2's would be both fertile but they hadn't set seed in his nursery and at last he lost interest. But my interest was stimulated when I saw the plants and that they were 2nd generation so I started to investigate them. Of course my main concern was to overcome the sterility of the Lutea Hybrids. The first thing I did was to investigate the pollen. I found the pollen of both F2's was formed and fertile. Then with different diagrams I tried to find which

of the plants were closer related and possibly more comparable to each other. I found mainly through my intuition rather than the diagrams that the Lutea F1's will be the best to try even though they are sterile to about 99%, but not completely. I made a thorough investigation on about 50 Saunders F1's and I found that few of them have some grains of pollen that are fertile.

So in 1953 I used all the pollen that I could get on all the F1's. To my astonishment that fall I got 75 seeds. The following year there were 150 seeds. From these seeds we have about 100 plants of unusual vigor and flower. These are the Back Cross F1's (Daphnis BC F1's.) Now these plants are fertile. They can cross themselves, Moutans and they can be crossed by Moutans.

In my other letter I can explain all the possibilities and all the crosses that I have already obtained. From this kind of cross using the BC's we have about 200 plants growing now. The **first** ones will be in bloom next spring.

I have used colchicine in 1956 and

1957 on seedlings and on the buds. I could not find any significant change in the structure of the plants. I used different strengths of colchicine and found the strong solution killed the plant and the weaker solution did not alter the plant structure.

When the BC's were about 3-4 years old I noticed that the rate of growth and the vigorous stem and the oversized leaves were tremendous and very unusual and not like any other tree peony in the nursery. I'm sure that some of them are tetraploids and other polyploids. With this belief I used a herbaceous — Saunders, Moonrise — pollen on the same BC's. Miss Sylvia Saunders informs me that Moonrise is a tetraploid. From this cross I have two very nice plants which we believe to be crosses. Time will tell whether this is true or not.

I keep all the young plants in Provincetown till they are 3 Yrs. old and take them to Pavilion N.Y. to Mr. Gratwick's place. I can better nurse them here during their young difficult growth.

Peonies For Autumn Color

By W. A. Alexander

Peonies are almost always planted for the flowers they produce. The more sophisticated gardeners may be rather fussy about the type of peony, or the exact shade of pink or red they are getting, and sometimes specify the season of bloom, but almost never ask about other characteristics which may add to, or subtract from the overall satisfaction the plant will give. I refer to such things as vigor and ease of growing, abundance of bloom, height of plant, where the first leaves are found, strength of stems and color of foliage.

One characteristic I have become increasingly conscious of as I have gained experience is Autumn color



of foliage. Varieties vary in this respect almost as much as trees and shrubs of different species. There is also great variation in color of new growth in the spring. So, many varieties of peonies give us three seasons of pleasure in addition to their blooming time: the intriguing color of their new foliage before it turns to the green of summer; the trim, neat bush which can function as a small shrub all summer long; and

the attractive fall color which develops along with that of the maples, Euonymus, viburnums and other colorful trees and shrubs.

Few, if any, peonies develop the brilliant and flamboyant colors such as the red of the Euonymus, alata or flowering dogwood, and the bright yellow of the Norway maple. Peony foliage is generally softer shades, less striking and eye-catching perhaps, but none the less beautiful. And it persists longer than most trees and shrubs, often lasting until the foliage is killed by frost. The most common color among the varieties I have grown is a soft shade of medium red considerably diluted by yellow, producing a sort of pastel effect. The outstanding example of that color of foliage is ALICE HARDING—one more valuable characteristic of that grand variety. MILDRED MAY is almost as attractive.

Not all varieties develop color. Many just stay green, a characteristic we can't object to; others turn brown and dry up before frost, which may detract considerably from the appearance of the garden during the fall season. Unfortunately, many of the hybrids have this fault, but not all of them; some of the lobata hybrids stay green up until the last. But I know of no hybrids that develop any color. Some years ago I planted a row of seedlings (lactifloras) which in due course gave me a riot of color in flowers of all types, some fairly good ones. And the variation in fall foliage color was almost as great as plant and flower variation. It ran the gamut from light, clear yellow through reds and pinks softened with yellow to dark red-purples such as we often see in sweet gum leaves or the leaves of Viburnum carlcephalum. I was tempted to propagate some because of their attractive fall foliage color even though the flowers were no good. There is variation in tree peony foliage also, but in my limited exper-

ience, fewer seedlings develop attractive color. However, I know that some named varieties do have good fall color. Perhaps some of our tree peony friends can give us authentic information about this matter.

