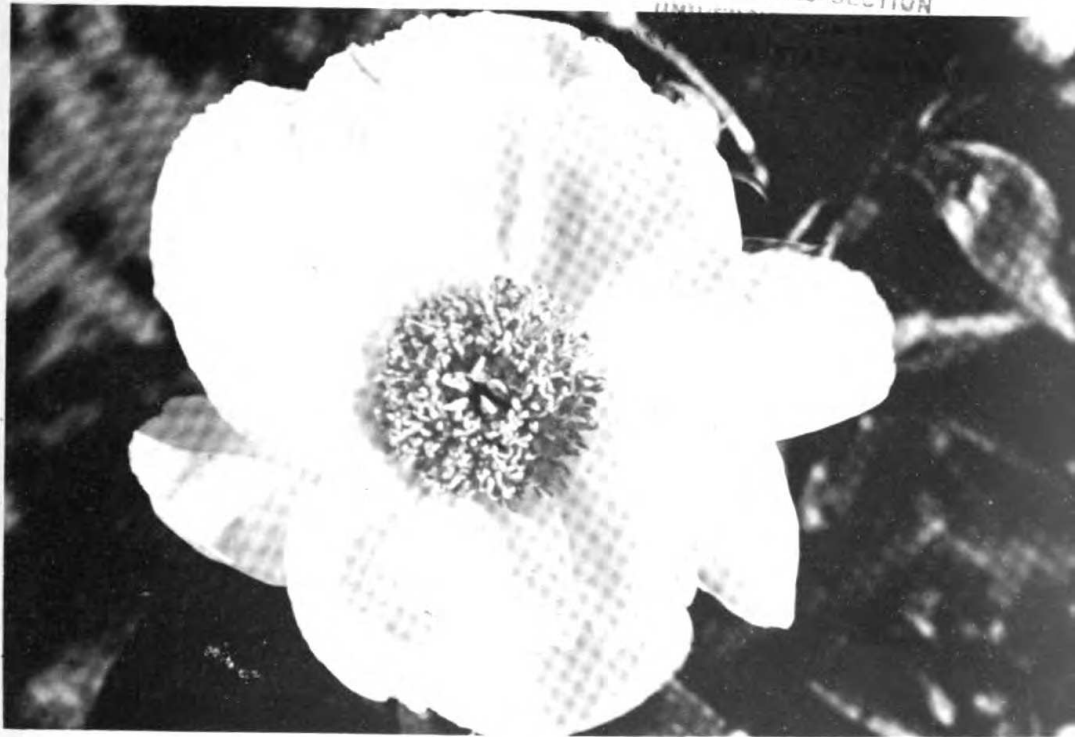
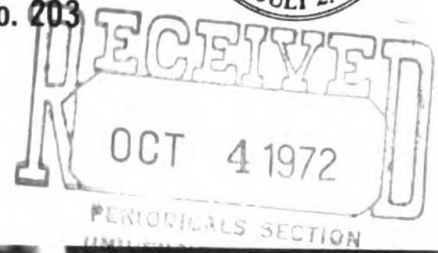


# American Peony Society Bulletin



September, 1972 – No. 203



**SPELLBINDER – GRAND CHAMPION**

Marvin C. Karrels



## AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

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Hopkins, Minn. 55343

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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 exhibitions, 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 for membership. Dues are as follows:

Single Annual .....	\$ 7.50	Sustaining, Annual .....	\$ 20.00
Single Triennial .....	20.00	Junior of member family .....	2.50
Family Annual .....	10.00	Junior non-member family .....	3.50
Family Triennial .....	27.50	Life .....	150.00

Family membership, any two related members in same household. One Bulletin.

Junior membership, any age thru completion of High School. Separate Bulletin.

Commercial Memberships are established for those members engaged in the sale of peonies, either plants or cut flowers. Dues are based on the extent of involvement, but do not apply to members selling locally and casually. A new schedule of rates will appear in the December Bulletin.

Dues are payable for the calendar year. Applications for membership should send remittance to the AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY at the address of the Secretary, above.

### THE BULLETIN

The AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY BULLETIN is the official Society publication. It is mailed postpaid quarterly to all members in good standing. Additional copies or back issues at \$1.00 each to members, \$2.00 to non-members, as available. Communications regarding editorial content or Bulletin advertising should be addressed to the Editor, 100 N.E. 81st St., Kansas City, Mo. 64118.



# AMERICAN Peony Society Bulletin



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September, 1972 – No. 203

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## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

**Dear Peony Friends:**

It certainly is an honor to be president of the American Peony Society. With such a wonderful subject and such nice people to work with, I am looking forward to many wonderful times and experiences with you folks, mutually enjoying one of God's greatest gifts to nature — the Peony.

I would like to outline my goals for the next two years even though I feel these things will probably happen automatically because of the increased enthusiasm and newfound vigor of all our members.

- A. Definite commitments and planning for our national shows three, four, and five years in advance of the actual happening.
- B. Bringing together all the various interest groups within the society to achieve a high esprit de corps and pulling together to achieve our major goals. This would include the breeders, growers, show people, and amateur enthusiasts.
- C. Revitalizing the importance and understanding of the two main reasons the society was originally chartered in 1904.
  1. The Nomenclature function—the value of having a clear, concise, and correct system for keeping present and future peony varieties properly named should be of paramount interest to all members.
  2. The enthusiastic promotion and captivating interest of our favorite subject—the Peony—coupled with the dissemination of correct, interesting, and vital information to all members, present and future.

Onward we'll go, with a very fine, talented board of directors, an extremely capable vice-president, David Reath, and an equally fine talented and enthusiastic membership.

Sincerely yours,  
Roy Klehm

# AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY EXHIBITION

June 18-19, 1972

Kingwood Center  
334 Entries in Show

Mansfield, Ohio  
1499 Blooms

## Court of Honor

**GRAND CHAMPION** — Best of Show — *Spellbinder* — Shown by Marvin C. Karrels, Milwaukee, Wis.

Best Double, White or Flesh — *Marcella* — Shown by Clarence Lienau, Detroit, Mich.

Best Double, Light Pink — *James Pillow* — Lienau

Best Double, Dark Pink — *Emma Klehm* — Lienau

Best Double, Red — *Kansas* — Shown by Roy Klehm, Arlington Heights, Ill.

Best Semi-double, White — *Susan White* — Lienau

Best Semi-double, Pink or Red — *Liebchen* — Karrels

Best Japanese — *Bu-Te* — Lienau

Best Single — *Spellbinder* — Karrels

Best Hybrid — *Carol* — Lienau

Best Tree — *Alice Harding* — Shown by John Simkins, Oakville, Canada

## Division I

(See Bulletin No. 201 or April Supplement for description of all classes)

### Section A — Certificate Collections

Class 1. Won by Marvin Karrels with *Dorothy J, Nick Shaylor, Robert W. Auten, Henry Bockstoe, Gardenia, Mary E. Nicholls, Norma Volz, Butter Bowl, White Cap, Diana Parks, Dinner Plate, Black Monarch, Heritage, Rose of Tralee, Westerner, Illinois Belle, Bu-Te, Highfalutin, Golden Glow, Myron Bigger, Comanche, Walter Mains, Minnie Shaylor, Dr. J. H. Neeley, Black Velvet. GOLD MEDAL CERTIFICATE.*

Second, Clarence Lienau with *Walter Faxon, Lois Kelsey, Amalia Olson, Lillian Gumm, Sylver, Shawnee Chief, Moonstone, Mildred May, Florence Nicholls, Peter Brand, James Pillow, Kay Tischler, Mme Emile Debatene, Nick Shaylor, Doris Cooper, Gay Paree, Marcella, Dolorodell, Toro-No-Make, Highlight, Minnie Shaylor, Neon, Emma Klehm, White Charm, Bu-Te.*

Class 2. Won by Marvin Karrels with *Diana Parks, Rose of Tralee, Highfalutin, Black Monarch, Gardenia, Henry Bockstoe, Nick Shaylor, Walter Mains, Margaret Clark, Robert W. Auten, Cytherea, Picture, Bu-Te, Prairie Moon. SILVER MEDAL CERTIFICATE.*

Special Class for Tree Peonies. Won by Gratwick Tree Peonies, Pavilion, New York., with *Artemis, Banquet, Canary, Black Pirate, Coronal, Golden Bowl, Marchioness, Renown, Hesperus, Wings of the Morning, Tria, Redon, Kronos, Savage Splendor, Impumon. SILVER MEDAL CERTIFICATE.*

