

American Peony Society Bulletin

AGRICULTURAL AND
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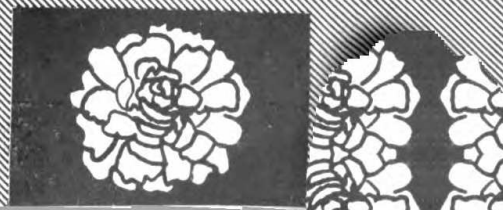


MARCH, 1968 — NO. 188



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A VAN LOON SEEDLING



AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

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

1967-1968 OFFICERS

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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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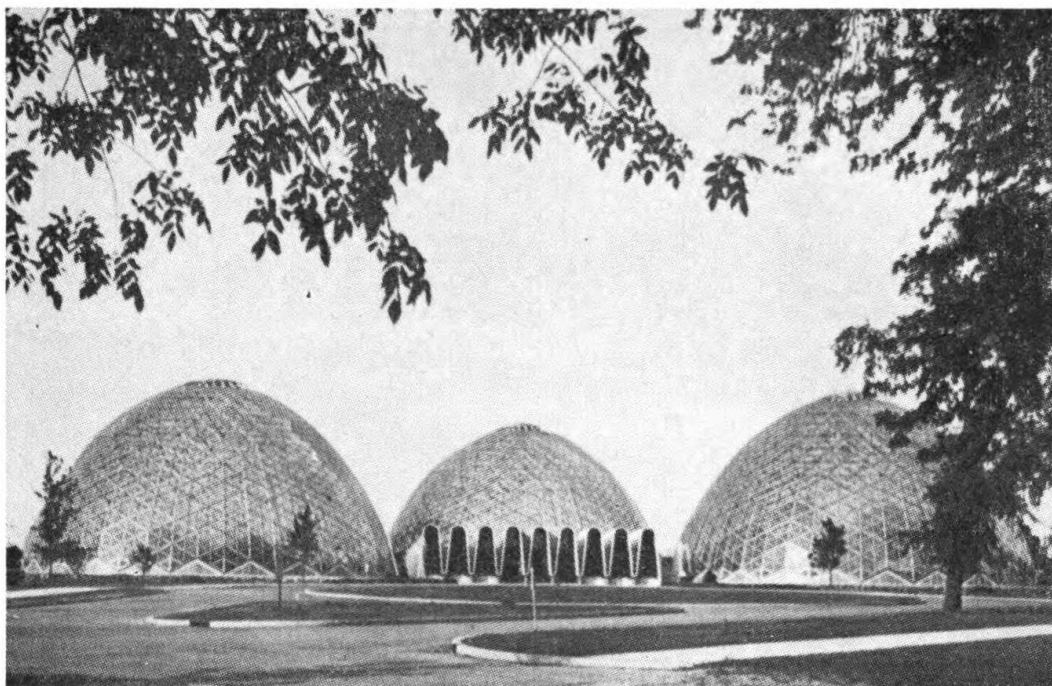
Published quarterly by the
AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

Entered as second class matter at the post office at
Van Wert, Ohio, 45891, September 8, 1964, under Act of March 3, 1879

Subscription to non-members \$5.00 per year.

Catharine Carroll Pennell, Editor — Van Wert, Ohio 45891

Mitchell Park Horticultural Domes



These Domes have been referred to as the Architectural Marvels of the Horticultural World. They are truly that in every sense of the word. They are marvels of construction techniques never before used. They are marvels of horticultural and plant material collections, and arrangement. There are three of these Domes, each 140 feet in diameter, and 80 feet high. Each of them contains a separate type of plants. The last Dome was just opened to the public in November of 1967. This contains plants growing in the arid regions of the world with the realistic environment of sand dunes and stone outcroppings of the desert. The settings of these Domes are laid out with turning and twisting, meandering cedar paths, often crossing miniature rustic bridges over trickling brooks,—Each turn of the path bringing into view a new vista of beauty. The internal beauty of these Domes has become a mecca for weddings. It was not unusual to have 10 or 15 wedding parties present at once, all wanting to have their weddings photographed amongst the beauty of these surroundings. This finally became a problem and the Park Commission had to prohibit nearly all except by special appointment. The Park Commission people tell me that it has not been uncommon to have more than 30,000 visitors on a week-end, with over a million during 1967. The guest register contains names of visitors from most states of the Union and also visitors from foreign countries. It is worth the trip just to come and to see these horticultural domes.

What an opportunity for the American Peony Society to publicize the peony! Never before to my knowledge has so unique an opportunity presented itself to us. Here we have the newness, the novelty of these Lomes bringing to our Peony Show an audience—yes, a captive audience of thousands who specifically have come to see beautiful flowers and plants. We have held shows in coliseums, shopping centers and, yes, even in church basements, but have we ever had the background and sur-

roundings of such lush beauty for our Show? I wish I could speak personally to each of you who grow named varieties of peonies to cut and bring even but six or a dozen of your specimen blooms. And especially I appeal to our commercial growers not to lose this opportunity to spread the gospel of the beauty of the peony. We have provided a special class in our schedule this year just for licensed nursery growers who sell peony roots and flowers. The Park Commission has consented to permit each such commercial exhibit to be identified by a placard placed in front of the display. This Show could be one of the most beautiful we have ever held. However, only flowers make a show—can we count on you?

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Mr. Marvin C. Karrels, Chairman of Arrangements for the 1968 Meeting and Show has kindly prepared the above information about the site of our 63rd Annual Peony Exhibition. What a wonderful opportunity for the membership! Who will be the first to assure Mr. Karrels in answer to his question concluding his article—"Can We Count on You?" by telling him—**You Can Count On Me!!**

COME TO MILWAUKEE IN JUNE

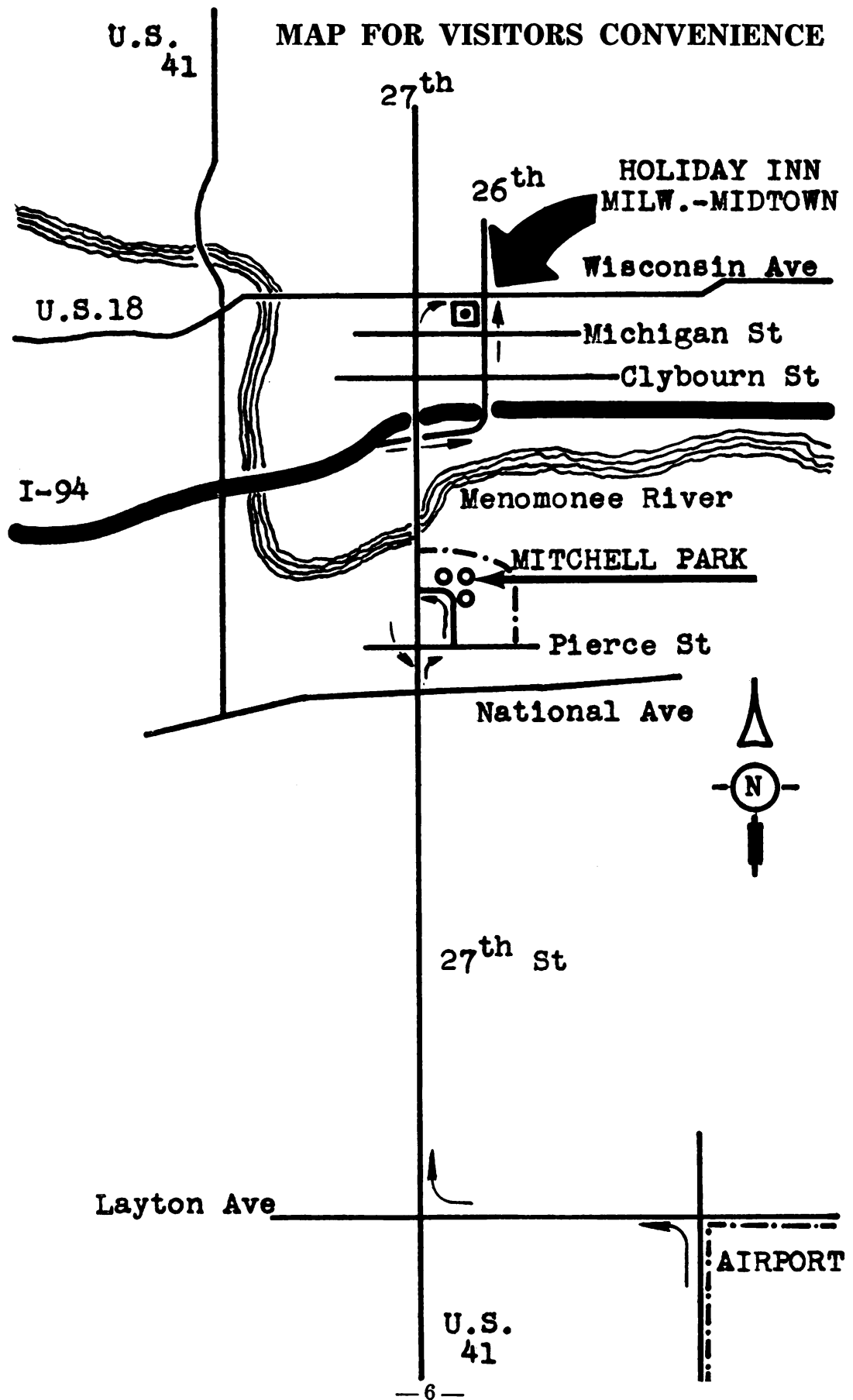


Meet Your Advertisers

Study The New Varieties Of Peonies



JUNE 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 1968



TRAVEL and ACCOMODATIONS INFORMATION

Both the headquarters motel and Mitchell Park are adjacent to 27th Street, one of Milwaukee's main north-south thoroughfares. The Banquet-headquarters motel is;

Holiday Inn of
Milwaukee-Midtown
2611 West Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233
(414) 344-7600

The entrance to the Domes area of Mitchell Park is on Pierce Street, about one-half block east of 27th Street. That entrance drive is one way northbound to the parking lot. The exit from the lot is one way westbound out onto 27th Street.

Traffic Directions:

If you plan on arriving in Milwaukee by car, the following basic directions will be of help. In using an oil company guide, or local directions, remember that your general goal is 27th Street, between Wisconsin Avenue and National Avenue.

From Chicago and the south, . . . Follow highway directions northbound on I-94 or U.S. 41 to 27th Street and continue north on it. From Madison and the west, . . . Using I-94, continue east into the city to the 26th Street exit, and then (one way) north on 26th to the motel at Wisconsin Avenue. If you use U.S. 18, travel east along Bluemound Road until it joins Wisconsin Avenue at roughly 42nd Street. Stay on Wisconsin eastbound to 27th Street.