Some kinds (lactifloras) develop only a hint of color on the top leaves which have the greatest exposure to the sun, usually a red-purple like that mentioned above. Such color contrasting with the dark green gives a most attractive effect, but one that may be missed unless one is fairly observant. MATTIE LAFUZE is a variety which develops such color. My observations have been rather casual and I have not taken careful notes, but I remember the following varieties as developing more or less attractive color in varying degrees: FESTIVA MAXIMA, VICTORY, MYRTLE GENTRY, LILLIAN WILD, NANCY NICHOLS, MOONSTONE (not much color, but still another plus for this grand variety), CATHY ANN, PICO, PHYLLIS KELWAY, ALICE REED BATES, BREAK O' DAY, MIGHTY MO, HARRY L. SMITH and LOWELL THOMAS. The last named has a fine flower and unique foliage, but grows poorly for me.

No doubt there are many others, probably others in my own planting which I can not now recall. I intend to take precise notes in the future. I hope that other growers will give this matter serious attention so that we may build up a fund of exact information. No doubt there will be variations from one season to another in the development of fall color just as there is in trees and shrubs, caused by variations in temperatures and moisture. That we need to know more about. Attractive color in Autumn foliage is a bonus quality we get with some varieties. In my opinion, it is of sufficient value to be considered in choosing varieties, and to be a factor in any rating scheme we might develop.

GARDENS GALORE!

Mrs. Herman E. Emig, our Peony Personality in the September 1967 Bulletin wrote us that "If only people would invite others to see their peonies, the world would soon profit by it as **seeing is wanting!** Mrs. Emig has around seventy varieties in her garden and she noted that people really were thrilled to see them . . . "There aren't many peonies in Columbus, but from now on I'm sure there will be plenty of them," she wrote.

We are delighted to know that Mrs. Emig has recovered from her collapse in July and that by late October she had started again to further her gardening. While she is too modest to say so, we happen to know that there will be thousands of her plants blooming all over Ohio in 1968, for she has been most generous in sharing her plants with others.

If everyone, or even half of our membership would, if possible, open their gardens as Mrs. Emig has done in the past, how true it would be as she said, "the world would soon profit by it as seeing is wanting!"

Blessings on you Mrs. Emig and your fine husband who has been so understanding and appreciative of your appreciation of beauty! !

WICHITA FALLS COUNCIL FLORARAMA FLOWER SHOW

The annual Wichita Falls, Council Florarama Flower Show will be held April 20 and 21, 1968 in Wichita Falls, Texas. Mrs. Hal G. Mason is serving as Executive Chairman of the Show. The American Peony Society will again provide our Certificate of Merit awards in conjunction with the American Rose Society and the American Iris Society.

Binders Are Available

Are you interested in procuring a Binder for your APS Bulletins? We can obtain a multiple tailor-made binder to hold **16 issues** (4 yrs.) of our publication. The Binder is made of heavy weight virgin vinyl, electronically sealed over rigid board, equipped with a clear label holder extending $2\frac{3}{4}$ " high from the bottom of the backbone, round cornered, fitted with a 2" multiple mechanism and 16 thin wires. The front cover and backbone will be stamped or screened with the name of the Society in gold, silver or a color.

We must know how many of you would purchase the binder at \$3.50 each **before** we can enter into a commitment.

Please write us as soon as possible if you are interested in purchasing such a binder or binders for the number of replies will determine whether or not we will enter into an agreement with the Company offering to provide these for our members.

**1968 Exhibition
and Meeting**
Will Be Held In
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN
June 21st, 22nd, 23rd
Put These Dates On
Your Calendar!



TREE PEONIES

By Leo J. Armatys

In times of stress, search out a tranquil retreat. Almost any quiet garden is a made-to-order sanctuary. And remember, a tree peony grouping is the cornerstone of many a quiet garden.

FREDERICK CLAUDE STERN:

Christmas brought a major addition to my library: F. C. Stern's book, *A Study of the Genus Paeonia*. This is a big 11½ x 15" book with heavy, blue binding, dozens of detailed sketches of leaf and carpels, plus 15 beautiful full-page color plates by Lilian Snelling. Are you growing *P. Anomala* var. *Intermedia*? *P. Mlokozewitschi*? *P. Bakeri*? After reading Stern's book and viewing the color plates you'll want these and other species in your garden.

Publication was subsidized by the Royal Horticultural Society with the help of bequests from two members of the society. It is obvious that no expense was spared and no corners cut by the publishers. It is now out of print, available only from antiquarian booksellers.