**Section B — Three blooms in one container.**

**Class 3. Won by Lienau with *Sylver***

Second, Lienau with *Elsa Sass*

Third, Klehm with *Bowl of Cream*

**Class 4. Won by Lienau with *James Pillow***

Second, Klehm with *Hermione*

Third, W. A. Alexander, Bowling Green, Ohio, with *Frances Mains*

Honorable Mention, Frank L. Howell, Newton, N.J., with *Florence Nicholls*

**Class 5. Won by Frank Howell with *Princess Margaret***

Second, Klehm with *Vivid Rose*

Third, Howell with *Paul Bunyan*

**Class 6. Won by Roy Klehm with *Kansas***

Second, Klehm with *Best Man*

**Class 7. Won by Lienau with *Minnie Shaylor***

Second, Joseph Glocka, West Allis, Wis., with *Miss America*

**Class 8. No Entries**

**Class 9. Won by Lienau with *Ann Cousins, Paul Wild, Walter Faxon***

**Class 10. Won by Lienau with *Dixie***

Second, Klehm with *Angel Cheeks*

Third, Klehm with *Top Brass*

**Section C — Single Specimen.**

**Class 11. Won by Alexander with *Ann Cousins***

Third, Howell with *Mattie Lafuze*

Honorable Mention, Karrels with *Gardenia*

**Class 12. Won by Klehm with *Hermione***

Second, Karrels with *Moonstone*

Third, Lienau with *Frances Mains*

Honorable Mention, Karrels with *Nick Shaylor*

**Class 13. Won by Lienau with *Lillian Gumm***

Second, Howell with *Princess Margaret*

Third, Karrels with *Margaret Clark*

**Class 14. Won by Klehm with *Kansas***

Second, Lienau with *Felix Supreme*

**Class 15. Won by Lienau with *Susan White***

Second, Glocka with *Miss America*

**Class 16. Won by Karrels with *Liebschen***

Second, Karrels with *Rose of Tralee*

**Class 17. Won by Lienau with *The Mighty Mo.***

**Class 18. Won by Lienau with *White Charm***

Second, Klehm with *Raspberry Sundae*

Third, Klehm with *Angel Cheeks*

Honorable Mention, Klehm with *Pink Lemonade*

**Section D — Japanese type Lactifloras**

**Class 19. Won by Lienau with *Neon, Do Tell, Bu-Te, White Cap, Hari-Ai-Nin***

Second, Glocka with *Carrara, Break O' Day, Largo, Nippon Brilliant, Nippon Beauty*

Third, W. G. Sindt, Stillwater, Minn. with *Patricia Hanratty, Westerner, Neon, Kay Tischler, John Gardner*

- Class 20. Won by Lienau with *Moon of Nippon*  
 Second, Klehm with *Moon of Nippon*
- Class 21. Won by Sindt with *Vanity*  
 Second, Lienau with *Neon*  
 Third, Karrels with *Comanche*
- Class 22. Won by Lienau with *Hari-Ai-Nin*  
 Second, Glocka with *Hari-Ai-Nin*  
 Third, Glocka with *Nippon Brilliant*
- Class 23. Won by Karrels with *Bu-Te*  
 Second, Klehm with *Moon of Nippon*
- Class 24. Won by Lienau with *Largo*  
 Second, Howell with *Westerner*  
 Third, Howell with *Break O' Day*
- Class 25. Won by Lienau with *O-Na-Ha-Ma*
- Section E — Single type lactifloras
- Class 26. Won by Lienau with *Pico, L'Etincelante, Imperial Red, Dawn Pink, President Lincoln*  
 Second, Sindt with *Florence Bruss, Seashell, Krinkled White, Pico, Spellbinder*
- Class 27. No entries
- Class 28. Won by Sindt with *Seashell*  
 Second, Lienau with *Seashell*
- Class 29. Won by Sindt with *Florence Bruss*
- Class 30. Won by Karrels with *Spellbinder* **GRAND CHAMPION**  
 Second, Sindt with *Pico*  
 Third, Glocka with *Cygnet*
- Class 31. Won by Glocka, variety not listed  
 Second, Lienau with *Dawn Pink*  
 Third, Sindt with *Seashell*
- Class 32. Won by Sindt with *Florence Bruss*  
 Second, Lienau with *Imperial Red*
- Section F — Hybrids
- Class 33. Won by Lienau with *Prairie Moon, Black Monarch, Requiem, Carina, Carol, Garden Gem, Firebelle, Walter Mains, Cytherea, Martha Mains*  
 Second, Karrels, no varieties listed
- Class 34. Won by Howell with *Carol, Cytherea, Carina*  
 Second, Howell with *Walter Mains, Dandy Dan, Your Majesty*  
 Third, Glocka with *Red Charm, Friendship, Illini Belle*
- Class 35. Won by Karrels with *Robert W. Auten*
- Class 35A Won by Karrels with *Walter Mains* (Jap type)
- Class 36. Won by David Reath, Vulcan, Mich., with *Paula Fay*
- Class 37. Won by Frank Howell with *Burma Ruby*
- Class 38. Won by Karrels with *Henry Bockstoce*  
 Second, Howell with *Carol*  
 Third, Glocka with *Red Charm*  
 Honorable Mention, Glocka with *Carol*
- Class 39. Won by Reath with *Prairie Moon*  
 Second, Lienau with *Chief Logan*  
 Third, Reath with *Paula Fay*

Class 40. Won by Reath with *P. potanini* Tall Yellow (This should more properly have been shown in Class 43, tree peony specimens.)

Second, Howell with *Carina*

Third, Lienau with *Garden Gem*

Class 41. Won by Karrels with *Walter Mains*

Section G — Tree Peonies

Class 42. Won by Simkins with 3 *Alice Harding*

Class 43. Won by Simkins with *Alice Harding*

Second, Reath with *Age of Gold*

Third, Reath with *Savage Splendor*

**Division II Amateurs Only**

Section H — No entries in Classes 44, 45, or 46

Class 47. Won by Sindt with *Patricia Hanratty, Kay Tischler, Westerner*

No entries in Classes 48 or 49

Class 50. Won by Sindt with *Mrs. J. V. Edlund*

Second, Sindt with *La Lorraine*

Third, Mrs. Charles Belsan, Shelby, Ohio, unnamed

Class 51. Won by Simkins with *Mons. Jules Elie*

Second, Sindt with *Andrew Mueghlig*

Third, Belsan, unnamed

Honorable Mention, Belsan, unnamed

Class 52. Won by Sindt with *Wilford Johnson*

Second, Belsan, unnamed

Class 53. No entries

Class 54. Won by Sindt with *Faribo Gold*

Second, Mrs. Dale Bryan, Mansfield, Ohio, with *Gay Paree*

Third, Sindt with *Vanity*

Honorable Mention, Sindt with *Kay Tischler*

Class 55. Won by Sindt with *Florence Bruss*

Second, Sindt with *Pico*

Third, Sindt with *Seashell*

Class 56. Won by Sindt with *Gav Cavalier*

**Division III Seedlings and New Varieties**

Class 57. Seedlings

Certificates of Merit to Roy Klehm

Honorable Mention to Klehm

Class 58. New Varieties

Honorable Mention to Roy Klehm for *Best Man and Raspberry Sundae*

**Division IV Commercial Growers**

Class 59. Won by Lienau Gardens, Detroit, Mich., with 50 varieties, unlisted.

**Division V Out of state exhibitors**

Class 60. Won by Klehm with *Vivid Rose* and four seedlings

Second, Glocka with *Carol, Kansas, Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt, Westhill, L'Etincelante*



Third, Sindt with *Vanity*, Patricia Hanratty, Gay Cavalier, Mrs. J. V. Edlund, Wilford Johnson

Honorable Mention, Simkins. unlisted

Class 61. Won by Sindt, three unlisted

Second, Allen Harper, Kansas City, Mo., with *Victory*, 2 *Hansina Brand*

Third, Simkins with three *Ann Cousins*

### Division VI Artistic Designs

Class 62.