From Green Bay and the north, . . . Follow U.S. 41 into the city, continuing with it as the highway becomes limited access off Lisbon Avenue. Use the Wisconsin Avenue exit and follow Wisconsin east to 27th.

Airplane Information:

If you travel by air, you will

arrive at General Mitchell Field south of Milwaukee. If you rent a car, turn right on leaving the Field to Layton Avenue, the northern boundry of the Airport. Turn left on Layton, following it west to 27th Street, and then proceed north.

Limousine Service:

Limousine service is available from the airport to downtown motels. The flat rate for the trip is \$1.25 per person.

Motel and Hotel Information:

Approximate rates per night at the Midtown Holiday Inn are \$14.00 for a double bed, single occupancy and \$18.00 for two double beds, double occupancy. Covered indoor parking is available at no extra charge. Reservations are recommended, and may be made through any Holiday Inn in your area.

Other accomodations in the headquarters area for your consideration are:

HYATT LODGE, 2301 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233, (414) 342-2500; Covered Parking, No dining Facilities, Single \$10.00, Double \$13, Twin Double \$15.00.

AMBASSADOR HOTEL, 2308 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233, (414) 342-8400; Outdoor Parking, Single \$7.50, Double \$10.00, Twin Double \$13.00.

Certainly you will want to make your lodging reservations as early as possible. It is also important that your reservations for the banquet be in Milwaukee well in advance of the Show. Tickets for the prime rib dinner are \$6.50 each, tax and gratuity included. Your reservations should be in the hands of Mr. Marv Karrels by Wednesday, June 18.

Mr. M. C. Karrels
3272 South 46th Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53219

1968 PEONY EXHIBITION

Mitchell Park Horticultural Domes
South 27th and West Pierce St.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.
and
SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M.

Sponsored by the Fifth District of the American Peony Society

Awards

American Peony Society Awards:

- A. A gold medal certificate in Class 1 and Class 59.
- B. Silver medal certificates in Classes 2 and 33.
- C. Rosettes in Classes 19 and 26, and to the outstanding entry in Division IV and to all Court of Honor flowers.
- 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 on entry tag are legible.
- E. First, second and third place ribbons will be given in classes

other than those in which certificates and rosettes 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 (Ohio) Foundation for the best entry in Class 1 (25 varieties).
- H. James Boyd Memorial Medal for most outstanding entry or entries in show.
- I. Arrangement Classes will be awarded cash prizes. See section in Schedule.

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 as to name. Gold Medal Certificate.
- Class 2. Fifteen varieties, any type; one bloom each in separate containers, each labeled as to name. Silver Medal Certificate.

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

- Class 3. Double white or flesh.
- Class 4. Double light pink.

Class 5. Double dark pink.

Class 6. Double red.

Class 7. Semi-double white.

Class 8. Semi-double other than white.

Class 9. Doubles, one each red, white and pink.

Class 10. Bomb type, any color.

Section C. Specimen Classes. One. Lactifloras only.

Class 11. Double white or flesh.

Class 12. Double light pink.

Class 13. Double dark pink.

Class 14. Double red.

Class 15. Semi-double white or flesh.

Class 16. Semi-double pink.

Class 17. Semi-double red.

Class 18. Bomb type, any color.

Section D. Japanese type lactifloras.

Class 19. Collection of five varieties, any color or colors. Separate containers.

Class 20. Three blooms of white, same variety; in one container.

Class 21. Three blooms of pink, same variety; in one container.

Class 22. Three blooms of red, same variety; in one container.

Class 23. Specimen bloom, white.

Class 24. Specimen bloom, pink.

Class 25. Specimen bloom, red.

Section E. Single type lactifloras.

Class 26. Collection of five varieties, any color or colors. Separate containers.

Class 27. Three blooms, white, same variety. One container.

Class 28. Three blooms, pink, same variety. One container.

Class 29. Three blooms, red, same variety. One container.

Class 30. Specimen bloom, white.

Class 31. Specimen bloom, pink.

Class 32. Specimen bloom, red.

Section F. Hybrids (inter-species crosses) and species except lactiflora and moutan.

Class 33. Collection of ten varieties, one bloom each, hybrids only. In separate containers, each one name-labeled.

Class 34. Collection of three species or varieties of species. Any type or color.

Class 35. Collection of three double varieties of hybrids.

Class 36. Collection of three semi-double varieties of hybrids.

Class 37. Collection of three single varieties of hybrids.

Class 38. Specimen bloom, double. Hybrid or species.

Class 39. Specimen bloom, semi-double. Hybrid or species.

Class 40. Specimen bloom, single. Hybrid or species.

Class 41. Specimen bloom, Japanese type. Hybrid or species.

Note: A class for three Japanese varieties will be created if needed. If there are sufficient entries, Class 40 will be subdivided into color classes.

Section G. Tree peonies.

Class 42. Collection of three varieties, any type, any color. Separate containers.

Class 43. Specimen bloom, any type, any 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. Hybrids permitted. Separate containers. Name labeling not mandatory, but advisable.

Class 45. Three double varieties, one each red, white and pink. One container.

Class 46. Three semi-double varieties, any color. One container.

Class 47. Three Japanese type varieties, any color. One container.

Class 48. Three Single varieties, any color. One container.

Class 49. Three varieties hybrids or species, any type any color. One container.

Section I. Specimens — one bloom. Lactifloras except as noted.

Class 50. Double white.

Class 51. Double pink.

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

DIVISION III—Seedlings and new varieties. Open to all.

Section J. 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 name, number or code. In one container.

Section K. Recent Introductions.

- Class 58. Three blooms in one container. Limited to varieties which have been named and registered by 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 which have won either award at a previous American Peony Society show are not eligible.

DIVISION IV. — Commercial growers—Licensed Nurserymen only.

Section L. Commercial Exhibit

- Class 59. Collection of not less than 25 nor more than 50 varieties, one bloom of each in separate containers, name labeled. Any type permitted.

Note: This class will be eligible to all special awards and for competition in Court of Honor. A placard giving name, address and location of nursery in front of exhibit is permitted. Placard limited to 9" x 14".

DIVISION V.—Visitors from out of State.

Section M. Collection.

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

Section N. Greatest distance.

- Class 61. Exhibitor from greatest distance. Must exhibit one or more blooms in this class, and state on entry tag distance from Milwaukee.

DIVISION VI—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 specimen classes. It shall be the duty of the judges to search the collections for outstanding flowers for the Court of Honor.

DIVISION VII — Arrangements.

Open to all.

Theme: "Dawn of Summer". Peonies, queen of flowers are appropriate for any room in a house for any architectural style or period. This has been true for centuries. Rules for exhibitors:

1. Any amateur arranger may enter.
2. Classes 62, 66 and 69 are limited in number of exhibitors allowed.
3. Building will be open at 7 a.m. Saturday, June 22, Exhibits must be in place by 11:30 a.m. and must be removed by 9 p.m. Sunday.

4. All containers and accessories should be marked with name and address of owner. The Show management will exercise all precautions possible in safe-guarding exhibits, but cannot assume responsibility for loss or damage.
5. Exhibitors may make only one entry in each 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.
9. Cash awards will be given as follows; \$25.00 for finest arrangement, \$15.00 for second, \$10.00 for third.

Class 62. "Young Moderns" — arrangement for a foyer of a modern apartment — contemporary style — bold and dramatic. Will be staged on pedestals. Five 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" — arrangement 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 a 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 featuring Japanese type peonies, other foliage permitted, also accessor-

ies. An arrangement of peonies with branches and/or foliage, to be staged on a pedestal 42" high, top 12" x 12". Five entries accepted.

Class 67. "Pairing Off" — arrangement for a buffet to be done in a pair of containers. 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 function or occasion of her table. For example: Lunch or Brunch for Bride Tea (to view the wedding gifts). Six entries, registration in advance.

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



NOTICE

Those who wish to ship flowers to be held in cold storage until Show day, address as follows:

C. C. Pollworth Co.
For Peony Show
802 N. Market St.
Milwaukee, Wis.

If you wish our Floor Committee to stage them for you, notify—

M. C. Karrels
3272 So. 46th St.
Milwaukee, Wis. 53219

State what classes you want them entered.

Rules

1. All entries must be completed and in place by 11:30 (Central Daylight Time) Saturday, June 22.
2. All entries except those in Division IV and VII must have been grown by the exhibitor.
3. Entry tags supplied by the Society must be filled out completely as to class, variety, name and address of 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 legibly 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 name. Completion of entry tags is the responsibility of the exhibitor or his agent. Entry tags may be obtained from the A.P.S. office prior to the Show or at the desk at Show time.
4. Stems should be approximately 16" long.
5. Exhibitors are limited to one entry in each of the following classes: 1, 2, 19, 26, 33, 44, 59, and 61. Two or more entries are permitted in all other classes, but there can be no duplication of varieties. For example: in Section B, Class 3, one could have one entry of Ann Cousins, Mary A. Nichols and Mattie Lafuze, and a second one made up of Alesia, Victory and Alice Harding. Or in section C, Class 14, one could not have two entries of Kansas, but could have multiple entries of Kansas, Tempest, Lowell Thomas, etc.
6. If there are three or more entries of the same variety in a class, the management may create separate variety classes if quality warrants.
7. All entries must be correctly named except in Division II (amateur) where failure to have correct name labels will not disqualify; however, having correct name will enhance the chances for a prize. Names are not required in Arrangement classes.
8. Standard containers furnished by the management must be used except for arrangements. The management will not be responsible for arrangement containers left after the Show.
9. The American Peony Society's Handbook will govern bloom types and color.
10. Awards and ribbons may be withheld at the discretion of the judges, and their decisions will be final.
11. The management reserves the right to reject for exhibit entries whose quality is not up to exhibition standards.
12. Utmost care will be exercised by the management in moving entries during the stagion of the Show, but it cannot be responsible for damage or loss.
13. Only the judges and the personnel necessary for the conduct of the Show will be admitted during the judging.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN HOTELS

1968 Headquarters for the Society will be the HOLIDAY INN and not the Ramada as announced in the December Bulletin. If you have made reservations at the Ramada, PLEASE exchange them to the HOLIDAY INN. This change will be more to your liking as it is located nearer the site of the Exhibition. The Banquet will be held in the HOLIDAY INN. See story regarding Reservations for the Banquet in another section of this Bulletin.

CASH AWARDS FOR ARRANGEMENTS

Honors to the Fifth District of the American Peony Society!! They are donating the money derived from their Root Auction held October 22nd, 1967, monies to be given as Cash Awards in the Arrangements Division of the Exhibition Schedule. The following prizes will be awarded the winners in the Finest Arrangement — First Prize - \$25.00; Second Prize - \$15.00; Third Prize - \$10.00.