With the death of Sir Frederick on July 10, 1967, the nerve center of *Genus Paeonia* moved closer to America. This is where the action is.

THINGS SCIENTIFIC:

Still far in the future, but no longer in the science-fiction category—tailor-made genes for plants are definitely possible. Discoveries made by molecular biologists in 1967 do point up difficulties faced by plant creators of the future. Chemical evidence now confirms the production of genetic messages in the cytoplasm outside the nucleus, as well as in the cell nucleus itself.

PAUL GAUGUIN:

Paul Gauguin was a pioneer of modern art. He left his native France for the South Seas to escape the burdens of civilization. Before his death in 1903, Gauguin turned the color corner. The effect on art and artists was prompt and predictable.

Gauguin used strong vivid colors, "hot" colors—the primary colors and their derivatives; unmixed colors wherever possible. His paintings weren't so much copies of life as they were lively creations.

Appreciation of Gauguin's works shows no signs of slackening. One sold for over \$300,000 in 1960. His *la Orana Maria* was reproduced on the January 1962 cover of *Popular Gardening*. Last October, McGraw-Hill featured Gauguin's paintings in its Color Slide Program of the Great Masters. Then, on November 21st, he was the subject of an hour-long CBS-TV Special. And now he has a worthy namesake!

Another GAUGUIN is waiting in the wings! There is reason to believe it will match the brilliance and serenity portrayed by the artist whose name it bears. We do know that GAUGUIN is a sturdy plant with multi-color blooms. It is one of the *Daphnis* hybrids—the great new race of tree peonies envisioned by William Gratwick years ago when he guided his plant breeding program into the F2 and F3 generations.



There Will Be Tree Peonies

By Anthony J. De Blasi

There is a growing number of members of the human race who believe that Man will one day be in full control of himself and of his environment. Prognosticators of the 21st Century tell us that there is enough afoot in genetics, ecology, communications, electronics, physics, au-

tomation, and many other fields to enable Man to assume an increasingly God-like role in His affairs.

The ominous predictions are backed by such breakthroughs (some of them theoretical — but these have an uncanny habit of materializing) as the creation of machines that can reproduce themselves; the creation of synthetic brain cells capable of “remembering” and performing “intelligent” functions; direct control of emotional and mental states through chemicals and radio waves; asexual reproduction of higher animals (this one’s not a theory!); ability to communicate instantly and directly to every point on the globe; ability to simulate future events and predict the future; and many other strange (and frightful) things.

Will there be no more room for mystery in the world? Will there be no work left for artists, poets, philosophers? Will the miracle and the magic of life crumble into humdrum routine knowledge, such as adding 2 and 2?

Doubt it! Similar predictions were made in the 18th Century, when it was believed that, since the basic laws of nature had been discovered, it would be a matter of time only that nature would reveal her last secret. Well, nature proved so unwilling to give up her secrets that at the turn of the 20th Century many laws of nature had to be changed. With the new way of looking at nature, did the number of unrevealed secrets decrease? No—they multiplied beyond calculation. But scientists are an opti-

mistic bunch. Not many years ago, it was reported that science was at last on the verge (measured in months) of “breaking” the genetic “code of life.” The way life was “put together” would now be in the palm of Man’s hand! Well, we’ve not heard much about that research since.

If science were to take up, item for item, the list of unexplained phenomena in the world — even putting aside its normal work — there would not be time enough in the universe for all the scientists of the present and the future, working around the clock, 365 days a year, to put a dent in that list!

Let’s face it. The scientific door to the truth about the world is only one of many doors. To the extent that the scientific journey extends Man’s knowledge, inspires his efforts toward a better and more fruitful existence, we have praise for travellers along this road. But those who follow the scientific path ignoring all other roads and acting, in fact, as though matters of the spirit, the heart, love, beauty, and humanity did not exist, must, in the end, accept defeat. For “the world is bigger than a bread-box,” and to date science has not been able to break the bread-box barrier.

So have no qualms about the 21st Century—there will still be tree peonies blooming at that time, perhaps some you have yourself planted. Hopefully our offspring will be there to enjoy them and continue humanity’s experience of the miracle, the mystery, the magic, and the joy of creation.

SOME ASIATIC PEONIES

(CONTINUED FROM VOL. III. p. 243)

By A. P. Saunders

There is a group of forms from Western China to which several specific names have been attached; but it looks as if they might all ready be variants of one species.