A. Sunrise, Won by Charlotte E. Sindt, Stillwater, Minn. RESERVE CHAMPION

B. High Noon Second, Mrs. Sindt

C. Sunset Third, Shirley Fearn, Galion, Ohio

D. Midnight Won by Mrs. Sindt

Second, Mrs. Richard E. Beal, Mansfield, Ohio

Third, F. Shaffer, Crestline, Ohio

Class 63

E. Spring Breezes Won by Mrs. Sindt GRAND CHAMPION

Second, Gloria Blake, Galion, Ohio

F. Summer Heat Third, Miss Blake

G. Autumn Harvest No entries

H. Winter Beauty Second, Mrs. Sindt

Third, Miss Blake

Class 64.

I. Youth No entries

J. Prime of Life Third, Miss Fearn

K. Senior Citizen Won by Miss Fearn

Second, Mrs. Beal

Third, Mrs. Raymond Bolen, Ashland, Ohio

### NATIONAL PEONY EXHIBITION POPULARITY CONTEST

From ballots turned in by visitors to the 1972 APS Show, these are the top 20 choices in order of preference

- |                        |                             |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. <i>Carol</i>        | 11. <i>Hermione</i>         |
| 2. <i>Moonstone</i>    | 12. <i>Savage Splendor</i>  |
| 3. <i>Ann Cousins</i>  | 13. <i>Kansas</i>           |
| 4. <i>Friendship</i>   | 14. <i>Henry Bockstoce</i>  |
| 5. <i>James Pillow</i> | 15. <i>Walter Mains</i>     |
| 6. <i>Cytherea</i>     | 16. <i>Raspberry Sundae</i> |
| 7. <i>Neon</i>         | 17. <i>Miss America</i>     |
| 8. <i>Garden Gem</i>   | 18. <i>Paula Fay</i>        |
| 9. <i>Vivid Rose</i>   | 19. <i>Red Charm</i>        |
| 10. <i>Marcella</i>    | 20. <i>Frances Mains</i>    |

Other top vote getters were: *Best Man*, *Sylver*, *Elsa Sass*, *Angel Cheeks*, *Gay Paree* and *Norma Volz*.

## WHAT A SHOW!

Have you ever seen a peony show? Have you ever seen a national show? Isn't the sight spectacular? With the membership of our American Peony Society so widespread, it is natural that only a small percentage is able to attend. It is for you who have never had the privilege — and nostalgically for those who have — that I am writing these comments about the national exhibition 1972.

Spectacular is indeed the best descriptive word to use for a peony show. The national show brings together in one room six weeks of garden bloom — from the early trees and hybrids through the singles and Japs and early doubles, to the very late exhibition doubles. The range of color is complete from the whites, pinks and reds of the lactifloras to the brilliant iridescence of the hybrids and the yellows and purples of the trees. This year an additional treat was a display of the Cousins "inner-glow" hybrids.

Exhibitors were old-time competitors — and a few new — from Minnesota to New Jersey, from Canada to Missouri. They were glad to be vying with each other again and continuing an established relationship. A prized bloom could win for its exhibitor a place on the Court of Honor, an enviable position. This year an additional award for each flower to reach the Court of Honor was a lovely imported wooden tray.

Kingwood Center, noted as a setting of beautiful gardens and for its horticultural shows, consistently attracts many viewers. It is always interesting to be a part of this throng and to hear what they most enjoy and appreciate. Papers and pencils are in the hands of many, and what better way is there to select desirable varieties? Comments ranged from "This is the best show we ever had at Mansfield" — this from a local viewer — to "Is this a peony?" Many were agog at the range of types of peonies as well as their color. As peony members we can indeed be proud to be able to afford the public this kind of educational experience.

Another sight which is always a surprise to the uninitiated is the preparation room *after* the exhibits have been placed. Truly, it vies with the show floor for beauty but without the organization of the exhibit tables. Many blooms are prize-winners the second day in their own second-rate location and this year were used to replace faded blooms in the artistic division.

The artistic division had as its theme Time — of Day, of Year, of Life. Exhibitors here used singles, doubles and Japs in many styles and designs. In one arrangement seedpods were used instead of flowers as an expression of originality. It is interesting to note that the champion arrangement used single peonies, *Krinkled White*, while the champion specimen peony was also a single, *Spellbinder*. Artistic exhibitors used various techniques and materials to interpret the classes and achieve the desired effects. The results were lovely, thanks to the efforts of several talented arrangers. Judging was done by accredited judges of the National Council of State Garden Clubs. The winning arrangement was a simple interpretation of Spring Breezes, a few graceful cat-tails placed with single peonies at one side of a shallow blue container with a leaf or so of hosta for relief.

From the viewpoint of the exhibitor Kingwood Center in Mansfield, Ohio, is the place where many of us are eager to return for the annual exhibition of the APS. This year was no exception. Surely this well-organized and operated arboretum is a real haven for any exhibitor. The very buildings themselves were equipped for shows and members of the staff were most generous and helpful. Class cards were ready and waiting; other materials were available and produced upon request. Of course for the sake of the blooms — and exhibitors — the facilities were air-conditioned, and for the safety of the exhibits guards of a special courteous breed were on duty at all times. It was a real pleasure to exhibit under these circumstances and to meet the Kingwood staff responsible for the display.

The two days of the show and meeting were ideal — great for weather, beauty of flowers and their surroundings, warmth of friendships. Perhaps by beginning to plan for next June, some more of you can join us in 1973 at this exhilarating and rewarding experience — a national exhibition of the American Peony Society.

Charlotte E. Sindt

#### FOURTH HYBRIDIZING WORKSHOP

The Hybridizing Workshop, from all appearances, is becoming an established feature of our Peony Shows. This was our fourth consecutive one, the first having also been at Mansfield three years ago, run by Roy Pehrson and Father Fiala, the second at the Morton Arboretum in 1970, the third at Edina, Minnesota last year. Our audience numbered about thirty; as usual, most of them members of the Society but with a smattering of the general public as well.

Directing it were Dr. David Reath and Roy Pehrson, both veteran hybridists and veteran Workshop Leaders, and they do it mighty well. Among other hybridists present were: Father Fiala, Allen Harper, Bill Seidl of Milwaukee, Ed Michau from Derby, Kansas, Gary Seaman of Gratwick Tree Peonies in Pavilion, New York, and Chris Laning of Kalamazoo (Editor of our excellent newsletter *Paeonia*. If you are not getting this letter, do send Chris \$2 and be put on his mailing list).

Roy Pehrson started the ball rolling, and to illustrate the technique of actual pollination, he picked up a reject bloom from the many lying around in this pleasant workroom, and tore it apart with practiced hand. From that brief introduction, we moved quickly on to the so-called "Ito Cross," named for Mr. Toichi Ito of Japan who first succeeded in making it. This is the cross, long attempted by Lemoine, Saunders and no doubt others, and considered by them "impossible," between Tree Peonies (Mr. Ito used the lutea hybrid tree peony, *Alice Harding*) and the herbaceous peonies (in this case a white single lactiflora). We have nicknamed the cross, and the resulting hybrids, for Mr. Ito, to have a handy name to call them by and to commemorate his achievement.

David Reath's feeling is that the lutea hybrid used by Mr. Ito, *Alice Harding*, is the best. Its fully double form will surely be desirable in the resulting hybrid children, and its yellow, bright and lasting, will also be desirable since good yellow is lacking in the herbaceous side of the peony

family. Pehrson on the other hand thinks we shall find others of the *lutea* hybrids to be equally good. an opinion that Father Fiala seemed to agree with. One breeder was heard to remark "*We never use Alice Harding. Terrible plant. Crummy flower!*" All kinds of opinions were voiced.

For my own personal feeling, this lively, open discussion among the experts is exactly what makes the Workshop work. It then becomes plain to us all that if the experts can differ so widely among one another, obviously we are all Pioneers in a great new wave of Peony Breeding, in which many questions are still unanswered, or only partially answered, and that other answers may serve as well or better. Answers that are still to be found by any one of us, as we work and learn.

Which are the best lacti's to use for the Ito type cross (admittedly a difficult one)?

Pehrson: No singles. Japs are good. *Golden Dawn* is good.

Reath: *Moon of Nippon* and *Shaylor's Sunburst* are also good, I've found.

Is Die-back important? They seem to think not. Not too important. The plants come right up again.

How can you know whether you have a real cross or not; in other words, whether your cross has "taken," or do you just have another lacti? The foliage, they said, always seems to have a "tree peony" quality to it: More dissected, less glossy, than ordinary herbaceous foliage. Also, the roots will be highly stoloniferous (that is, long rope-y roots, and the leaf-buds sprout up from these). I personally would add that anyone who has ever dug *P. lutea* itself has noticed these roots; it must be from *lutea* that the hybrids inherit them.