Program

(All times are C.D.S.)

FRIDAY, JUNE 21st, 1968

12:00 noon - through Saturday, June 22nd: Prepare and place exhibits in the Show. (Building will have police protection all night) Remember to obtain Entry tags, These are available on request from the A.P.S. Office, 107½ W. Main, Van Wert, Ohio 45891 until June 7th (Last day to insure your receiving them in time, due to mailing) Entry tags will be available at the Secretary's desk in the Show room.

SATURDAY, JUNE 22nd, 1968

Continue placing entries to 11:30 a.m.

12:00 noon—Judging begins. All judges and clerks are requested to assemble immediately after entries close for an instruction period.

2:00 p.m.—Show open to public.

3:00 p.m.—Board of Directors Meeting.

6:30 p.m.—ANNUAL BANQUET—Holiday Inn, 2611 W. Wisconsin Avenue. Reservations required by June 19th, 1968. May be made with M. C. Karrels, 3272 South 46th St., Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53219. Banquet Speaker—Mr. John Voight, Superintendent of the Boerner Botanical Gardens, Whitnall Park.

Presentation of Awards and Annual Business Meeting will follow speaker. ROOT AUCTION will follow meeting.

10:00 p.m.—Show Room closes.

SUNDAY, JUNE 23rd, 1968

9:00 a.m.—Exhibition open to public.

10:00 a.m.—Meeting of Board of Directors.

2:00 p.m.—Bus Tour to Whitnall Park where, among other Horticultural attractions there is a fine planting of Herbaceous and Tree Peonies. Reservations for Tour must be made not later than Saturday noon, June 22nd, at Secretary's desk in Show room. Bus will be waiting in front of Show Building.

10:00 p.m.—Exhibition closes.

ALL RIBBONS WILL BE MAILED TO EXHIBITORS. It is requested that all entry tags with addresses as well as ribbons be left in place. Special awards will be removed after 9:00 p.m. An accurate and detailed report of the Exhibition depends on co-operation of Exhibitors in correctly and completely filling out entry tags.



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

The flowers appear on 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

John E. Voight - Banquet Speaker



Mr. John E. Voight, Director of the famous Boerner Botanical Gardens in Whitnall Park, Hales Corners, Wisconsin, who has graciously consented to be our banquet Speaker this year has an enviable reputation. A native Milwaukeean, Mr. Voight attended the University of Montana and the University of Wisconsin, majoring in Forestry. He is presently Director of the famous Boerner Botanical Gardens in Whitnall Park, including an 18-hole golf course, general park and parkway areas, a total of more than 3,755 acres.

Mr. Voight is past president of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboretums; active in many local and national horticultural organizations. He is a frequent lecturer on various garden

subjects, appearing before many Milwaukee, state and National horticultural groups. He makes regular radio and TV appearances presenting various educational phases of gardening. Mr. Voight is All-American Rose Selections official garden judge and All-America (annuals) official garden judge. He is presently president-at-large of the Herb Society of America.

We have learned he received the following 1967 AWARDS: Recipient of Presidential Citation of the National Council of State Garden Clubs; Citation from the Wisconsin State Federation of Garden Clubs in recognition of distinguished service; and the bronze medal from the Wisconsin State Federation of Garden Clubs in recognition of unusual work in horticulture and conservation.

Saunders Memorial Medal Now Ready



The A. P. Saunders Memorial Medal is now completed, according to word received recently from Miss Silvia Saunders of Clinton, New York. As was reported in the June 1965 issue of this Bulletin, it is to the thoughtful imagination of Mr. L. W. Cousins of London, Ontario, Canada, that we are indebted for the original suggestion of the medal in Dr. Saunders's memory. This was in 1953, shortly after his death.

At first it was thought that the award should be made "for a new hybrid peony" and a Committee was appointed, but because general knowledge and interest in hybrids were lacking at that time, the matter was allowed to drop and nothing was done. Recently however with the very active renewal of interest in, and knowledge about, the field of hybridizing (resulting in the formation of a "Round Robin" of six or eight specialists) the matter has once more been taken up.

As the passage of time allowed for more mature deliberation on this whole question, it became obvious that there have been a number of important contributions to advancement of peonies, other than the actual creation of a plant; and that the award might very suitably be given for one or more of these contributory factors. It seemed obvious too that the medal should not be given posthumously, since this would lead to unnecessary complications. These and other considerations are being incorporated into the Conditions of Award which should shortly be published.

At the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Society, held in Detroit in June 1967, it was voted that the specialist members of the Round Robin should make a recommendation to the Board, who would then make the award. It now seems likely that, barring unforeseen circumstances, a recommendation may be made, and the first medal awarded, some time within the year.

ATTENTION PLANT BREEDERS

Sam Wissing will have a special exhibit for the Plant Breeder featuring seedlings, species peonies, equipment necessary to do Plant Breeding and Hybrids showing species combined.

EXTENSIVE EXPANSION

Williamsburg historic area is undergoing an expansion plan that includes the historic Randolph House, racing in Market Square, Wetherburn's Tavern and colonial home of Sliversmith James Geddy in Duke of Gloucester Street, open for the first time this year.

An Apology to Reine Elizabeth

by Ralph H. Giff



To those of you who have interpreted the closing paragraph of my article on page 27 of Bulletin No. 178 as having "thrown the towel in the ring" I have news for you. The old boy has not been letting any grass grow under his feet, nor among the tree peonies, since that time and with encouraging results. However, before breaking into any discourse I suggest, provided your memory is as faulty as mine, your reviewing my articles Nos. 151, 168, 175 and 178. By so doing, you may more readily grasp the problem that has confronted me, thus getting it into better focus.

In the early spring of 1966 I detected among our herbaceous peonies, as well as the tree peonies, other than and in addition to Reine Elizabeth, bud deterioration in its early stage but identical to that which first made its appearance on Reine Elizabeth. This discovery surely shivered my timbers right down to the keel. I knew I was in trouble; yes, deep trouble. With complete disaster staring me right in the face I pulled up my boot straps and socks and stepped out with renewed determination to find the answer.

The area constituting our garden plot being only 60' X 70' dictated, and still continues to, floral culture being of an intensive nature rather than extensive. This meant, and still does, exposure to temptation to grow too much in too little an area. To add further complications there are seven black oak trees spaced along the seventy-foot run of our line fence and about three feet inside the lot; two black oaks about four feet outside the sixty-foot run of our line fence and, for good measure, two black oaks right in the middle of the sixty-foot by seventy-foot lot. In size all of the

eleven trees are far from midgets, the girth being three feet to three feet six inches and an approximate height of forty-five feet. The natural grade level having been low the builders added about one foot of soil—a mixture of clay and loam. Underneath this added top soil is red sand so poor, one would have to fertilize it to even make bricks. I know from experience it goes down twelve feet. If one chose to keep on digging deeper, one might establish a short route to China—red sand all the way.

Perhaps by now you are wondering why all the palaver about a sand and tree infested city lot. There is a reason. Over a period of years, with the use of a spade, plus many accompanying backache, I had by the early summer of 1966, thoroughly explored the area for reasons too numerous to mention and which only we gardeners understand—or do we? During those years of soil exploration the presence of roots and the awareness of their voraciousness did not register as firmly in my mind as should have been the case. It was not until the spring of 1967 that I really had my eyes opened. At that time I had occasion to spade a rather small area from which I had lifted some twenty or so tree peony grafts in the fall of 1966. It was then and there that I ran into a "mess" of oak roots that had wandered considerably beyond the circumference of the trees from which they had grown. One might say they were of a stoloniferous nature. This dis-

covery roused me to the realization that what I had considered reasonable feeding during previous years was falling far short of the mark, and that wandering roots along with porosity of the soil, were "grabbing" up a great percentage of nutriment before the peonies, lilies and other plant life had a chance to absorb their required needs.

Going back to the 1965 season a review of my records indicated that in early July, I applied one half pound of 20% superphosphate to each of all herbaceous and tree peonies and toward mid August one half pound per plant of 5-20-20. While these feedings were stabs in the dark, there was a noticeable improvement in the general health of the plants; but it seemed to end right there in that in the spring of 1966 flowering was absent insofar as Reine Elizabeth was concerned and very poor on other varieties.

Proceeding on the basis of "fools entering where angels fear to tread" and somewhat encouraged by the ray of light in the 1965 feeding I went at it with a vengeance in 1966. In mid-August I applied a 5-20-10 chemical fertilizer at the rate of a good-sized handful per plant. During the next two months I gave them two exceptionally heavy waterings. In that period a very perceptible improvement took place. Not being satisfied with this I added in November 1966 two pounds of bone meal per matured plant (don't adjust your bifocals, I said two pounds) and that's a lot of bone meal, and one pound to each small plant, the latter being young grafts.

Came the spring of 1967 and there were more flower buds and healthy foliage around the plantation than I had ever experienced. Some buds had such a luscious appearance the temptation to pluck, add cream and sugar (and you

know what) was hard to resist. As the latter portion of May approached the tree peonies really went to town, to the extent we had the best display of blooms ever before witnessed in our garden. Most marvelous of all was Reine Elizabeth! It stole the show. Even our original plant, the one that had not flowered for eight years, flowered; but was a little shy on quantity and quality size. One of the several blooms on a graft off the original Reine Elizabeth had size and form which excelled any Reine Elizabeth that ever graced our garden. Furthermore, two Japanese, Ubatama and Yachiyō Tsubaki, which were procured eight years ago as three-year olds, flowered in 1967 for the first time. More amazing still, these two are growing right under one of our largest oaks.

On November 30, 1967, I repeated the November 1966 feeding of 4-12-8, a very liberal handful to each plant.

As the 1967 season was approaching its end, our peonies had made a much better development than in 1966. This in my opinion prognosticates the optimum for the 1968 season.

Considering the general situation more specifically from the viewpoint of fertilizer, it would not come as a surprise if someone asked the question, "Why did this peony disturber not analyze his soil in the first place?" I would feel justified in countering with the question, "What scientific progress could be derived from that?" To my way of thinking, the first step is to determine the essential requirements of such plant life as may be under consideration. When this is accomplished, then study the soil with the view of making sure its chemical characteristics are capable of supplying the essentialities of whatever plant life may be involved. Other than this, it is not the pur-

pose of the article to elaborate upon what would be involved in setting up the *modus operandi* to determine scientifically the cardinal requirements of peonies in relation to the fundamental principles of horticulture, namely: air, food, heat, light, and moisture. As for myself, life expectancy is wearing rather thin, leaving me with no choice but to keep plodding along as I have been doing, i.e. on the trial and error basis

While the experience I have stumbled into during the last two years might justify one's taking a second look at bone meal, yet, so far, I have not proven anything.