P. Veitchi was at first referred by Kew to **P. anomala**, but was later recognized by Lynch as distinct. Then came **P. Woodwardi**, which is certainly close to **P. Veitchi** and perhaps no more than a variety of that species. **P. Woodwardi** is different in colour, blooms a week or ten days earlier, and has its young shoots differently coloured. But later in the season the two plants are almost indistinguishable; and their compatibilities in cross-breeding experiments are, so far as I have gone, practically the same. **P. Woodwardi** is a much more attractive plant than **P. Veitchi**, mainly because the flowers of **Woodwardi** are of a charming rose-pink colour, whereas those of **Veitchi** are of a magentaish deep pink. Mr. Amos Perry, who has raised a large batch of seedlings of **Woodwardi**, tells me that it is extremely variable, yielding occasionally very beautiful and distinct forms. An American correspondent reports a white-flowered form as having appeared in a small group of seedlings.

The third plant in this group is **P. Beresowskyi**. This plant is found in the same general region as the two preceding, namely, the western borderland of China, between China and Tibet. Farrer found plants of this group in the mountains of that district, but did not distinguish between them. He speaks thus: "Sp. 67 (?**Beresowskyi**) abounds between 8000 and 9000 feet on the alps of Thundercrown and Satance—not a woodland plant but loving grassy,

my dells and glades on the open
... It is in my eyes a species of

singular charm and delightfulness; it has voluminous and lucent foliage and stems of 12 to 20 inches, carrying several flowers in all sorts of clear and clean tones of rosy pink, light or dark, with a golden eye of stamens, and so intoxicating a fragrance of roses that all the hill becomes a rose-garden blossom in May and June", (**English Rock Garden**, vol. ii., Appendix, p. 589). I notice that in the recently published book on the plant introductions of Reginald Farrer the Species No. 67 is referred to **P. Woodwardi**. I have had a plant under the name **P. Beresowskyi** in growth for several years, and last year it bloomed for the first time. In general character the plant is certainly very near to **Woodwardi**, and in the colour of the flower the two are also scarcely distinguishable; but **Beresowskyi** came into bloom about a week later than **Veitchi**, which would be nearly two weeks later than **Woodwardi**. This may, of course, have been due to the fact that the plant was blooming for the first time; yet I notice that in the early days of April, **Woodwardi** was shooting up strongly, whereas **Beresowskyi** had not yet appeared above ground.

Taken all together, I think the evidence suggests the existence here of a species which had not yet "settled down". Farrer's description indicates considerable variation in colour among the plants which he saw, and which we may presume were all of the same species; and this is confirmed by the experience of Mr. Amos Perry. But this is not all. Major Stern, in the article already mentioned, gives the height of **Veitchi** as about 40 inches, whereas **Woodwardi** is given as being about 1 foot high. Lynch's original description of **Veitchi** gives its

height as 2 feet, which is a very different matter from 40 inches. However, an article in the **Gardeners' Chronicle** for June 18, 1927, describes **Veitchi** as being 2-3 feet high. I have never seen any botanical description of **P. Woodwardi**, but, Major Woodward, who knew the type plant, said of it in a letter to E. H. Wilson: "It differs from **Veitchi** in that it flowers ten days to a fortnight earlier, is rosy pink, whereas **Veitchi** is a darker red, and the leaves of **Veitchi** are a shining green, those of **Woodwardi**, especially on some plants, being of a bronzy hue at first". He says nothing of any marked difference in height, which he could hardly have failed to mention if one of them had been three times as tall as the other, or even twice as tall. With me both plants are of the same height, namely, about 1 foot as they stand; but, as the stems are arching, their actual length would be from 1½ to 2 feet. Does not all the evidence point to the existence here of a group of plants of one species or of several, in which colour, stature and season are so variable that no sharp specific lines can be drawn? With regard to the fragrance of **Woodwardi**, so vividly described by Farrer, I must say that the plant as it grows with me has no noticeable odour; nor do I detect any smell in **Veitchi**, though it stands recorded (**The Garden**, vol. lxxiii., p. 542; 1909) that "owing to the peculiar smell possessed by the plant it is known in China by a native name which means 'stinking moutan'," i.e. stinking Peony. Perhaps, then, variable in odour as well as in stature and in colour.

Spread over parts of China and in Japan and in Korea is a group of forms, all at least related to each other, to which the following names have been attached:—

In Japan: **P. obovata** in its two forms, **rosea** and **alba**. **P. japonica**.

In Korea: **P. oreogeton**.

In Western China: **P. obovata alba**. and **P. Willmottiae**.

P. obovata is the native wild Peony of Japan, and occurs in both pink and white forms. Farrer says of the variety **alba**: "The Japanese **obovata** whose pearl-white goblets I remember above Shoji is a jewel quite outside any condemnation" (**Alpine and Bog Plants**, p. 53). I have not yet bloomed this plant, but I have seedlings coming on in various stages of maturity. Seeds of **P. obovata** may be had from Japanese seedsmen.