The discussion then moved over to the properties of yellow pigment in *P. Ludlowi* and in "*Tall Potanini*." The expert on this matter is undoubtedly Mr. Fred Cooper of Ottawa, Canada, whose article on the subject appeared in our June-September 1970 Bulletin (No. 197). Messrs. Fiala and Reath appear to hold *P. Ludlowi* not in very high esteem, but Pehrson feels that it is worth working on. The difficulty with *Ludlowi* stems from the fact that it does not bloom in most of our United States. The authoritative article on this is to be found in Bulletin No. 196, March-April 1970. It was researched and written by Don Hollingsworth of Kansas City.

**Chromosome Counts.** The Ito Hybrids are probably ANEUPLOIDS. Normally, chromosome counts in peonies are in multiples of 5. These are generally expressed in 2N terms, so that a diploid is 2N=10, a triploid 2N=15 (generally sterile, as halving the chromosomes at meiosis results in an 8-7 division), and a triploid is 2N=20. An aneuploid then is defined as having one or a few chromosomes more or less than the balanced diploid, triploid, tetraploid or other polyploid number. Hence their chromosome counts might be 9, 11, 12; 14, 16; or 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, etc.

And speaking of five, we were all extremely pleased to see *five* Student Workers (on the Kingwood Staff this summer) attending our Workshop. Scott Clarry, who is going into Horticulture; Steve Huber (in Ohio State University, class of 1974; also interested in Horticulture); Bill Collins (the young Manager of the Greenhouse; he's through college); Carol Collins his sister, and Martha Dahlen, another college student. We hope that they got

something out of the hour, if only the fact that the Peony World is wide open, and is a mighty exciting world to belong to, these days. We hope to see some of the five join us in it.

Note: Would anyone think it worthwhile to start a PROPAGATING WORKSHOP next year?

by Silvia Saunders

### SAUNDERS MEMORIAL MEDAL AGAIN AWARDED

At the recent meeting and exhibition of the American Peony Society, held at the Kingwood Garden Center in Mansfield, Ohio, on June 17 and 18, the medal in memory of the peony hybridist Arthur Percy Saunders was again awarded, and as before, to two men.

This medal which is given "for outstanding contribution to the peony" was established in 1968. Upon the recommendation of the members of the Peony Robin (all hybridizers themselves) to the Executive Board, the Society then makes the award. In 1968 it was conferred upon Mr. John C. Wister "for his varied and distinguished contributions to the peony" and on Mr. Edward Auten Jr., for his "outstanding contributions in garden peonies and hybrids." (We are quoting the inscription on the medal itself.)

This year Mr. Toichi Ito of Japan and Mr. L. W. Cousins of London, Ontario were the recipients. Mr. Ito's was given "for mastering the cross, long considered impossible, between herbaceous and tree peonies." Taking pollen from the brilliant yellow tree peony *hybrid [lutea hybrid] Alice Harding*, he pollinated a single white lactiflora peony. The resultant hybrids have yellow flowers like many lutea hybrids, and the foliage has marked characteristics of the tree peony. They were introduced into this country in the 1960's by Mr. Louis Smirnow, the Long Island grower, who has traveled extensively in Japan. Since that time, American breeders have been making the same cross and it is believed that a number of hybrids now exist.

Mr. Ito died in the late 1950's, and while it is not generally envisaged that the Society will reach back into the past and make a number of posthumous grants, Mr. Ito's case is so conspicuously outstanding that it was felt this was a most appropriate award. The presentation was made by Mr. E. L. Pehrson of Lafayette, Minnesota, and Mr. Smirnow was asked to transmit the medal to Mr. Ito's widow in Japan.

The award to Mr. Cousins was for "hybrids achieved through a lifetime of highly complex hybridizing," and indeed the out-crossing, re-crossing and back-crossing done by Mr. Cousins throughout a long lifetime (he is now 83) became so involved that exact or detailed records were virtually out of the question. It is known however that these hybrids carry the "bloods" of the species *macrophylla*, *Mlokozewitschi*, *lobata*, *officinalis* and *lactiflora* in varying proportions, and that Dr. Saunders' own hybrids were in many cases the starting-points for Mr. Cousins. In general the Cousins hybrids are gay light pinks, in the salmon and coral side of the spectrum, without a hint of purple in them, even on old or fading blooms. The doubles are particularly striking, as the color, deep-toned in the heart of the flower, pales gradually as it approaches the edges of the petals, making the name "Inner Glow Hybrids" appropriate and descriptive. The Society had been privileged to see these hybrids in 1968 when Mr. and Mrs. Cousins brought them, themselves,

to our previous Mansfield Show. In addition to the "Inner Glows" there is a deeply glowing crimson red called William Cousins, and a lovely single salmon named Ann Berry Cousins (after Mr. Cousins' son and granddaughter). None of these plants is on the market as yet.

The presentation in this instance was made by Dr. David Reath of Vulcan, Michigan, the grower and breeder of peonies and other plants. Dr. Reath reminded us that in 1953, shortly after Dr. Saunders' death, it was Mr. Cousins who had first suggested the idea of a Saunders Memorial Medal. As neither Mr. nor Mrs. Cousins was able to be with us at Mansfield this past June, the medal was received by Mr. John Simkins, a grower of Oakville, Ontario, who undertook to transmit it to Mr. Cousins. We recall with gratitude that it was due to Mr. Simkins' forethought and energies that we were able to have these blooms at Mansfield at all, since it was he who had gone out of his way to London, enroute to Mansfield, to pick up and transport these beautiful new hybrids.

## THE ANNUAL BANQUET

Members of the American Peony Society in attendance at the Annual Meeting assembled at the Leland Motor Hotel Saturday evening, June 18 for the final event of an action packed weekend.

After greetings from our new President, Roy G. Klehm, an excellent meal was enjoyed by the assembled group.

Following the banquet, the A. P. Saunders awards were presented to L. W. Cousins, accepted by John Simkins, and posthumously to Toichi Ito, to be conveyed to Louis Smirnow for presentation to Mrs. Ito.

Awards earned at the 67th Annual Exhibition were then presented by the retiring president, W. G. Sindt, as follows:

Gold Medal Certificates to Marvin Karrels and Clarence Lienau

Silver Medal Certificates to Gratwick Tree Peonies, Mr. Karrels and Mr. Lienau.

Grand Champion Ribbon-Horticulture to Marvin Karrels

Grand Champion Ribbon-Artistic to Mrs. Sindt

Purple Rosettes, Eight to Clarence Lienau; Two to Marvin Karrels; One each to Roy Klehm and John Simkins

Kingwood Bowl, Sweepstakes in Horticulture to Clarence Lienau

Dr. Raymond C. Allen, Director of Kingwood Center was then introduced. He gave a most interesting talk on the history of Kingwood Center, especially the extensive rehabilitation work that was required to improve facilities, both in the buildings and on the grounds. He showed slides illustrating the progress of this work, as well as some views of the Center grounds as they appear today.

When the festivities were over, a tired but jovial group disbanded, exchanging farewells, and promising to meet again in 1973 for another anticipated memorable meeting of the American Peony Society.

Glen Monday

## MORE AUCTION MATERIAL

Answering our June Bulletin appeal, Gilbert H. Wild and Son quite generously offered a nice lot of Peony roots for the annual auction. However, due to a delay in the mails, their list was not received until after the sale. They have permitted us to list these offerings for mail bidding, which we are most happy to do.

Accordingly, you may mail in your bids on

6 BIG RED BOOMER SOONER	\$ 7.50 retail list
6 CLAIRE DE LUNE	15.00 retail list
6 JUDY ANNE	15.00 retail list

Please send your bids directly to the Editor-Allen Harper, 100 NE 81st St., Kansas City, Mo. 64118. Please indicate the name of each variety you bid on and the number of roots you will take is successful. Bids must be post-marked no later than October 6 so that the donor may effect October shipment.

Do not send any money. You will be notified if you are the successful bidder. Should identical bids be received from more than one bidder sufficient to exhaust the quantity available, award will be made on the basis of earliest postmark. So get your bids in early on these three fine varieties, and do yourself and the Society a good service by participating in this mail auction.

## OF INTEREST TO ALL MEMBERS

I do hereby appoint Edward Lee Michau to a one year term on the Board of Directors of the American Peony Society to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of C. Dan Pennell. —Roy G. Klehm, President.