Comparing bone meal with chemicals such as nitrogen, phosphate and potash, the bone meal has a characteristic worthy of serious consideration, namely, its relative insolubility, or, shall we say, slow-

ness in disintegrating. This slow release of nutriment gives plant life an opportunity to capture a fair portion of food values; particularly in porous soil before voracious tree roots or other hungry elements "clean the platter off with their boarding house reach." Another angle to consider is potash which, to the best of my knowledge, is a very essential element for peony root growth; but as to the quantity and frequency of application, is something I am particularly desirous of learning. It can be a very destructive element where extreme caution in its use is ignored.

In conclusion, permit me to respectfully emphasize that the foregoing is not to be construed in any manner as expressing or implying a proven achievement. You may take it over from this point, but, keep in mind, you are on your own.

PEONIES IN KOZELKA GARDEN



Peonies are among the most dependable flowering plants for the perennial garden. Peonies are practically a permanent perennial and foliage does provide Autumn Color (see W. A. Alexander's story—Page 11, December 1967 Bulletin No. 187.

SPRING AGAIN

By Anthony J. De Blasi

The sun smiles longer now and
The earth grows warm and fragrant
From mists that issue from unseen crevices;
Winter's rigid structures are demolished
As a million microscopic miracles
Buzz through earth's rich mantle.

The air joins hands with earth and sun
To spread the information of returning spring,
In gentle, rhythmic ways,
Over swelling buds and wakening creatures,
And one by one dissolves each inhibition
Of earth to smile back at the sun.

The myriad rivulets of fresh beginnings
Combine to form a stream of happy sounds
That rise in lyric spirals
Toward the sky;
Caught in the enveloping fever,
From atop a giant oak doused in sunset,
A robin adds his song of joy.



My lyrical mood is occasioned not only by the return of spring but by the fact that I am about to be married. Janet and I are planning to have the wedding bells ring for us on June 8.

We wish everyone the best peony season ever and happiness throughout the year.

Editor's Reply

Speaking for the membership of the American Peony Society, may we wish you, Anthony, and Janet, happiness throughout your married life — Our Best Wishes and Congratulations to you both!! We hope you are planning a trip westward with Milwaukee, Wisconsin on the itinerary, June 21st, 22nd and 23rd.

— 19 —



TREE PEONIES

By Leo J. Armatys

It's time to rouse the gardening Rip Van Winkles. Imagine their reaction to the latest Moutan generation! This long lived, woody stemmed shrub puts on the most awe inspiring performance of all peonies.

Popularity Poll:

Paeonia suffruticosa ranked fourth most popular among 176 varieties included in last years seed distribution of the American Horticultural Society. It is missing from their 1968 list. The Royal Horticultural Society seed distribution list usually includes *p.suffruticosa*, *lutea*, *delavay* and *ludlowi*. The demand still exceeds the supply.

Planting Time:

Growers are unanimous in recommending fall planting. Last winter I heard from a gentleman in Kansas City who said his fall planted tree peonies seldom survived; that all of his spring planted "department store" grafts lived and thrived. (? ? ?)

"100 Colored Photos":

I checked Louis Smirnow's latest catalog, and it's true! One Hundred tree peonies illustrated in full color! He also lists many herbaceous peonies, most of the species, and whatever new kinds he can get his hands on from around the world.

Last fall he promptly sold out (at \$100 each) a small supply of yellow double herbaceous peonies that resulted from a cross of *lutea* hybrid ALICE HARDING onto a white herbaceous peony. I persuaded a friend to buy one. I hope to find out just how good a friend she is during the fall dividing season.

Growing Guide

A recurring and well-founded complaint is that there are too many glowing descriptions, too little down-to-earth help for gardeners who want to grow tree peonies.

A contemporary specialist is quoted as saying he just tosses his grafts in the ground and watches them grow. Others sense the need for something more than ordinary care.

I've learned a lot by trial and error. For example: When you plant a tree peony in a windswept spot, you won't like the result unless you are a bonsai enthusiast. Plant one in the hottest corner of your garden and you'll soon see the need for a bit of shade. Plant one in a low spot without good, sharp drainage and you may see it fade away. If you dig up a big plant (as I did HATSU HINODE last fall) to see why it no longer prospers, you may see a tangled, twisted mass of roots taking turns strangling each other. If so, you won't forget to see that roots of future plantings are nicely spread on a prepared mound in a good sized hole, and with reasonably soft soil on all sides.

The specialists tell us to plant tree peonies four, five or even six feet apart. Most of us start with a three foot spacing, which is fine for the first year or so. Then comes the crowding problem.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK . . .

Hurricanes, tornadoes, floods and snowstorms—some of record proportions—highlighted the nation's weather in 1967, according to the Environmental Science Services administration (ESSA) of the U.S. department of commerce.

But the weather wasn't all bad. Records kept by the weather bureau and the environmental data service, two ESSA components, also show that drought conditions in the country's west and northeast were considerably eased and rainfall was generally adequate for agriculture.

However, the report continues with reports of coastal storms dumping 16 to 18 inches of snow from eastern Maryland to southern New England—a 12 to 18 inch show blanketing coastal Maine and even in April, heavy snows occurred in northern areas east of the Rockies. We regret we do not have room to print the entire report. But that was 1967. Let us now keep our records for 1968 and hear from those members living in different parts of the country as well as our members in other countries. Write us about our practically permanent perennial—the Peony—and weather conditions that may have affected the blooming season.

* * * *

How many of you are keeping a Peony Notebook? We were delighted to hear from Mrs. S. R. Derby, P.O. Box 307, Bunker Hill, Ind. 46914, that she places the old membership card in hers and carries the current one in her purse. Mrs. Derby's fern-leafed peony opened up its first bloom of the season April 21st, last year and she counted 19 buds in all, it being the second season of blooming for her. The year before (1966) it opened for the first time May 6th. We wonder—when will it open this year—1968?

Everyone will be glad to learn Art Murawska is home from the hospital and doing well. His telephone calls are a bright spot at the end of what has been a hectic day. His "Black Swan" is one we will all want in our gardens according to Art's enthusiastic reports. See Department of Registration in this issue for description.

February 12th was a "red letter" day also when we received a letter from Sam Wissing stating "...I just came out of the Hospital . . . now for the bright side . . . all is well . . . mine is good . . . flesh is weak, but soon spring will be around the corner and then the joy of looking in the seedling beds for some new reward for my breeding effort!"

Mr. Wissing further stated, "I have been putting in a lot of time with making markers to identify each exhibit in the seedling exhibit, so we show both parents pot and pollen, and then show the F₁ progeny. These markers 4"x6" will show the specie, the chromosome count, and any other information we believe may get some people interested in breeding."

This exhibit as prepared by Mr. Wissing for the Annual Meeting and Peony Exhibition promises to be an outstanding one.

* * * *

We deeply regret hearing that Mr. William Gratwick, Pavilion, New York, suffered a slight heart attack about the middle of February and will not be able to do very much for three months or so.

Nassos Dahpnis states it is very difficult to say if any of them will be able to attend the Show this year. All of our best wishes for a speedy recovery, Mr. Gratwick! May you be well enough to have your annual Festival this year as well as

spend a couple of days with us in Milwaukee.

* * * *

We had a most welcome and recent surprise visit from Mr. Thomas S. Chambers, 2666 East 73rd Street, Chicago, Ill. 60649 who stated he was looking forward to resuming an active interest in peony culture.

Perhaps many of you would have known his father Alfred H. Chambers who was a friend and informal collaborator of Bertrand Farr, Reading, Pa., in the importation of Japanese peonies.

Mr. Chambers stated a relative also grew peonies in a Nursery, the Rosewood Nursery at Unionville, Chester County, Pa. He further stated he recalled having attended as a child, American Peony Society exhibits in the east.

We do hope those of you living in his vicinity will cultivate Mr. Chambers acquaintance and urge him to attend the Annual Meeting and Exhibition in Milwaukee, Wis., in June!

* * * *

IMPORTANT CHANGE IN HEADQUARTERS

Please make note of the change of Hotels for Headquarters and Banquet this year. Since publication of the December Bulletin, this has been **changed** from the Ramada to the **Holiday Inn**. This change will benefit everyone as the location is closer to the Horticultural Domes where the Exhibition will be held.

* * * *

"Peony Personalities", a featured article regarding members giving outstanding contribution in the field of Paeonia culture, has not been discontinued! Lack of space is the only reason and we hope you will look forward with anticipation and surprise to forthcoming issues.

* * * *

Proposed changes in the by-laws will again be discussed at the 1968

meeting of the Boards of Directors, including retiring and new members. This will be with regard to proposed changes in membership dues and privileges. Many suggestions have been forthcoming. If you have any suggestion, please write us immediately.

All organizations are being faced with this problem. Our American Peony Society is no exception.

* * * *

Pride in the heritage passed down from the splendid beginnings of this Society (the oldest of like Societies should stimulate the desire in each and every one of us to put the best solution forward for the benefit of all. An old saying comes to mind, however—"Pride goeth before a fall".

Instead of pride—let us substitute Challenge in the heritage and each do our part in challenging gardeners to explore the benefits to be derived by planting peonies in their gardens.

* * * *

PEONIES WILL BE PLANTED

According to an interview by Richard DeLano, Horticulturist, University of Illinois Extension service, with Francis deVos, Director of the Chicago Botanic Garden, perennials and bulbs for quick color and lasting interest will be planted. "A collection of peonies can be established so that gardeners could pick the best varieties for their garden. Mr. deVos further stated — "Peonies would be a particularly suitable subject, since the peony centers of the nation are probably at Arlington Heights and Elk Grove Village."

* * * *

PEONY PLANTINGS ENCOURAGED

We are delighted with the response of University Departments of Agriculture to our reminder of the importance of encouraging peony

plantings. Benton K. Bristol, Associate Professor, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois, has sent us the first four issues of Ornamental Horticulture - Leads - Information Suggestions. Page 4 of the Volume 1, Number 3, October issue refers

to our organization. Better than three-fourths of the page is devoted to information about our Society.

This publication was sent to a select group of some fifty agriculture instructors in Illinois.

OUR READERS WRITE . . .

INDIANA

James W. Wyrick, 5600 Clinton Rd., Terre Haute, Indiana 47805: wrote when renewing his membership for 1968 "I wrote you last year in regards to planting peony seed. You published my letter and I received some nice letters and instructions from members. Thought you would like to know I gathered several seed from my best peonies and planted them last fall. Will let you know what happens if we both live long enough. I have 420 peonies now and have plans for 500 by fall of this year. I also grow gladiolas. Have about 5000 for this year.