P. japonica (Miyabe and Takeda, **Gard Chron.**, 3rd ser., vol. xlviii, p. 366 1910).—This seems to be a renaming of **P. obovata alba**, the native white form of the Japanese wild Peony; while **P. oreogeton** (Baker and Moore, "Contributions to the Flora of N. China", **F. Linn. Soc.**, vol. xvii; 1880) appears also to be at least closely related to the same plant.

Coming now to Western China, we have two plants, or at least two names, **P. obovata** and **P. Willmottiae**. I have bloomed the former of these, and a most beautiful plant it is. My plants of this **obovata alba** came from Allgrove in England, who has continued the strain grown in Veitch's nursery and derived from seed sent home from Western China by the late William Purdom in 1909. The foliage of this plant is so distinct that, once seen, it could hardly thereafter be forgotten. The leaves are laid out with a peculiar flatness, and have a very handsome dull red-dish-bronzy colour; indeed, they look as if they might be of bronze. The flowers are of an absolute whiteness such as I know of in no other Peony; and the whole plant possesses a quality of distinction which casts my young Japanese plants quite in the shade.

P. Willmottiae ("Dr. Stapf in **Bot. Mag.**, vol. cxlii, T. 8667, made

P. Willmottiae a distinct species; he regarded **P. obovata**, Maxim, as its nearest ally"—communication from Kew).—Whether this plant is really distinct from the **P. obovata alba** from the same region can only be finally determined by observations on the two plants growing side by side. I have as yet no plants of **P. Willmottiae**. But the late E. H. Wilson, who knew Chinese and Japanese plants as few have known them, made to me the following statement regarding this group a few months before his death: "There is one species native to Japan, **P. obovata** and its white form **P. obovata alba**, which seems to be the same as **P. japonica**. There is also a Korean **P. obovata** which is larger and hairier (**P. oreogeton**). Then, in Western China, there is **P. Willmottiae** or **P. obovata alba**. I consider these two identical, but the plant is a very distinct species from the **P. obovata alba** in Japan. The plant from Western China is a larger and far superior plant."

It should be added that Fedde (*Repert. nov. spec. regni vegetab.*, 1913, pp. 319-320) gives **P. japonica** as a good species, distinct from **P. obovata alba**, while Matsumura (*Index plant, Jap.*) gives **oreogeton** as a synonym of **P. obovata**. And there the matter rests at present.

It is most desirable that all these plants should be brought together so that they may be studied side by side, not alone as to their visible characters, but also as to their behaviour in cross-fertilization experiments with other species.

We come now to a species native to Northern China and Siberia which has had a rather special history. This is **Paeonia albiflora**, also called **Paeonia sinensis**, the remote ancestor of that great race of garden plants which we call Chinese Peonies. What is one to say of such a plant? Once a modest wild flower,

it is now one of the glories of our spring gardens, a florist's flower grown by hundreds of acres in America, a fancier's specialty, and a plant of which tens of thousands of seedlings are raised every year in the hope of finding some new variation that will bring fame or profit to its originator.

It seems strange that this wild plant should have been capable, without, as I believe, any intercrossing with other species, of giving rise to the thousands of named varieties which cumber the lists of Peony specialists to-day. But it must be remembered that the plant was widely cultivated in China a thousand years ago and that when introduced into Europe about the beginning of the nineteenth century, it already existed in China in at least a hundred distinct varieties.

You in England do not specialize so much in the Chinese as we do in America. With us, besides its general use in gardens, it has become a very popular florist's flower, and the cut flower trade absorbs hundreds of thousands of Peony blooms every year. There is an immense demand for Peonies for the so-called Memorial Day trade. This falls on the 30th of May, and is a national holiday in commemoration of the men who fell in the civil war. Graves all over the country are then profusely decorated with flowers, and cut Peonies for that purpose are bought in enormous quantity.

But of the Chinese Peony as a cultivated plant I do not wish to speak. The primitive species should be my theme; but that plant is rare in cultivation, and I have never seen it in bloom. I believe that I now have it in my collection, and I presume it is not materially different from the many single-flowered plants which appear in a batch of seedling Chinese Peonies. Farther than that I cannot go at present.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK . . .

Delays in distribution distress your Editor more than anyone of you know and we want each and everyone to know how deeply we appreciate your understanding and loyalty. We certainly will try, with your help, to have the Bulletin in your mailbox earlier in 1968.