## PEONY SHOWS

The North Dakota Peony Society held its annual Peony Show at the Grand Forks Ice Arena, Grand Forks, N.D. on June 21 and 22. At this writing, results of that show have not been received. Their schedule showed 46 horticultural classes and 28 classes for other flowers and artistic arrangements.

New officers of the Society are Mrs. Frances B. Kannowski, President; Mr. Wyman Sheppard, Vice President; Mrs. Lawrence Hanson, Secretary; Mr. Ed Olson, Treasurer, all of Grand Forks, N.D.

1973 will be the 50th anniversary of North Dakota Peony Shows.

The Seventh District of the Minnesota Horticultural Society held a general garden show on June 22 and 23 at the Midway National Bank in St. Paul, Minn. There were nine classes for peonies with 109 blooms entered, 25 in the class for specimen pink double.

Charlotte Sindt was a winner, with the Champion specimen - *Patricia Hanratty*, a pink Jap, and the Grand Champion arrangement by Charlotte Palmer was made with peonies, calla and lupine leaves, and a calla bud.

## TREE PEONY TOPICS

It should be of interest to note that several varieties of Tree Peonies will bloom from young plants. We have made a close study over several years and find that some two year old plants set in the Fall will bloom the following spring. The varieties that do this are *Arashi Yama*, *Aya Gorima*, *Bunden*, *Fuji Otome*, *Godaishu*, *Gun Kagura*, *Haknow Jishi*, *Haow*, *Higurashi*, *Howrai san*, *Hyakkasen*, *Ko Zakura*, *Nippon Benni*, *Setsu Gekka*, *Shin Kagura*, *Shintenchii*, *Taiyo*, *Shiro Tae*, *Ubatame*, *Yuki Dowrow*, *Yuki Zasa*, *Alice Harding*, *Souv. de Maxime Cornu*, *Chromatella*, *L'Esperance*, *Stolen Heaven*, *Red Moon*, *Fairy Tale*, *Mine D'Or*, *Mme. Louis Henry*, *Flambeau* and *Surprise*. There are some others, of course, but those listed above do this regularly. Experience has shown that many other three year old plants will bloom first season after planting.

It has come to my attention that someone stated that the "Ito hybrids" which we introduced in this country were confined only to a cross between a Lutea hybrid (*Alice Harding*) and a white semi-double herbaceous. Actually, crosses were also successfully made between a Japanese tree peony *Kagura Jishi* and the herbaceous white *Kakoden*. The result was several varieties of large pink doubles, two of which we have named *Pink Symphony* and *Pink Harmony*. The entire group is lost to commerce, however, because a large Japanese railroad company took over the entire property on which these pinks grew, and destroyed the whole planting.

This season was a fine one for all peonies, especially the trees. There were exceptionally fine blooms of *Marchioness*, *Mme. Louis Henry*, *Mine D'Or*, *Countess*, *Golden Hind*, *Harvest*, *Phoenix*, *Red Currant*, and *Conquest* among the Luteas. Japanese varieties observed in several gardens this year were magnificent. *Kamada Fuji*, *Howdai*, *Kokko No Tsukasa*, *Stolen Heaven*, *Red Moon* and *Shintenchii* were outstanding. In a garden in Westchester County one blossom of *Shujakumon* measured fourteen inches across and several inches deep. Of European varieties we saw fine blooms of *Reine Elizabeth*, *Jeanne D'Arc*, and *Bijou de Chusan*, whose green petals against the white flower were beautiful.

We deem it necessary to once again report that tree peonies perpetuate themselves by new growth from the roots. In newly planted stock, the old branches will die after two or three years and the new growth will form new branches. It is necessary, therefore, to plant tree peonies with the bud graft two to four inches below ground to encourage new growth from the roots.

Often specimen plants and some young plants will show very little growth the first year after planting. Just a little patience will be rewarded by better performance the following year. Some varieties seem to resent being moved, while many will do very well from the beginning.

— Louis Smirnow



## TWO RETIREES BUSY WITH QUIET LIFE

Greta Neubauer and Gayle Shaw expected to "lead a quiet life under sunny skies" when they moved to California from Wyoming a month ago.

Instead, the retired sisters found snow, 400 temperamental peony plants, 3,000 trees and a seven acre ranch complete with "a little black dog named Suzzie" in Julian.

"What we didn't expect most, I guess, was all the people," Gayle said, as she put into the freezer the six dozen cookies she had baked that morning for a busload of Hilltopper Garden Club members from Arrowhead. The Hilltoppers didn't make it because Arrowhead was snowed under, but everyone else has come.

"It's the peonies — red, white and pink — that everybody's interested in," Greta added, "only we didn't know it was rare for peonies to grow in California. They're pretty common in Wyoming."

Greta, formerly of Laramie, taught math at the University of Wyoming before retirement to "the quiet life" in California. Gayle, the widow of rancher Roscoe Shaw of Wyoming, spent most of what she thought were her "active years" at the 0-10-Bar Ranch outside Cheyenne.

"Greta says the last month has been one of the happiest of her life," Gayle said. "She's happy grubbing around with a shovel . . . I don't really know what I think," she added thoughtfully. "After all, I just left a ranch with 400 cows, now here we are with 400 peonies."

Overloaded with the flowers, the sisters sold peonies by the highway to entranced motorists who remembered the staid blossoms from days back east, took the rest to churches, business houses, the post office and banks, considering the colorful bouquets a beautiful introduction to new neighbors. The flowers grow from bulbs imported years ago by Frank Ruppert, former owner of the ranch, and come in spring shades of "FDR" pink, "Firebell" and "Legion of Honor" red and "Madonna" white, according to the new experts.

"When we got here the middle of April," Gayle said, "the flowers looked like iced snowballs. Later, a hot spell forced the blooms. They're almost gone by now . . . just enough for an occasional bouquet for the house, and the weather's cold again."

Gayle and Greta can't quite understand California's changeable weather, but originally thought that the land near Julian "looked a lot like Wyoming." Their new peony ranch life is the result of a visit to friends in San Diego last winter, when they happened to travel to Julian for the day.

"It really has been pretty exciting," Gayle said. "A couple of wetbacks, I guess they were, scrambled through one day, and then there was the day when we finally figured out how to start the power mower, only not how to operate it or turn it off." Gayle reported that the two sisters were considering "letting the machine run until it ran out of gas" but that a neighbor saved them from that noisy fate by pushing a little button at the back.

"We're learning," Greta said, "and we enjoy this little dog, Suzzie, although it seemed odd to us to read in the escrow papers about how Suzzie came with the ranch. People back home can't believe all this, when we try to write letters and tell them what's happening in California.

"Are we homesick?" Greta asked. "Oh, no, there just isn't time."

## MEMBERS' COLUMN – OUR READERS WRITE

Ben Gilbertson, Kindred, N.D. — “Had a letter from a Mrs. M. Vasiljeva of the Institute of Plant Industry, Leningrad, U.S.S.R. mailed Feb. 8 and arriving April 27, wanting information on peonies.”

Gary Seaman, Pavilion, N.Y. — “Fortunately, we have not been directly hurt by the flood, but many of our neighbors have lost everything. It is a very sad situation.”

Clarence Lienau, Detroit, Mich. — “After sending out peony roots to two of my customers in late October, I received letters from both of them reporting fall growth. The varieties *Gay Paree* and *White Cap* both showed about six inches growth by December. Now for the clincher. For the first time in my 29 years of growing peonies, I had a fall bloomer. A two year plant of *Emma Klehm* bloomed for me. It was a nice medium sized bloom with fair form and good color.”

Leslie J. Wiley, Cobleskill, N.Y. — “The 1972 peony season is over, thank goodness. This has been the most frustrating and difficult season for growing peonies that I have ever experienced. The problems experienced this year can be summed up in one word — weather.

“The problems of the northeast, at least in my garden, started with a late wet spring. It was the tenth of May before all of my plants were even started this year. They grew tall and very slowly as they seemed to reach for the sun, for the most part unsuccessfully. In the normally wetter parts of my garden, bud rot became rampant. No variety was immune except those on the higher, better drained locations.

“There was to be no respite from the weather. As the peony season was at full height, we experienced “Agnes,” the worst storm of its kind for parts of New York State ever. Here in Cobleskill, it did little or no flooding. It did spoil three-fourths of my bloom. With a hundred or so plants, it was still possible, though, for me to have many beautiful flowers in the house as well as to give to friends, school and church. But what it might have been . . .