Would you or any members know if there is a Gladiolas society similar to the Peony Society? I have an old address but my letters have been returned. Have enjoyed the Peony Bulletin so much — thought I would like to join that Society too.

ILLINOIS

Clarence A Sutter, 603 Homestead St., Peoria, Ill., 61603; states "Hope to make it to the Milwaukee Show in June. So far I have not participated in one so this should be fun. Will you please inform me how to preserve the blooms from blooming time until show time so the blooms will not lose their natural beauty? I am eagerly looking forward to the growing season but since we have not had too much cold weather this year I wonder what it will do for plant growth and blooms.

WISCONSIN

Mrs. Fred E. Gustin, 1425 Illinois St., Stevens Point, Wis. 54481: "I was so happy to learn that the annual Peony Show will be in Milwaukee this year. In my Christmas letters I announced it to all my friends and I hope many of them can get there. I plan on attending . . . Last summer was cool and peonies were nice. Here at Sandy Point, mine were small, the soil is sandy and they didn't get enough cultivation and enough bone meal and water but they were beautiful anyhow. The early ones **were** early and a couple plants were very late so I had flowers for many weeks.

MASSACHUSETTS

Marinus Vander Pol, Washington Street, Rte. 6, Fairhaven, Mass. 02719; wrote "For several years now we have been rather inactive. Our son, Jr., attended Stockbridge at the University of Massachusetts and after graduation served for two years in the military service, serving with the 196th in Vietnam. His return July 18th last and his joining us in the Nursery business stimulated our efforts already, although we continued to support the New England Flower Shows in token fashion. We are now preparing an exhibit which we hope will show tree Peonies in March indoors at their best. Among those being prepared for forcing are several large specimens of Argosy, Narcissus, Shu Jaku Mon, Howsan, Tamat Fujo,

Ubatama, several smaller plants of Godaishu and selected seedlings.

"This group of tree peonies will be entered in a separated setting and augmented with Oriental growth. In addition we hope to have Clematis shown in their various adaptations, including perennial types, ground cover and vining varieties. This spring flower show is sponsored by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and will be held at Norfolk Downs about the middle of March and be open for 10 days."

IOWA

Gary P. Seaman, 5515 Fleur Dr., Des Moines, Iowa 50315, stated when informing us of the change of address; "I have been most fortunate to have worked for William Gratwick for the last 10 years. I was not an avid Tree Peony fan until about 5 years ago, when I started my own hybridizing and grafting project. As you know success is slow in this field, but I have been inspired by people such as Silvia Saunders and Nassos Daphnis who came twice a year to Mr. Gratwick's place to carry on his work. By the generosity of Mr. Gratwick I have acquired a very good collection of tree Peonies. I have all the Gratwick introductions and the best of the Jap and Saunders Hybrids, about 70 varieties. This fall I will begin to propagate the Daphnis introductions."

KANSAS

Mrs. Fannie B. Tharp, Edgetown Manor, Rte. 3, Winfield, Kans. 67156; wrote us that the peonies that were planted just outside her door began peeping up the last of February but have had freezing nights early every night and they don't grow very fast . . . Sent a few roots to California to a girl for an experiment. She was to keep me informed as to their action. Said she had 6 nice little sprouts showing

up early in February. Thanks for my lovely peony napkins. They came in plenty of time for my party. I only used half of them. Will use the rest in peony time."

Mrs. Tharp's mail is now directed to her in care of Mr. and Mrs. John T. Tharp, R.R. 2, Winfield, Kans., as her wish is to share the Bulletins with them.

NEBRASKA

Leo J. Armatys, Central City, Nebraska wrote "Spring is coming early here in Nebraska. I've had spring fever for several weeks, and so have my southern-exposure plants."

OHIO

Eugene D. Tremmel, 5613 Wallings Rd., North Royalton, Ohio 44133, a new member stated "About ten years ago I purchased a fern leaf peony from a local Garden Center, now out of business. The woman said that it was a "poppy flowered peony". I would like to have it identified, if possible. It blooms early May and is about 18 inches in height. The bloom is single and is rose pink which fades, and the substance is poor. I divided it last fall to five starts to some members of the local Iris Society. I plan to take some photographs of it this spring.

Are there any members of the Peony Society in this area? I would like to buy a number of new peonies this Fall, but would like to see them before buying. I do plan to go to Kingwood Center in Mansfield this Spring, so will see some there. Any information will be welcome."

MICHIGAN

Paul Ravet, R1-Box 355, Menominee, Mich. 49858, wrote us when enclosing his membership dues as a new member—"I am a very personal friend of Dr. David Reath of Vulcan, Michigan, from whom I have been purchasing many won-

derful peonies for the past several years. He has many of Auten varieties and unnamed seedlings, many of his own and now has a large planting just put in last fall from the Saunders named and unnamed seedlings from the late Dr. Saunders wonderful work. Dr. Reath has urged me to join and we also plan to attend the Milwaukee, Wis., meeting in June."

We shall all look forward to meeting you Mr. Ravet and welcome you into membership!

NEW YORK

Mrs. Hollis E. Cornell, Johnsonville, New York, 12094 writes us such interesting letters, we would like to share parts of them with you. Robert Tischler, Brand Peony Farms, Faribault, Minn. 55021, sent in her membership last June 5, (1967) Mrs. Cornell answered our question regarding her interest in peonies by saying — "Regarding my interest in peonies — they are my favorite flower—they are **the most satisfactory perennial** that grows in this area . . . as they need so little pampering, can stand very low winter temperatures, do not have to be moved every couple of years . . . and they bloom so beautifully every year—no "off" years.

I have 50 miscellaneous herbaceous plants—some of which belonged to my husband's grandmother. Our home was built in 1863-4 for his great grandfather. I have some good named varieties (nothing expensive) such as Sarah Bernhard, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mrs. Livingston Farrand (I attended Cornell University when Dr. Farrand was President of the University and knew Mrs. Farrand—she was a great flower lover!) Festiva Maxima and others of equal repute.

In 1965 we drove over to Clinton, N.Y. to see Silvia Saunders and bought just a couple of her hy-

brids which are doing nicely. I am especially interested in tree peonies and have a dozen of these—some of which were named varieties but names have been lost. As I have no intention of raising plants to sell, I have not taken pains to keep track of names. However, the tree peonies I have are most satisfactory. One so-called "purple" this past spring (1967) produced a bloom 9 inches in diameter. It was spectacular.

In the past 15 years or so I have exhibited flower arrangements and some horticultural specimens in our local clubs and have many ribbons for it. The raising and showing of flowers is just a hobby and I wish to keep it so. I enjoy photographing them too. We travel a good bit and this is another reason peonies are so satisfactory—they are apt to be neglected somewhat from time to time—but never complain!

Hope this answers your questions as to my interest in peonies. I am an active member of The Woman's National Farm & Garden Association and Associated Country Women of the World. This takes a good deal of time and travel but it is interesting. Last September (1967) I had occasion to visit a friend in England who lives about 6 miles from Canterbury. She had some lovely **large** tree peony plants (a pity not to have seen them in bloom) as well as herbaceous peonies.

(A later letter) "I have a question pertaining to peony culture which I hope you can answer. In part of our garden, which I hope to clear and plant to peonies, quack grass has invaded. This we are removing by the tedious process of digging it out—but even so there is no guaranty that it will stay that way. We are told that the chemical "Atrazine" which is used by farmers to kill the grass in field corn, will eradicate quack grass—however it can be harmful to some

plants. Can you tell us whether peonies would be affected. If you know of a safe way (where peonies are concerned) to eradicate the grass, do let us know. We shall be most grateful for any information on this matter.

(**Editor's comment**—We hope you will write Mrs. Cornell.)

Mrs. Cornell wrote recently that "Spring in northern New York (Washington County, almost on Vermont border) comes late, and it does help so much to read about and dream about our peonies to come. I planted 43 herbaceous (about 6 of which are hybrid) and 3 new (to me) tree peonies last fall. So Spring can't come too soon for us."

TEXAS

Philip Huey, Superintendent of Parks, 3203 Junius St., City of Dallas Park Department, Dallas, Texas 75226; wrote, "We really appreciate receiving copies of the American Peony Society Bulletin. We planted several dozen peonies this last fall and are anxious to see how they perform their first season. We realize, of course, their bloom the first year is not as good as could be expected in the succeeding seasons.

"I am sure you were at the Great Lakes Park Training Institute this year. I am sorry I was not there because it was such a delightful experience for me last year.

"Our winter seems real unwilling to leave here in spite of all the spring flowering trees and blubs which are in bloom. Other plants are trying to come out and if the cold weather continues, many will be damaged. Thank you again for your interest in our use of peonies."

WISCONSIN

John Clark, 412 27th Ave. East, Superior, Wisconsin 54880: a new member, wrote as follows: "I have had a little trouble with Bo-

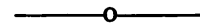
trytis but have controlled it with Bordeaux powder. I have a mixture of peonies, mostly doubles. I do not have any tree peonies as the temperature gets down to 40 degrees below zero, so I don't think they will winter here. My peonies are all named varieties. I have Japs, singles, semi-doubles, doubles and hybrids.

"I have received the books. We now have about four feet of frost in the ground. Our soil is heavy clay, but I have built my peony garden with lighter soil. I will appreciate any information I can have on peonies."

* * * *

Neal R. Van Loon, 511 Birkinbimr Drive, Sun Prairie, Wis. 53590; desires that we extend an invitation to everyone to "come visit our garden this year!" We are five (5) miles off Interstate No. 90 and No. 94."

Mr. Van Loon's garden will be a real treat for everyone. One of his seedlings is pictured on the cover of this issue of the Bulletin.



Our Cover Picture

Madylone—a Van Loon Seedling—grown by Marvin C. Karrels was displayed by Mr. Karrels at his annual Peony Show staged at Gimble-Schuster Department Store in Milwaukee.

This Peony was selected by visitors as most popular in the exhibit, receiving 90% of the votes. In the words of one viewer, "**Madylone**, set in the center of the Court of Honor, with the musical nymph paying tribute to its beauty was certainly dramatic."

Princess Margaret was also in the Court of Honor as the best dark pink. This outstanding Peony has won this honor in American Peony Society Shows three consecutive years. This is considered a record!