Our Bulletin is going out to hundreds of members in all states of the United States, the provinces of Canada and eighteen Foreign countries. Our Treasurer is making the plea that the first thing we can do is pay our dues promptly for as he states "Our Society is no different from the Church, the philanthropical and service organizations as well as the social bodies that we all support."

The Board of Directors and officers need to know how to plan and planning is based upon income and support that comes early in the fiscal year.

We are appealing to you not only to send in your membership dues, if you have not already done so, but to try to obtain one or two or more new members. Why not loan your Bulletin to a gardener who may note the interesting articles prepared by real peony growers.

Your Board of Directors are endeavoring to give your Society the place it so richly deserves, it being the oldest of like societies. We all know that the Peony is our most permanent perennial.

* * * *

Business meeting discussions have centered around the reports

of mounting costs including mailing. We are indebted to Mr. Fred Baltzell, publisher for his patient understanding of our challenging position, but we know too, that printing costs are going upward for him.

Consequently, the March Bulletin will contain a statement indicating a further discussion of dues at the 1968 annual meeting. Your Directors have been faced with this problem over the years. At the June meeting it was suggested that a man and wife might have a membership designed for them which would give the Society increased revenue. However, the voting privilege would be limited to the one address.

The affairs of your Society are in the hands of a Board of Directors who represent regional and area groups, making the Peony Society a representative organization.

Our office space, furniture (exception of one filing cabinet) and all utilities are being donated. The salary of the Secretary-Editor is the nominal sum of \$750 per year before deducts. With a growing membership and our desire to give you an even better Bulletin, including more pictures which many have requested, it is not feasible to assume that we cannot much longer ignore the possibility of coming to some decision regarding income. We welcome your suggestions that they may be placed before the Directors during their discussions.

JANUARY

What miracle of wierd transforming
Is this wild work of frost and light,
This glimpse of glory infinite?

—John Greenleaf Whittier

FEBRUARY

The February sunshine steeps your
boughs
And tints the buds and swells the
leaves within

—William Cullen Bryant

OUR READERS WRITE . . .

CANADA

Edmonton, Alberta

Keith F. Elcombe, 11539 — 78th Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, a new member of the American Peony Society, sent his request for membership through "Horticulture". He is interested in the Species and single Hybrids. Writing us this winter, Mr. Elcombe stated his garden was well covered with two ft. of very soft and white snow and the temperature—17 degrees below.

It is our hope that our associated members will write Mr. Elcombe and share with him your knowledge of the species and single hybrids.

* * * *

Province of Quebec

Ian C. Morgan, "Skunkhollow", 170 Senneville Road, Senneville, Quebec has become a new member of the American Peony Society and when sending his check for dues stated, "I am trying to continue the collections of my late father, F. Cleveland Morgan, who was a member of the Society."

We welcome Mr. Morgan and know those members who knew his late father, will be glad to know the collections will be continued.

* * * *

Sarnia, Ontario

Ralph Giff, 189 Cecil St., Sarnia, Ontario, wrote this about the problem he had been having with P. Reine Elizabeth and about which he submitted articles for past publications of the Bulletin. Mr. Giff stated he thinks he has conquered his problem and is submitting an article for the March Bulletin! He stated he has also instigated a rather bold experiment in Tree Peony grafting which, so far, appears very encouraging. He promises that if all goes well he will make an initial report in the early part of the coming summer, provided all goes well!

We wish him luck!

* * * *

ILLINOIS

Joseph A. Staudenbauer, 116 S. Owen Street, Mount Prospect, Illinois 60056 stated when enclosing his check for dues for 1968 and 1969 "—Our winter is mild and I am looking forward to an early spring. I feel great in the peony business after 48 years growing peonies as a commercial crop both in the south and the north. Our root business is good"

* * * *

NEW JERSEY

Mrs. John E. Ekmer, Jackie Drive, RD 1, Hackettstown, N.J. 07840 stated "Have tried many times over the years to grow peonies but without success, in different areas, and would be very happy to try again to see what happens. Thought I carried out instructions but evidently something wasn't done right."

Who will help Mrs. Ekmer?

* * * *

NEW YORK

Mrs. Hazel Rowley, 56 Jefferson St., Warsaw, N.Y. 14569 a new member of the American Peony Society, has become very much interested in peonies and is interested in conversing or corresponding with others in western New York area regarding varieties. Mrs. Rowley started with five varieties last fall.