“I suppose that I had some “bests of the year” in spite of the weather. Among the whites, *Elsa Sass* was tops. Maybe *Nancy Nicholls* was my best blush this year but *Moonstone* was also nice. *Minuet*, *Nick Shaylor* produced beautiful large bloom among light pinks. *Sarah Bernhardt*, *Martha Bullock* and *Mabel E. Gore* were excellent dark pinks this year. *Convoy*, *Philippe Revoire* and *Sir John Franklin* were the pick of the reds. Best of the year was *Dolorodell*, closely followed by *Pico* and *Oklahoma*.

“A large number of my favorite late peonies produced no good bloom or practically none. *George Nicholls* (one of my favorites), *Solange*, *Ann Cousins*, *Hansina Brand*, all fell in this category. So did *Doris Cooper*, *Mattie Lafuze* and *Florence Ellis*. All of these latter, I shall move to different locations this fall where hopefully they will be happier.

“I shall close with one suggestion to those who might be starting plantings. I find that over a long period of time that the peony will be crowded out by daffodils. In this location, I shall not again plant daffodils between peonies. Twelve years later, I find the daffodils emerging victorious.

“Come on members of the Society . . . turn in those ratings for the symposium.”

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

On June 20, 1971, the office of secretary was moved from 107½ W. Main Street, Van Wert, Ohio, to 250 Interlachen Road, Hopkins, Minn., the former secretary retiring from the office of Secretary and Editor.

The bulletin is now published in Kansas City, Missouri. The Editor is Mr. Allen Harper. The Secretary, Greta M. Kessenich, resides at 250 Interlachen Road, Hopkins, Minn. Hopkins is ten miles south of Minneapolis.

The first order of business was to call on the membership for contributions, so that a deficit could be alleviated, which had occurred over a period of approximately two and one-half years. A letter from President Sindt to all members brought a tremendous response. A tired Society had been awakened, money was forthcoming, together with letters. Letters of concern, letters of encouragement and letters pledging support to a Society that was so dear to their hearts.

The Peony Organization being in existence since 1904, it must continue. Help came. There was no discouragement.

Since last June 20, your officers and members of the Board of Directors have given every consideration to the Society. Time, much effort, money and everyone of them in their own way has contributed, helping to make this organization one that will continue. It would be too long to enumerate their tremendous activities.

Together with their direction, your financial help, paying of dues and encouragement, this Society has progressed.

In one year, money has been paid on the deficit. There are no current outstanding bills and there is money in the bank with which to operate this Society.

In December over 800 pieces of mail were sent out. 524 were letters to the membership, including the foreign members, asking for the 1972 dues. We have at present 250 renewal members, plus 51 new members (since June 20 last year). There are 27 life members and eleven reciprocal memberships, making a total of 341.

A flyer was outlined, approved by the board of directors, which invites prospective members to join the Society, also telling them what they can expect. This has been published and is available to members in limited quantities for general distribution.

A classified ad was published in the Cappers Weekly, a midwest paper for membership. Four issues, costing \$24.00, with no results.

There have been 15 registrations of new cultivars. We do have a mimeographed form for those wanting to register peonies, that is simple and to the point. The form will be sent upon request. Using this form all peonies will have a uniform outline.

Members and non-members have written for the publication of "The Handbook of the Peony." The book "The Peonies" edited by John C. Wister, also "Peonies Outdoor and In" by Arno and Irene Nehrling.

The collection of slides is now catalogued and available to the membership. Most interesting to show garden clubs, lawn parties or for any occasion.

It has been a pleasure for me, as Secretary, to see the good steady progress and the interest in all phases of the Society. We thank you for your understanding, your assistance, suggestions and letters.

I believe we are a stronger Society because of this past experience. All the members are people that are interested in the furtherance of the peony and the American Peony Society.

Greta M. Kessenich

## EDITOR'S COLUMN

Golly, is our face red! Most of you who attended the Auction at Mansfield already know it, but the picture on the front cover of the June issue was **NOT LULLABYE**. This is what comes from not double checking everything.

The error developed like this: Roy Pehrson is a member of one of our Midwest Division Robins. In its next to last round, Roy enclosed the print of the peony shown on the Bulletin cover, with a good description of its color and growth characteristics, and it was the only one of his seedlings described in detail. When he offered the two roots of *Lullabye*, your editor neglected to note that neither variety had yet been registered, and that Mr. Pehrson had not submitted clonal description when offering this variety for the auction. *Lullabye* is, in fact, a full double hybrid, of a very pleasing light pink, of medium height. A full description will be found in the December Bulletin under Registrations. The successful bidders will, I am sure, have reason to be happy with their acquisitions, and perhaps the unsuccessful ones will take some solace in the fact that it wasn't a yellow after all.

If we were to create an award for "Comeback of the Year" a la the baseball writers, it surely should go to Clarence Lienau. Last year at the Minneapolis Show, Clarence couldn't buy a blue ribbon, though he placed second in about every class he entered. This year he was an easy sweepstakes winner with 17 Blue Ribbons, a Silver Certificate and SIX of his entries in the Court of Honor. Congratulations, Clarence!

## Membership Contest

While our membership roster shows a healthy increase for the year to date of this publication, Greta Kessenich reports that no one except your Editor has sent in any new memberships for credit on the Membership contest. Now, in view of a most generous list of prizes (refer to March Bulletin), it seems odd that you are not all endeavoring to increase our membership and secure a few good new peonies for relatively little effort.

Judging from the locale of many of our new members, we suspect that the Klehms and the Karrels' have been actively "selling" APS memberships, but these need to be reported to the Secretary in order to receive contest credit.

There is still time to participate. The contest runs until October 15. Look up the contest rules, and get busy boosting APS Membership.

### Popularity Poll

HELP! Since the last appeal *not one* new ballot has been received. Surely after the 1972 blooming season some of you have recorded enough data to determine your favorite Peonies. Perhaps the ballot as it appeared in the December, 1971 Bulletin was too confusing to many of you. If so, we'll make it simpler-just send us the names of your 25 favorite Peonies, regardless of color, type or season. No tree peonies, please. Not that we are prejudiced against them, but we think they should be selected in a symposium all their own.

Now, if we don't hear from a number of you before November 10th in time for the December Bulletin, we can only conclude that you don't *want* a new popularity poll. We certainly don't want to place any particular blame on the membership, but it occurs to me that many of the fancied ills of the Society in the past few years have been due to COMPLACENCY. Let's regain our old time vigor by active participation!

### FRAGRANT PEONY WINE

It all started when I planted those 4 cherry trees in the back yard in the mid-fifties. They existed for 7 or 8 years without bothering me with any fruit. Then began a trickle of cherries, followed by a stream then a flood.

We had cherries to eat, cherry pies, frozen cherries, canned cherries, cherry jelly, cherry jam, cherry preserves and the neighbors also had some.

There came a year when the trees were loaded, but we still had cherries from previous years. Someone said why not make wine with them, so to shorten this story, I did.

After making several kinds of cherry wine, peach wine and blackberry wine, I read about flower wines and decided to make a fragrant peony wine.

I got off on somewhat of a wrong foot because I did not have enough blooms of one kind, so I used blooms of six different relatively fragrant peonies. Since they were red, Pink and white I didn't get a distinct color. (It ended up a pale butterscotch.) I used 2 pints of blooms per gallon of wine. With a sharp knife I cut out the green stems and bases of the blooms. I then poured warm water over the blooms (in a large crock). I mixed in ½ lb. of minced raisins per gallon, together with 2 lb. 4 ozs. of sugar, 3 teaspoons citric acid, ½ teaspoon grape tannin and 1 Campden tablet. (Two ozs. of a 1 percent solution of sodium metabisulphite is about the same as 1½ Campden tablets. The 1 percent solution of sodium metabisulphite is made by mixing 1½ ozs. of the powder in a gallon of water.)

When it cooled down (under 80 degrees fahrenheit) I added yeast energizer and wine yeast. I let it ferment for 3 days then strained it into a jug of the proper measure. A fermentation air lock was then placed on the jug and it was left to ferment til there was no activity, in this case 3 months. Then I syphoned it off the deposit into a clean jug (called racking), replaced the

fermentation air lock and left it 3½ months more when I repeated the racking procedure, and waited to accumulate enough bottles to hold it, which happened to take 9 months.