OBITUARIES

SOCIETY LOSES A VALUED MEMBER AND TRUE FRIEND

Dr. Harold Tinnappel, vice-president of the Society was found dead in his residence, Rt. 1, Pemberville, O., Tuesday, March 12th, apparently having suffered a heart attack. This word, telephoned our office by Walter Alexander, past president and treasurer, was a shock to us all. Dr. Tinnappel's contributions to the good of the Society, his appreciation of good publicity, logic, reasoning and pleasing personality will be sorely missed by everyone.

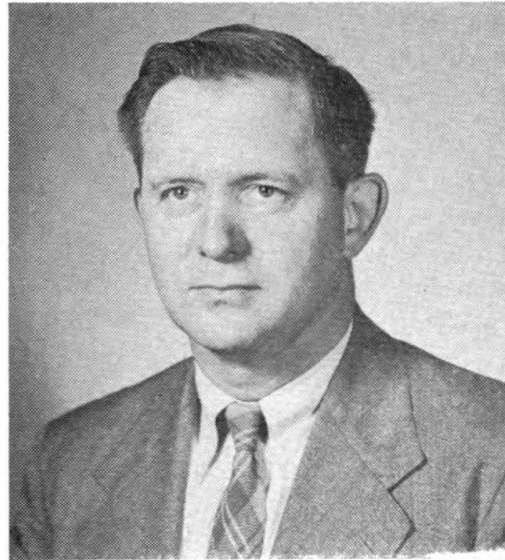
Mr. Alexander, close friend of Dr. Tinnappel, Mr. and Mrs. Pharon B. Denlinger and Mr. Chas. D. Pennell, representing the Society, attended the memorial service Thursday, March 14th, held at high noon in the Prout Memorial Chapel on the campus of Bowling Green University.

The body was then taken to Columbus, Ohio, where it was placed in the Hilltop Chapel. The funeral was held at 1:00 p.m. Friday, March 15th in St. James Lutheran Church, Columbus and burial in the Church cemetery.

The Memorial service included the Lutheran ritual with Comments of Tribute by Frank C. Ogg, a Colleague of Dr. Tinnappel in the University Mathematics Department. The following account was printed in the Gamma Delta, International Association of Lutheran College Students Memorial brochure:

Dr. Harold E. Tinnappel

Dr. Tinnappel was born on May 12, 1918 in Columbus, Ohio to Mr.



DR. HAROLD E. TINNAPPEL

and Mrs. Albert Tinnappel. He received his education in the Columbus area inclusive of graduating from Ohio State University in 1940. Pursuing graduate studies, he obtained both his M.A. and Ph.D. in mathematics from that same institution.

Prior to joining the faculty at Bowling Green, Dr. Tinnappel taught at Indiana Technical College in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. He joined the faculty at this University in 1949, and served in the Math Department. His activities were, however, not limited only to the classroom. Dr. Tinnappel was a member of Phi Delta Kappa, Sigma Xi, American Association of Mathematics, Ohio Council of Teachers of Mathematics and the Greater Toledo Council of Teachers. In addition, he served as editor of the book review section of the periodical: *Mathematics Teacher*, and was a past officer of Kappa Mu Epsilon, mathematics society.

Dr. Tinnappel will not only be missed by a great many friends and

colleagues, but also by students who benefited from his personal efforts to enrich their lives through Gamma Delta, International Association of Lutheran Students. His advice and counsel as a member of the Board of Governors for the Lutheran Student Center here on this campus were extremely helpful and appreciated.

Dr. Tinnappel is survived by two sisters: Mrs. Don Dodson, and Mrs. Donald Fisher, both of Columbus.

Those who wish to contribute memorial gifts are asked to direct them to: The Dr. Harold Tinnappel Scholarship Fund in care of Bowling Green State University.

* * * *



LAURENCE D. BAKER

Laurence D. Baker, owner of Baker Peony Farm died in his sleep March 3 at the McCray Memorial Hospital at the age of 73.

Mr. Baker, who resided on U.S. 6 West of Kendallville, Ind. at his peony farm had been seriously ill with a heart ailment since October 6. His death marks the end of a distinguished career in education and public service.

Graduating from Kendallville High School in 1912, he worked his way through Indiana University by teaching part time at Gas City, Indiana. After graduation from I.U., he secured the position of superintendent of the Remington, Indiana school system. It was during his tenure in Remington that he became

interested in peonies, buying some roots for his mother from W. L. Gumm. In 1922, he bought \$490.00 worth of plants from Mr. Gumm and planted a show garden in Kendallville. In 1924 he showed some blooms at the National Peony Show in Fort Wayne and won a first prize with Tomatebaku. The next year, largely due to his father's illness, he returned to Kendallville and accepted a position as assistant principal of Kendallville High School. In 1926, he bought thirty acres west of Kendallville and moved his planting of peonies to that location. He also planted 300 apple trees on the acreage.

He returned briefly to Remington in 1927 to marry Frances Elizabeth Johnston, thus this small town supplied not only his start in the peony business, but his wife and life-long helper in his many pursuits.

During the next few years the root business prospered and in 1933 Mr. Baker took peonies to the Century of Progress in Chicago where he won first prize with 20 Sclange and presented them to Amelia Arehart.

Largely because of the depression, Mr. Baker turned to commercial cutting and shipping of blooms to markets in Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, and even New York. Then to insure flowers for Memorial Day, he bought 12 acres in Bloomington, Indiana in 1939 and planted it all to peonies. By 1943, he was too busy with his agricultural pursuits, so he resigned from his teaching position. His interest in government, and perhaps idle time in the winter, lead to file for the position of State Representative in 1944. He was elected and served with distinction until 1958. He was a member of the State Budget Committee from 1948 to 1958 and served as its chairman from 1952 to 1958. Also he was chairman

of the Ways and Means Committee from 1952 to 1956.

It was during the later years of his legislative tenure, and by the instigation of the press, that a tribute was paid to him by the introduction of a bill to change the state flower from the zinnia to the peony. The bill passed on a roll call vote in the House, a voice vote in the Senate, and was signed by the Governor. Thus the peony became the official flower of the State of Indiana. Ironically the official picture of the state flower is of the variety "Kansas."

In 1950, Mr. Baker's son, David, became associated in business with his father. An additional cut flower field of approximately 10 acres was established near Corydon, Indiana and additional acreage was planted at Bloomington. Also, the apple orchard has increased in size to 1000 trees. This compounded the seasonal work load as spraying and pruning were necessary for the orchard during the blooming period for the peonies, and the apple harvest in the fall complicated the peony digging schedule. And in 1961, Mr. Baker was again called to public service by an invitation of the Governor to serve as Republican member of the State Board of Tax Commissioners with the primary duty of determining the financial position of newly-proposed school reorganization districts. However, this also meant a five-day-a-week absence from his farm which he loved so much. Thus on May 31, 1963 he resigned his position and drove to Bloomington to assist with the planting of a new show garden of iris. The next day he suffered a heart attack which was to sharply curtail his activities.

By 1965 the real estate value of the land in Bloomington increased to the level where it was decided to sell and discontinue the wholesale cut flower business. Mr. and Mrs. Max

Arthur, longtime helpers with the peonies in Bloomington, bought 4½ acres of land and have continued to supply retail cut flowers for Memorial Day in Bloomington. The remainder of the plants at Bloomington and Corydon were sold and another chapter in the life of Laurence Baker was ended.

The Kendallville farm still grows about five acres of peonies and iris for sale of root stock, and although Mr. Baker never registered any originations, several good seedlings have been propagated but never sold.

People and peonies were both Mr. Baker's hobby and business and his interest in them gave him a wide range of acquaintances, and a rich and rewarding life.

—o—

PLEASE! SEND CORRECT ADDRESS

We beg of you to send us any change in your address together with correct Zip Code. Every returned Bulletin costs us 10c. Six cents postage is required on all letters. Any bearing 5c postage require postage due. There's an old saying "A penny saved—is a penny earned!" Post Offices will furnish a card for you.

First-class letters are 6 cents an ounce; air mail letters 10c an ounce; postal cards 5 cents and airmail cards 8c.

Please put your return address on your envelope!!!

We received an application blank —**not filled in**—marked in corner" sorry unable to continue"—NO return address on the envelope—and the postal cancellation cannot be read. Someone will have a Bulletin sent to them—think we do not know what we are doing in our office! Who will it cost? The Society!

Early History of Peony Literature

by Ben Gilbertson

The book 'A STUDY OF THE GENUS PAEONIA' by F. C. Stern, states that the earliest writings on peonies date back to 370 B. C. as follows.

THEOPHRASTUS, who was a friend and disciple of Plato and Aristotle, mentions the paeony in his book on the "Enquiry into Plants". He calls the plant "the paeony which some call glykyside," and goes on to say how it should be dug up at night, for "if dug up in day-time and a woodpecker observes him he risks the loss of his eyesight". Theophrastus died about 285 B.C.

In the first century A.D. both Dioscorides, the Greek herbalist, and Pliny the Elder mention the paeony in their writings. Dioscorides in 'De materia medica libri quinque' describes "the Paeony or Glykyside which has many names"; he then describes two species—"the male has leaves like a Royal nut tree. The female has its leaves divided like a gum tree . . . the root of the male is about a finger's thickness and a span in length. It is astringent to the taste and white. The root of the female has seven or eight acorn-shaped offshoots like the Asphodel. It grows on very high mountains or cliffs." This is the first mention of male and female paeonies—these might be *Paeonia mascula* and *Paeonia officinalis*.

Pliny in *Naturalis Historia* also gives the name of Glycyside as the synonym of the paeony, saying there are two species, describing the roots of each kind in the same way as Dioscorides. He, in prophetic utterance, says, "there is a further difficulty in that the flower has different names in different places." He also repeats the same story of the woodpecker as Theophrastus. There was no mention of the plant again in literature for

more than a thousand years, or 1481.

This illustrates how very slow our knowledge of the Peony plant progressed. In fact, no progress at all for more than a thousand years.

Ben Gilbertson

Kindred, N. Dak. 58051

BINDERS for BULLETINS

If enough members are interested in purchasing Binders for their Bulletins, we will enter into a purchase contract with the Company. To date we have orders for thirty (30). The initial order must be for One Hundred (100). The Binder is made of heavy weight vinyl electronically sealed over rigid board, equipped with a clear label holder extending 2¾" high from the bottom of the backbone, round cornered, fitted with a 2" multiple mechanism and 16 thin wires. (Color of Binder will be a rich shade of dark green with front cover and back bone stamped and screened with the name of the publication in gold.

Sorry, we cannot present a picture. Your Editor is using the sample Binder constantly. What a pleasure to have 16 issues in one binding at my finger tips, plus the fact, the Bulletins are kept in such good condition!!