* * * *

PENNSYLVANIA

We have two very interested lovers of Peonies living in Drums, Pennsylvania — Mrs. Michael Laycheck RD 2, Drums, Zip code 18222 and Mrs. Angeline Tarapsk RD 1, Edgewood Road, same city and zip code. Would our members living in that area like to contact these persons and perhaps they will appreciate the value to be gained by joining our Society!

Peonies Bloom In Salem

By William Bringe

The 1967 season was less than ideal. The tree peonies and hybrids bloomed well. Age of Gold again displayed its hybrid vigor. A plant procured from Mission Gardens four years ago produced more than forty tawny gold blossoms and was magnificent! **Hakushuden** and **Tana Fuyo** were also fine.

All the hybrids bloomed well. **Flame**, **Lovely Rose**, **Laura Magnuson**, **Diana Parks** and **Red Charm** were especially good.

Late frosts occurred after the hybrids bloomed. Temperatures of 24 degrees at night and 60 degrees during the day on several successive days raised havoc with the early and midseason varieties as most center buds were blasted, stems were short and crooked. The late bloomers, however, came through much better and made up for the dismal display of the earlier ones. The blooming date was the latest I can remember.

After all other peonies were gone **Tamate-Boku** and **Ann Cousins** put on a magnificent late, late show.

So now with the iris and tree peonies well mulched, I am glad to forget gardening chores for a few months. Next season, I am sure will be better. I am looking forward to meeting some of the fine people I read about in the Bulletin, when I attend the Milwaukee Meeting and Exhibition next June.

(Editor's comment: Mr. Bringe has sent us the following additional information regarding his use of Treflon herbicide in Peony and Perennial beds.)

For three years I have experimented in the use of Treflon for controlling or eliminating weeds in my perennial border and peony field and have formulated a method and rate of application which produces better

than 90% control of broad leaf weeds and annual grasses. Repeated applications have had no adverse effect on growth or bloom of any of the plants with which it has been used.

The initial application was made after thorough cultivation and removal of weeds. This was done when the stems were ten inches high so that hoeing or cultivation would not cut any unemerged stems, and the ground was leveled reasonably smooth with a rake.

The liquid form of Treflon was applied at the rate of one tablespoon of Treflon per gallon of water. As my planting is not extensive, I put this down with a sprinkling can, wetting the ground thoroughly so that water could be seen on the surface, but not so much as to cause puddling. After twenty-four hours the sprinklers were turned on and about an inch of water put down. A shallow tin can is a good gauge. This will carry the herbicide down three or four inches into the soil.

The solution is applied over the entire bed right up against the stems of the plants and over the crown. Shallow cultivation, no more than two inches, should be practiced. Deep cultivation will turn up untreated soil and thus necessitate another application which should be avoided, the object being to apply as little of the Treflon as will give good control.

One application will last an entire season. The following spring, after a good cultivation, the Treflon was again applied at the rate of two tablespoons per three gallons of water and again watered in with the sprinklers. This was effective for the entire year.

The following spring I again applied Treflon at the same rate with the same good results. Next spring I will not use any Treflon to see if the carry over from three applications will be effective for the fourth year.

This method gave about 90 percent control. I would hesitate to use more to try to approximate 100 per-

cent control as too much of a good thing might not be good.

Along with this method it would be good to practice good weed sanitation. Keep all near by weeds cut, especially those to windward to eliminate seeding. Use straw for mulch, as marsh hay might contain seeds and be a source of weed infection, so I found out. After using marsh hay one fall, I found weeds growing I had never seen before.

Plants in the borders included all the usual border perennials and a variety of annuals which were put in as bedding plants. Seeds will not germinate in treated soil. None of these plants were visibly adversely effected by the Treflon treatment.

(Note: Anyone wishing to write Mr. Bringe may address him as follows: William Bringe, 621 N. Youlon, W. Salem, Wisconsin 54669).

OBITUARIES

COL. SIR FREDERICK CLAUDE STERN O.B.E., M.C., F.L.S., V.M.H.

"Fred" Stern, as he is known to his innumerable friends, died on July 10 after a few days illness, aged 83. Only a fortnight previously he was at the flower show in London in the familiar wheel chair to which arthritis had condemned him for the last two years of his life. Thus he kept in touch to the last with the work of the Royal Horticultural Society which had been so dear to his heart all through his gardening life.

He was a member of the Garden Society almost from its inception in 1920 and in 1926 he succeeded Mr. Dykes as Honorary Secretary. It was very fitting that he should have received his Knighthood in 1956 "for services to Horticulture", so wrote the Hon. Lewis Palmer.

A reprint from the Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society tribute to Col. Sir Frederick C. Stern sent us by Mr. Louis Smirnow coupled with tributes from our own Society members will appear in the March issue in 1968.