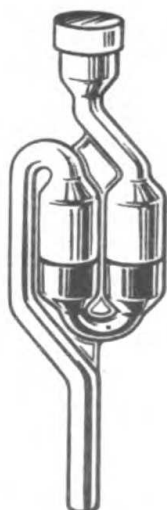
It could have been bottled however after about 3 months from the last racking.

This wine has been somewhat of a disappointment. The Frangrance has grown quite faint, and the alcohol content is too high (15.4 percent). It is much too dry for most people's taste.

If I should ever do it again I would make the following changes: I would try to have one variety to use. If it were very fragrant I'd use 2 to 3 pints per gallon. If less fragrant 4 to 8 pints of blooms per gallon. I think I would only use the petals and stamens as I think the green carpels may have contributed to a poor taste. I also think I would use the juice of 4 oranges and 3 lemons instead of the minced raisins. I would use about 3 lbs of sugar per gallon so it wouldn't get too dry and the alcohol percent would not be so high. With the juices you would not need citric acid and probably not the grape tannin. The use of the Campden tablets is not absolutely necessary but if used, about 1 per gallon at the original mix and then 1 per gallon at the second racking may improve the flavor somewhat. A fermentation air lock has a trap which is filled with water to keep air from the wine, but allow the carbon dioxide released to bubble through. The same effect can be gained by running a tube from the cork into a container of water.

Anyone planing to make wine should contact the nearest office of the Internal Revenue Service and ask for 2 copies of form 1541 "Registration for Production of Wine for Family Use." Both copies are sent to The Assistant Regional Commissioner at the particular Regional Office. They will stamp it and return one copy to you. The permit is free and good for up to 200 gallons per year from July 1 thru June 30.

—Edward Lee Michau



**Fermentation  
Air Lock**

## MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

A meeting of the board of directors was called to order at 8:30 p.m. June 16, 1972, by President Sindt.

The following members were present at the meeting: Marvin Karrels, Dr. David Reath, Roy G. Klehm, Mrs. Joe Lynn Monday, Gary Seaman, Allen Harper, Silvia Saunders and Greta Kessenich, Secretary.

Silvia Saunders, on behalf of the Hybridizing Committee, requested permission to give the Saunders Memorial Medal to Mr. Toichi Ito, of Japan, posthumously. Also permission was requested to give a similar medal to Mr. L. W. Cousins, of London, Canada, at the annual banquet June 17, 1972. Mr. Karrels made a motion in favor of this request which was seconded by Mr. Roy Klehm, and it was unanimously carried.

Mr. Dan Pennell sent a letter of resignation from the office of treasurer and also as a director of the American Peony Society, which was read to members of the board by President Sindt. A motion of acceptance was made by Mr. Roy Klehm and seconded by Mr. Karrels, which was approved by all board members present. A letter of appreciation was directed to be written to Mr. Pennell for all past services to the American Peony Society.

The March 1972 bulletin was increased from 32 to 36 pages, at an additional cost of \$39.74. Mr. Roy Klehm made a motion to pay the increased cost. It was seconded by Dr. David Reath and unanimously approved by the Directors.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Greta M. Kessenich, Secretary

## MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the American Peony Society was called to order at 3:30 p.m. June 17, by President W. G. Sindt. He gave a short resume on previous two years during the time he was President of the American Peony Society.

Secretary Kessenich reported on the activities of the year from June 20, 1971 to June 1, 1972, the close of the fiscal year. The financial report was read. The chairman of the auditing committee, Mr. Marvin Karrels, stated that the financial report was in order and correct.

The following nominees for the Board of Directors were submitted by the committee chairman, Mr. Roy Klehm: Allen Wild, W. G. Sindt, John Simkins, Steve Moldovan.

Nominations were called for, from the floor, and they were: Frank Howell, Chris Laning, Irven Ewing, Silvia Saunders, W. A. Alexander. Silvia Saunders and W. A. Alexander withdrew their names and it was moved that the nominations be closed.

A ballot was taken and the following were elected for the term of office of three years, in accordance with the bylaws of the American Peony Society. Allen Wild, W. G. Sindt, John Simkins, Frank Howell, Chris Laning, and Irven Ewing.

President Sindt, expressed his personal thanks to the Editor, Mr. Allen Harper, to the Board of Directors and to the Secretary, for their cooperation and the duties performed by each of them. Also to the membership for their understanding, patience and help during the previous two years.

Mrs. Glenn Monday spoke for the membership in appreciation and with thanks to President Sindt for his untiring work for the American Peony Society the last two years.

Silvia Saunders was unanimously appointed as correspondent to the *American Horticultural Society Horticultural Magazine* on behalf of the American Peony Society.

The meeting adjourned at 5 p.m. June 17, 1972.

Greta M. Kessenich, Secretary

## **MINUTES OF SECOND MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY**

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m., June 18, 1972 by the President, Mr. W. G. Sindt, with the following present: Roy G. Klehm, Pharon Denlinger, Irvn Ewing, Mrs. Joe Lynn Monday, Calvin L. Helgoe, Gary Seaman, John Simkins, Chris Laning, Clarence Lienau, Frank Howell, Marvin C. Karrels, Allen Harper and Greta M. Kessenich, Secretary.

President, Mr. W. G. Sindt, immediately called for nominations for a new president. Mr. Roy G. Klehm was nominated by Mr. Harper and seconded by Mr. Denlinger. Nominations were closed and Mr. Roy G. Klehm was unanimously elected President of the American Peony Society.

Dr. David Reath was nominated for Vice President by Mr. Gary Seaman, and seconded by Chris Laning. Nominations were closed and Dr. David Reath was unanimously elected as Vice President of the American Peony Society.

Greta M. Kessenich was unanimously elected Secretary and Treasurer of the American Peony Society.

At this time Mr. Roy G. Klehm assumed his duties as the new President.

A resolution was introduced by President Klehm, expressing gratitude and thanks to Mr. Sindt, for his services the last two years as President of the American Peony Society, The resolution was unanimously approved.

A discussion ensued about the past deficit of the American Peony Society and a settlement of the balance. \$3000.00 has been paid on the account, to the Rockford Press, this past year.

A motion of Mr. Simkins and seconded by Mr. Harper, unanimously approved by the Board of Directors, that Mr. Marvin C. Karrels act as the authorized legal representative of the Board of Directors. He is authorized to pay up to the sum of \$2,470.76 to the Rockford Press, subject to his written approval of the settlement.

A motion was made by Mr. W. G. Sindt, seconded by Mr. Allen Harper that Mr. Karrels be paid for his round trip expenses to Van Wert, Ohio for the purpose of settling the deficit. The motion was unanimously approved.



Mr. John Simkins of Oakville, Ontario, Canada, will explore the possibility of the 1973 Annual Meeting and Exhibition being held at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. He will report to President Klehm.

A meeting of the Board of Directors will be held at the Charles Klehm & Son Nursery, 2 East Algonquin Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois, December 2-3, 1972.

A motion was made by Mr. Calvin L. Helgoe requesting that statements be sent to the membership December 1, 1972 for the 1973 dues. It was seconded by Mr. Gary Seaman and approved by all board members present.

Mr. Clarence Lienau was appointed by the President to write the symposium rating. A committee of Messrs. Gary Seaman, Chris Laning, and Allen Harper was appointed to change the show schedule on Hybrids and the Tree peonies.

Mr. Karrels will report, in regard the seedling committee at the December 1972 meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Greta M. Kessenich, Secretary

### NECROLOGY

Miss Myrtle Gentry passed away June 14, 1972 in Faribault, Minnesota, at the age of 90. Funeral services and burial were at Hammond, Illinois.

Miss Gentry taught school for many years and served as assistant principal of the Faribault, Minnesota, High School.

During the fall of 1918, Miss Gentry joined the Brand Peony Farms. One year later, she became a partner of Mr. A. M. Brand. Here she remained for 37 years.

Mr. Brand passed away in 1953. Miss Gentry became the sole owner of the nursery and continued on for three years.

During her long residence in Faribault, Miss Gentry was prominent in business, education, cultural and community activities.

Her work in the peony world will long be remembered. Her namesake, the beautiful and very fragrant peony, *Myrtle Gentry*, will continue to be a favorite of all peony lovers and will forever remind us of her.

Word has just been received of the death of Paul F. Sbonik, 1331 West Euclid Ave., Milwaukee, Wis. Further details are not available at this time.

### REGISTRATIONS, 1972

This department was formed "to properly supervise the nomenclature of the different varieties and kinds of Peonies". A register of all Peony names and their descriptions is held at the central offices of the Society, and new entries will be added as received to the permanent file. Applications, together with remittance of \$10.00 for each variety to be registered, should be sent to the office of the Secretary.