Congratulations On This Centennial Year Being Celebrated By Brand's Peony Farm — 1968 —

This is the ONE HUNDREDTH YEAR of nursery business of Minnesota's oddest Nursery—Brand Peony Farms, located at Faribault, Minnesota. The Nursery has been in the same location for 100 years!

Oliver F. Brand established the Faribault Nursery which is now known as the Brand Peony Farms. Oliver went to Faribault from Fond du Lac, Wisconsin in the summer of 1867 and it is a fact that he walked most of the way except for an occasional ride from the driver of some horse or ox team. He represented an eastern nursery and sold stock to the farmers on the way.

Faribault was a small city of some 4,000 habitants at that time, a frontier town situated just on the southern edge of what was known as the Great Straight and Cannon Rivers.

In the fall of 1870, he purchased the property where the office and storage buildings of the nursery are now located and the business has been operated from this as a headquarters ever since.

The Faribault Nursery was one of the pioneer nurseries of the state and at the time of its establishment, the real frontier was not more than a hundred miles to the west. A large band of Indians was encamped on the banks of the Straight River, not more than a mile from the nursery home.

In the early days the main business of the nursery was the supplying of apple trees, small fruits, evergreens and forest trees to the farmers of this young and rapidly growing state. The tree agent followed closely upon the heels of the pioneer. Hardly a pioneer home rounded out its second year without having started a family orchard and a deciduous windbreak. Minnesota later became noted for the beauty of its countryside because of the great artificial

groves which its farmers planted about their homes. This nursery had its share in all this work and many of the oldest orchards and groves still standing about the farmsteads came from its fields.

About 1894 Oliver Brand became intensely interested in the **peony**. Probably the fact that it was so hardy and gave so little trouble in the exacting climate of the middle northwest endeared it to him and in that year, he began to build up here at Fairbault one of the world's largest collections of the flower.

In the fall of 1899, the son, A. M. Brand, entered the business. A. M. Brand was, as a child, the companion and helper of his father in most all of his experiments. He had literally grown up with the peonies and applied the experiences gained during two generations to the further development of the Peony which had always been to both father and son, the most beautiful flower of all.

Father and son worked together in the improvement of the peony up to and including the year 1911 when the older Brand retired. During these years the firm brought out many fine peonies, a list of the best of which follows:

Addielanchea, Brand's Magnificent, Chestine Gowdy, David Harum, Fanny Crosby, Frances Willard, Harriet Olney, Henry Avery, Judge Berry, Longfellow, Lora Dexheimer, Mary Brand, Martha Bulloch, Mellen Knight, Phoebe Cary, Richard Carvel, Winnifred Domme.

Upon the retirement of Oliver F. Brand, A. M. Brand continued this work.

The second installment of this story will appear in the June A.P.S. Bulletin.

Color Slide Library

The Society is fortunate to have received 61 slides from Edward Auten, Jr.. To say "thank You" to him is not enough, for his generosity. We have been busy printing his name on the back of every slide for identification purposes.

Mr. Auten had rented our Slide Library and stated when returning them and enclosing his gift—"I have much enjoyed looking at them. They will have to be my flower show this year (1968). I am returning them today... I put in 61 slides of some of my stuff and enclose a list of the kinds. (See list below) I have slides for about 140 of my varieties, but many of them, only one copy each. Looking through my stuff, I found that some lots I had never incorporated into my special list, they coming probably when I was rushed at the field too busy to classify and arrange.

"But that is only a small part of my 275 originations. A man told me once that one should not introduce a new variety unless it was superior to something already in commerce. I told him that stand might be OK for a dealer, but not for an originator. I told him if Ford made a fine new car there was no reason why General Motors should copy it, instead of making their own models. The originator is entitled to get costs back."

Following is a list of Mr. Auten's contributions to the Color Slide Library:

Slides of Edward Auten Jr. Varieties to Peony Society

14 Red Doubles—Garden Glory, Rosalie, Fairy Tale, Fanchoa, Big Ben, Thunderbird, June Brilliant, June Grant, Cleopatra, Red Comed, Bonfire, Santa Fe, Radiant Red, and Tempest.

8 White Doubles—Siloain, Mr. Moon, Sanctuary, Kathryn Curran,

Plymouth, Flower Girl, Molly Pitcher, and Maid of Honor.

9 Pink Doubles—Joyce, Cathie Ann, Eloise, Autens Pride, Cloud Castle, Pink Monarch, Patty, Pink Solange, and Virginia Lee.

10 Japs—Gay Paree, Moon of Nippon, Sword Dance, Nippon Gold, Christine, Nome, Cordova, Fancy Nancy, Mount Polomai, and Nippon Brilliant.

20 Hybrids—Raspberry Rose, Rosedale, Early Scout, Red Glory, Favorita, Robt. W. Auten, Auten Red, Beacon Hill, John Harvard, Orange Glory, Chocolate Soldier, Red Monarch, Bright Eyes, Eldorado, Dakota, China Boy, Ventas, Anelyn, Dandy Dan, and Red Dandy.

If you are planning a program for 1968 it would be wise to send us your request as early as possible.

SLIDE RENTAL INFORMATION

- (1) Slides are for a 35 mm. projector. Renter supplies projector.
- (2) Slides must be ordered six (6) weeks in advance.
- (3) Rental fee—Five Dollars (\$5.00) Checks made payable to American Peony Society.
- (4) Return postage must be paid by the renter. Insure for Fifty Dollars (\$50.00)
- (5) A charge of Two Dollars (\$2.00) is made for every slide missing when collection is returned to this office. Count slides when received and again before sealing for return.

1968 Exhibition and Meeting

**Will Be Held In
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN
June 21st, 22nd, 23rd**

**Put These Dates On
Your Calendar!**

DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRATION

Charles Klehm & Son, 2 East Algonquin Road, Arlington Heights, Ill. 60005 submitted the following five registrations:

FRIENDLY FEDERAL: Seedling number 850R. Bloom first observed 1952. Parentage: Own Seedlings Line Bred. Double Rose Type—Mid Season—No Stamens.

Warm, soft cameo pink with smooth buds which open into a large flower. The stems are strong with foliage similar to Mons Jules Elie. The total effect of the plant is friendly. The color is sweet and feminine.

Name trade marked. Plant Patent Applied For.

TOP BRASS: Seedling number 842I. Bloom first observed 1951. Parentage: Charley's White x Own Seedling. Double Bomb Type—Mid Season.

Well-formed white bomb with unique yellow topping during early stages of bloom, some pink appears on the bottom portion of tuft of petals. Good, clean grower which may be tetraploid.

Plant patent applied for.

RASPBERRY SUNDAE: Seedling number 849S. Bloom first observed 1951. Parentage: Charley's White x Own Seedling. Double Bomb Type—Early.

Take a heap of vanilla ice cream, liberally apply raspberry topping, and this cute variety appears.

Plant patent applied for.

DINNER PLATE: Seedling number 840S. Bloom first observed 1951. Parentage: Charley's White x Own Seedling. Double Rose Type—Mid Season—No Stamens.

Stunning, bold, immense—tetraploid. Medium pink with tints of salmon. Robust, tall and strong grower with the largest flower of any variety we have under observation.

Plant patent applied for.

HOOSIERLAND: Seedling num-

ber 782W. Bloom first observed in 1949. Parentage: Own seedlings line bred. Double Bomb Type Early—stamens.

Striking red foliage—unusual mahogany color. The plant has stout stems and is extremely short growing. It is excellent garden variety where wind is a problem.

Plant Patent applied for.

* * * *

A. L. Murawska, 8740 Ridge St., River Grove, Ill. 60171; has asked registration of **BLACK SWAN**, formerly called A. L. Murawska. A seedling from Chocolate Soldier x B. Cross x Black Velvet x Chocolate Soldier. (Note: Black Velvet originated from B. Cross x Chocolate Soldier.) Height 28 inches. Color very deep maroon black. Early mid-season. Strong stems with normal hybrid foliage. Full double. Will not be for sale until 1969 or later.

* * * *

Roger G. Coggeshall, Pres. Cherry Hill Nurseries states they have a white Japanese Peony seedling they would like to register in the name of **'WINTHROP H. THURLOW'** and add to their list in 1969. He stated "We feel there should be some recognition of the many years that Mr. Thurlow devoted to Peony culture." Further description will be carried in a future Bulletin.

* * * *

Samuel E. Wissing, 93 Lombard Ave., Lombard, Ill. 60148 has reserved the following names for some 'White Hybrids' some of which he hopes to display at Milwaukee in June, this year; **FROSTY—SNOW FLURRY—SNOW MAN.**" Two other names submitted—Snow Flake and White Cloud have been registered. Snow Flake introduced by the late Prof. Saunders. List in Bulletin No. 91 and White Cloud by Edward Auten, Jr. 1931. Bulletin No. 47 and List Bulletin No. 91. Mr. Wissing will soon submit other names.

“HYBRIDIZING EXHIBIT”

AT MITCHELL PARK, IN THE DOMES

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Saturday, June 22nd and Sunday, June 23rd, 1968

By Samuel E. Wissing

Every Peony in commerce today, except the Pure Species, at one time was commonly referred to as a seedling.

Whether the originator just planted a seed, or the seed was the result of a meticulously planned Genetic Procedure, makes little difference.

This new life is a “Gene Combination” usually representing one half the chromosomes of both parents. This is known as the FI cross.

Usually the breeder will raise many seedlings before he gets one that has enough merit to go into commerce. Those plants that have some desired characteristic will be retained for further breeding, those lacking desirable traits are discarded.

So at the Milwaukee National Show The 5th District will try to have a “Complete Procedure Exhibit” showing the step by step procedure, the bagged bloom, the emasculated bloom, the pollen applied to the Stigma’s and then the bagged plant showing the parents, with parents registered, so at harvest time labels may be made to identify each cross, when these seeds go into the seedling bed.

About 6 years later these plants will bloom and no two alike. If the chromosome count of the parents is known, you can predict the chromosome count of the progeny to some degree, but because this part of the breeding can get into too many situations, we will not discuss it further here.

However, each exhibit will be identified with a 4x6 card showing the parents of the seedling, which species were united and when possible we will have on exhibit the specie. The fine Fern Leaf “Tenifolia” the heavier Fern Leaf “Anomala”, the Russian Yellow, etc.

Then you should know how to store your pollen, so a desiccator and other equipment will be on exhibit, to help you do a good job, which can pay handsome rewards to the Enterprizer.

Retirement can be so beautiful if you plan it far enough ahead, to be ready when it comes. Plant breeder’s are in research twelve months of the year now that they use chemicals and short wave treatment of pollen to help bring the mutation.