We have written Lady Sybil Stern, his widow, regarding our having heard of her desire to carry on in her husband's work, and have extended to her the sympathy of the entire American Peony Society family.

The following letter from the late Mr. Stern directed to Mr. Leo J. Armatys, was sent us last spring by Mr. Armatys. It was our intention to reprint this letter, together with other information we were seeking, in one of our 1968 issues of the Bulletin.

26th, Feb. 1967

Dear Mr. Armatys,
re Rock's variety of *P. suffruticosa*

Thank you for your letter of 16th. Feb. I have found letters from the Arnold Arboretum about this Paeony.

The first letter is from Cleveland Morgan, head of Messrs. Henry Morgan of Montreal; a keen gardener and a good friend of mine. It is dated May 16th, 1938. He enclosed letters from W. H. Judd of the Arnold Arboretum. Morgan died some years ago.

The letters from W. H. Judd are as follows:

On 5th May 1938 he writes that

there are two sheets of the Paeony which was raised by Charles Sanders gardener to Prof Sargent and that it was not yet named.

On 6th May 1938 Judd writes that others who received the Paeony seed collected by Rock were the Royal Botanic Gardens of Kew and Edinburgh, the botanic Gardens of Berlin and Stockholm; also Prof. Saunders, T. A. Havemeyer, Lionel de Rothschild and Major Stern (myself).

Cleveland Morgan sent me one small plant in 1938 from Rock's seed; this is now growing in our garden here and is about 6 feet high.

The last letter on this subject is dated 6th. July 1938 from the Arnold Arboretum addressed to me, saying that our Paeony is different from the smaller Tree Paeony, named *P. suffruticas* var. *spontanea*. (Journal Arnold Arb.1:193,1920) which was collected by Purdom in Shensi. This letter to me is signed by Alfred Rehder.

I hope this will help you to find the records. My book 'A Study of the Genus *Paonia*' published in 1946 is long out of print. It is possible that a second-hand copy might be obtained from Messrs Quaritch, Grafton Street, London, W.1.

Yours sincerely,
Fred Stern

* * * *

COLBY

We were greatly concerned to receive word in October from Mrs. Glen Colby of her husband, Ken's serious illness. Mrs. Colby stated at that time that he was in a good hospital, good doctors and lots of friends and her wish at that time was that he could see the peonies bloom once more for he loved them so.

Then the last of December we received word that Mr. Colby died December 19th, the diagnosis, cancer of the liver. We have asked Mrs. Colby to write us a Memorium for

the Bulletin, to appear in the March issue.

Mrs. Colby was elected to membership on the Board of Directors of our Society at the 1967 annual meeting. Mr. Colby's pride was reflected in his appreciation of her election. Mrs. Colby has said she hopes to see us in June. Like Mrs. Stern, Mrs. Colby has said she "will carry on".

* * * *

E. H. LINS

Eugene H. Lins, Cologne, Minn., died suddenly Tues., Aug. 22, while working in his greenhouse at Cologne. Requiem Mass was offered Friday, August 25th at St. Bernard's Church and interment in St. Bernard's cemetery in Cologne. Pallbearers were his sons.



Eugene H. Lins

Mr. Lins was born May 13, 1894 in Shakopee, Minn., a son of Mr. and Mrs. Florentine Lins, nee August Kalish. His parents moved to Cologne when Mr. Lins was three years of age.

He was a graduate of the Minneapolis School of Business. At seven-

teen years of age, his father become paralyzed and he managed the Lins & Kocher Meat Market, Mr. Kocher being his brother-in-law. He retained an interest in this business until his death.

In 1920 he married Amanda Guetler. This year also he began growing peonies and gladioli as a hobby which later became Lins Glad and Peony Farm. He became nationally known as a hybridizer and originator of **over forty named peonies** as well as hundreds of gladiolus, many of them also having gained

national fame.

Mr. Lins was a long time member of the American Peony Society and was doing everything possible to assist your secretary in the advancement of public appreciation of the Peony flower but promoting the American Peony Society.

Surviving are his wife, Amanda, thirteen children and 30 grandchildren. It is our understanding the Lins Glad and Peony Farm will be carried on by his sons.

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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.

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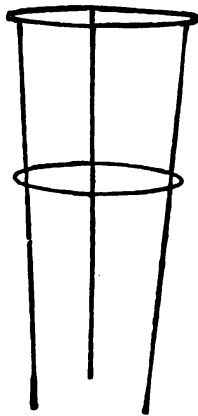
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