HEDGEMASTER (Ben Gilbertson, Kindred, N. D. 1972) (Seedling No. 6003)

Parentage, *Laura Dessert X Smouthi*. Flowers large and flat, lies on foliage, No stems above foliage. Stamens, good substance, good amount of bloom. 1-3 buds per stem. Reliable, pollen and seeds. Somewhat dwarf with heavy dark green, glossy foliage. Stiff stems, Height 20". Blooms early, average size. Best peony for hedge use. Good until hard freeze.

**BICOLOR** (Ben Gilbertson, Kindred, N. D. 1972) (Seedling No. 6008) (This name has not been accepted due to prior use. A second application has been filed.)

1966. Parentage — *Mons. Jules Elie X Claire de Lune*. Varies between Jap and anemone, medium pink guards, fluff of finely cut toothed center to a near full double rose type with a ring of toothed narrow petals around center fluff. Guard petals and rose type center petals are medium pink, center petals, pale yellow form, near flat to ball. No stamens, good substance, good amount of bloom, 1-4 buds per stem. Stiff stems, height 25" stands erect, blooms midseason. Foliage dark green, good until late fall. No pollen, sets seeds, interesting plant. Seldom any two blossoms alike. As it ages, it becomes more beautiful.

### TREE PEONY PHILOSOPHY

The mystery and the beauty of the Japanese tree peony is wrapped around its quality of *indefiniteness*. It is futile to expect a successful description of its essence. Verbally, the ultimate quip would be that it possesses "formless form" and "colorless color." The flower of a Japanese tree peony quite simply "refuses to be pinned down" either to definition or to scrutiny. (Physicists are experiencing similar difficulties pinning down the workings inside an atom; biologists are still frantic trying to pin down the so-called genetic code; astronomers are still shaking in their boots over the attempt to pin down quasars and pulsars.) Witness the almost classic failure of photography to capture the evanescent presence of a tree peony blossom.

You may pick a camellia apart, petal by petal, study its shape, its color, its texture—qualities that remain fixed in time and space—and from such clinical study of its unchanging makeup construct an artificial likeness that could fool the eye (assuming, of course, you were foolish enough to want to). Not so with the blossom of a Japanese tree peony, for it defies such close analysis. One is reminded of the attempt to study a star by staring at it, only to find it fade out of sight until a blink or a quick glance elsewhere restores it to the eye. Those petals will not remain put! Their postures change throughout the day, so that the flower you saw in the morning is not the flower you see at noon or the flower you see in the afternoon. And the formations will be somewhat different the following day. The petals themselves are so utterly unpredictable that it is amazing how they can combine to form such a beautiful flower!

And the colors! Look at the flower of a *Gumpoden* or a *Tama Fuyo*. From a great distance they appear to have a distinct, nameable color. Slowly walk toward them to find your eyes baffled by changes in hue and in combinations of colors playing against each other, until—up close—the mystery is not cleared but deepened when we discover that we can hardly account for what we have seen at the various distances! In the case of *Gumpoden*, depending on distance, upon openness of bloom, and upon the light (cloudy, hazy, or sunny) the eyes tally individual colors such as gray, blue, purple, and carmine that combine in subtle ways to create numerous different effects of overall "purpleness." Yet not one of them is a definite, solid, staid purple—as in the color of stock or *Buddleia*, for example—but a variety of purplish

tones that seem to vibrate, flicker, “pop out” at you—not with a liveliness so much as with an *aliveness*, giving the feeling that you are witnessing an activity rather than an object.

One of the nearest approaches to this quality of vibrant indefiniteness, in the world of man-made objects, is to be found in the work of the French impressionists, particularly in the large canvasses of Monet. A glance at one of his waterlily pond studies, at a distance of say 30 feet, and “you are there.” The scene is alive, scintillating, full of the illusion of *presence*—it is not a hard picture of something or a poster or even a photograph, the surface of which gives these objects away as artifacts. The Monet work is a pulsating recreation of the original forms and colors that affected the artist at the moment of creation—a recreation *in our mind* through the “magic” of the *indefinite* association and juxtaposition of daubs of color. As we approach the painting, the clarity of the scene fades into a misty vagueness while the colors and forms alter and shift to something *else*! Up close, every square foot of the painting is a loose abstraction composed of appropriately mysterious, apparently accidental strokes of delightful colors, lovely in themselves but bearing no evident relation to the scene at 30 feet, which is now completely *gone*! With the lily pond’s “building blocks” thus vividly exposed, the mind is baffled even more at this distance than at any other distance!

Such striking experiences serve to challenge our common notions of the nature of reality. How “solid” is the stuff the world is made of! With our eyes so prone to illusion and our mind so easily baffled, the division between the material and the spiritual pales into enigma and their relationship strains our comprehension. The suspicion slips through that what we call “matter” is perhaps a process or a strange waveform that is essentially “mental,” radiating from *the* Intelligence Whom we call God. In a world whose essential context bespeaks *process* instead of *fixed being*, one wonders if Hamlet’s famous question ought not to have been: “To happen or not to happen, that is the question.”

The ephemeral, ineffable, indefinite nature of reality reaches one of its peaks in the blossoms of *Kinkaden*. In a sense, no one has ever seen *Kinkaden*. Permeated, as it were, with “formless form” and “colorless color,” its essence is as substantial as a rainbow or a Brazilian butterfly on the wing: “Now you see it, now you don’t.” Try as you may to recall its actual appearance at a given moment, photograph it until you run out of film, you will never “capture” its illusive image, either on film or in memory.

Perhaps Plato was right after all when he presented matter as pure form; I would add, “form *in motion*.” The modern physicist, who, having probed the atom to its individual parts, should be in a position to guide us along this line, is as puzzled about the nature of reality as Man has ever been.

Some people are scared of a world whose components defy fixing into neat formulations. But how much faith can they have in a Creator who is *beyond all definition* and a reference to whose creation (Book of John) begins: “In the beginning was the *word*...”!

(Continued to page 41)

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### Receipts:

Membership dues .....	\$ 3,901.00
Renewals — 250	
New members — 53	
Life members — 27	
Reciprocal — 11	
Total membership — 341	
Contributions .....	3,428.50
Advertising .....	86.50
Membership dues .....	\$ 3,901.00
Publications:	
Handbooks .....	\$ 29.90
"The Peonies" .....	68.50
"Peonies indoor & out" .....	31.95
Bulletins .....	41.18
Binders .....	21.00
Total publications .....	192.53
Registrations (15) .....	150.00
Rental Slides .....	17.50
Auction roots (Paid to Secretary) .....	97.50
Interest on Savings .....	63.46

Total Receipts: ..... \$ 7,936.99

### Disbursements:

Publications:	
Bulletin — Sept, Dec., March .....	\$1,187.93
Envelopes for mailing bulletins .....	64.32
Total publications: .....	\$ 1,252.25
Opening bank account .....	2.50
Office supplies .....	25.30
Books, "The Peonies," "Peonies indoors and out" .....	23.78
Printing (2000) flyers & rate sheets .....	28.71
Advertising .....	24.00
Secretary postage (Dec. to June) .....	124.32
(6 months donated June to December)	
Total .....	1,480.86
Paid on deficit of organization	
(Printing of bulletins, accumulated	
over a period of 2½ years) .....	2,500.00
Total disbursements .....	\$ 3,980.86
Balance June 1, 1972 .....	3,956.13
Total .....	\$ 7,936.99



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Hereafter, names of new members will be included in each issue on gummed strips which can be affixed on the following page, thus keeping your roster complete in one bulletin.

## New Members



It took no less a scholar than Thoreau to remind us that there can be no lack of joy, of comfort, of a sense of well being—nor can there be anything permanently wrong—in a world in which a bird still sings, a leaf turns color in the fall, or a wild water lily still blooms in the spring. To be in tune with all this is to be alive and to be nourished by the divine harmony that makes such things happen. True, the world may be indefinite and full of surprises, but would we want it otherwise? Let us keep in mind that it is the quality of indefiniteness and the element of surprise that give us some of our most richly beautiful objects and experiences. And it is this kind of world that makes it possible for us to tend and witness a garden. If we were armed with “all the answers,” gardening would be an idle exercise and, regardless of how sophisticated our design, the results would bear the lackluster artificiality of a plastic arrangement and the challenge of a card game.

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