So why not mark your calendar now. See this 63rd Annual Exhibit of the American Peony Society, and this Breeder’s Exhibit to help you get more out of life, at the time in life when you may need a lift.

(Editor’s Note: Copies of the above article were prepared, together with an advertisement, and sent by Sam Wissing to the members of the Fifth District of the American Peony Society.)

SPECIES ANOMALA

(Diploid Fern Leaf)

By Sam E. and Clara Wissing

Years ago, when we researched the available records we could find, we noted that the Peony breeders and originators used this species, but only sparingly.

Anomala is often confused with "Southi" which is a hybrid, and has laterals. So if you have a fern leaf plant with single crimson bloom with laterals, then you have Smouthi. However if you have a plant with terminal bloom only then you have Anomala.

In the past few days I have been making "identifiers" for our seedling exhibit we hope to show at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, come June 22, 23rd at the Domes in Mitchell Park.

Each "identifier" will show the breeding, which produced the progeny, and wherever possible, we will give the chromosome count, the native habitat, and the date of bloom in this vicinity.

We hope this type exhibit will create some interest, especially when we have a step by step procedure, emasculating the bloom, collecting

and curing the pollen, the desicator and the purpose of the bagging.

We hope to have a plant of Lobata which is the result of using naphthaleneacetamide which vaporized and we believe mutated this specie.

This fall we moved about 150 hybrids to the Sunburst Farm in Barrington which is operated by the Klehm Nurseries. If these plants bloom we hope to show some interesting results from working with Anomala.

Seedling No. 766A, white double; No. 766B, blush double; No. 766D, white semi-double; No. 766E, pink semi-double. Lactiflora—Sea Shell pink single was the pod parent and specie Anomala was the pollen parent. The F₂ of this cross should show some nice results.

We are going to make every effort to have some 35m slides made of the things of interest to donate to the Slide Library of the National.

So use this time now to plan to make this Show, one to remember.

Tour - Boerner Botanical Gardens

Mr. Marvin C. Karrels, Chairman of Arrangements for the 1968 Meeting and Exhibition, sponsored by Division 5 of the American Peony Society, has arranged an excellent tour calendared for 2:00 p.m.

Coming Events of the Boerner Botanical Gardens in the Park, include not only the opportunity to tour these unusual Gardens where you will see a fine planting of Herbaceous and Tree Peonies, but also many Horticultural attractions. If interested in First Day Covers and Commemorative Stamps, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Henkle, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin have on loan from June 15 to July 31st, an excellent phono-

graphic exhibit. This will offer a unique visual experience through the perceptive lens of a master photographer.

The Gardens are named for the landscape architect who designed them; Mr. Alfred L. Boerner. The park is named for Charles B. Whitnall, at first a florist, he originated the plan of cut flower delivery by telegram. Mr. Boerner served as Milwaukee County Park Commission secretary. He gave 40 years of his life to park development.

We are indebted to Mr. Karrels for his endeavors to give everyone attending the meeting and Exhibition this opportunity.

Arboretums and Gardens

MORTON ARBORETUM

If driving through Illinois and interested in woody plants, we recommend a stop at the MORTN ARBORETUM, Lisle, Illinois. Entrances are on State Rt. No. 53, ¼ mile north of the East-West Tollway, 24 miles west of Chicago's loop. If you are driving east, exit at Naperville Road exit, turn left to Warrenville Road, then turn right.

More than 4,800 kinds of woody plants, all labeled are in the 1,425 acres; 195 kinds of hedge plants; comparison of ground covers and a demonstration of over 100 kinds of street trees.

* * * *

KINGWOOD CENTER

Kingwood Center, Mansfield, O., is unique and richly worthwhile to all gardeners. Not only are there extensive display gardens, trees, shrubs, greenhouses, workshop, meeting and exhibit halls; there is a large gardener's library for public use. Sunday visitors are admitted through from Easter through November.

The original Variety Check List compiled for the American Peony Society by Mr. and Mrs. Byron Gist, is kept at Kingwood Center.

* * * *

GREENWICH GARDEN CENTER

Greenwich Garden Center is located at the Montgomery Pinetum located on Bible Street—Cos Cob, Connecticut. This woodland was bequeathed to that community by Col. Robert H. Montgomery, to be used as a public park or garden for the pleasure and education of the public. A collection of Conifers, 4 thriving nurseries, ponds and Primrose Garden, Rock Garden, Greenhouses are all included in the acreage.

Pinetum hours are year round, including holidays, from 8:00 a.m. to sunset. From November 15 through March 15, it is closed on

Saturdays, Sundays and holidays except when weather permits skating. Admission is free.

* * * *

WINTERTHUR MUSEUM and GARDENS

Winterthur Museum and Gardens are world famous. They are open only for a limited time each spring—this year April 2 thru June 30. They are located a few miles north of Wilmington, Delaware, on route 52. This is said to be truly one of the most beautiful spots in America.

* * * *

FORD GARDEN FORUM IN APRIL

Something new has been added to this year's Clara B. Ford Garden Forum April 24, 25 and 26 in the Henry Ford Museum at Greenfield Village, Dearborn, Michigan. It is a preview of new flower varieties, including many of the 1968 All-America winners. Dr. P. P. Pirone, plant pathologist from the New York Botanical Garden will discuss plant diseases and how to control them, Barbara Emerson, Ambler, Pa., will show the backyard gardener what one can do in a small garden space with little time and money.

Many other speakers have been secured and greenhouse growers across the country have been forcing annuals into bloom for the displays.

* * * *

STAN HYWET GARDENS

Stan Hywet Hall, 714 N. Portage Path, Akron, Ohio, has 38 acres of rolling lawns, gardens and lagoons. The main house contains 65 rooms furnished with antiques and art treasures. Garden settings and floral displays are designed to follow a succession of blooms through the seasons. Visitors are welcome daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tours can be arranged.

Wichita Falls Flower Show

We wish we could re-print the excellent Schedule for the Wichita Falls, Texas Flower Show to be presented April 20th and April 21st by the Wichita Falls Flowarama Council of Garden Clubs, for it could be model scheduule for many Shows.

"Between the Bookends" is the theme for the Show to be held in the Notre Dame High School Gymnasium. The American Peony Society is priviledged to present Awards if merited. The American Rose Society and the American Iris Society will also give Awards if merited.

Peonies are entered in Section B—

NEW PAMPHLET AVAILABLE

"Growing Peonies" by Henry M. Cathey, Crops Research Division, Agricultural Service, a pamphlet issued November 1967, has come to our attention on the shelves in our County Agricultural Office.

Drawings of Peonies make an attractive cover, as well as drawings of types of peonies on page 3 of the 12 page pamphlet.

We take issue with Mr. Cathey when he says "they seldom bloom in the south because winter temperatures are not low enough for flower buds to develop properly." Headings in the pamphlet include—Kinds of Peonies—under which he states them to be Garden and tree peonies. How Peonies Grow, Buying Peonies, Planting Peonies—Caring for Plants (a) Mulching (b) Weeding (c) Watering (d) Fertilizing (e) Staking (f) Disbudding (g) Cutting (h) Flowers (i) Failure to Bloom (j) Dividing Peonies (k) Diseases (l) Insects.

His paragraphs entitled **Precautions** are well worth reading.

It is suggested that you obtain a copy if not in your County Agents office—you can order Home and Garden Bulletin No. 126 U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Perennials and Biennials under the heading "The Flowers Will Bloom Another Year."

22. Peony, one bloom, correctly named (Award of Merit)

a. Single, b. Semi-double, and c. Double.

1. White, 2. Pink, 3. Red, and 4. Blend.

23. Colection of five peony blooms, any variety, correctly named (Award of Merit).

Awards are given in 12 different Categories.

Mrs. Hal G. Mason is serving as Executive Flower Show Chairman, Mrs. Martha Nelson, Awards Chairman.

TESTING IN ENGLAND

Several years ago William H. Krekler sent Peter Jones, of England, over one hundred "better peonies" for testing. Mr. Krekler wrote us about Mr. Jones report.

There are many interesting comments regarding each variety. Mr. Jones stated "On the whole white flowers are not liked over here. . . they remind of funerals, but I love whites. Of **Rose Crystal**, he wrote it "is one of my favorites.

Space does not permit quoting from the rather lengthy report, however, we will include a few in this issue—**Betty Groff**, Lovely, stands up well in rain: **Burma Ruby**—In the top 20 class: Dad-rate very high, in top 20: **Janice**—my favorite, superb in every way; **Laddie**—Superb, in top 5, breed more like this; **Red Charm**—superb; **Red Red Rose**—Good, long lasting variety.

Mr. Krekler suggests our "peony lovers abroad" may appreciate and be encouraged by Mr. Jones testing. Let us hear from our members from other countries as to your oen testing and growing of peonies. If desired, we will print more of Mr. Jones report.

THE PEONY — THE NATIONAL FLOWER

Let's not concede the national flower to become the marigold nor the rhododendron!

Senator Everett Dirksen, Illinois Republican is said to hold the "lead in flower power", his contention being the marigold "as sprightly as a daffodil, as colorful as a rose, as resolute as the zinnia, as delicate as the carnation, as haughty as the chrysanthemum, as aggressive as the petunia, as ubiquitous as the violet, and as stately as the snapdragon."

Senator Robert C. Byrd, West Virginia Democrat has stated his state "petals into the picture" because "The rhododendron produces regally beautiful blossoms which

are a wonderful sight in full bloom in the spring. . . . loves the sun but enjoys the afternoon shade and good moisture, much in the manner of humans."

Every member of our Society should challenge these men. What about the practically permanent perennial—the Peony? We can more than justify our cause because there isn't a more regal flower—the foliage lends color (see Walter A. Alexander's article in the December, 1967 issue).

Let's each write to our Congressman — send pictures — tell them about the ease the PEONY can be grown and if planted properly will last a life-time.

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.

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 picture of peonies and verse applicable for any occasion—"Someone's Thinking of You"—Limited supply. Twelve (12) Cents each or ten (10) for \$1.20.

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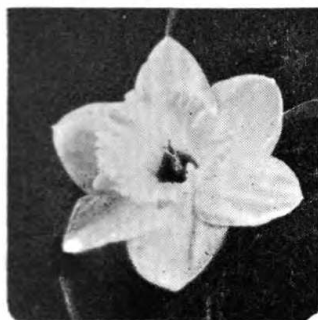
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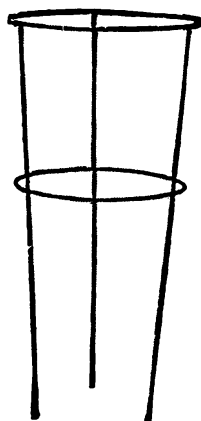
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