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American Peony Society Bulletin



December, 1973 — No. 208



AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

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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.

The AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY BULLETIN is the official Society publication. It is mailed postpaid quarterly to all members in good standing.

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:

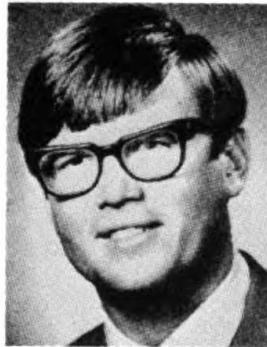
Single Annual	\$ 7.50	Junior of member family	2.50
Single Triennial	20.00	Junior non-member family	3.50
Family Annual	10.00	Life	150.00
Family Triennial	27.50	Commercial membership	25.00

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

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

For those who wish to further support the Society, the following special memberships are available.

Contributing	\$ 25.00	Supporting	\$100.00
Sustaining	50.00	Patron	250.00



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dearest Dad

I'll miss you. We were close, for together the job was won. We were close, for together you taught the precious lessons of happiness. To love the Lord. To love wife, children and family. To love the beauty of creation so bountiously given the seeker. To give of yourself — totally.

We will stay close, Dad, for I'll teach my children your happiness that they may radiate the contentment your soul beamed on fellow men.

Your Loving Son

*The Annual Meeting
and
Exhibition of the
American Peony Society
Royal Botanical Gardens
Hamilton Ontario, Canada
June 14-15-16, 1974*



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COVER: PLAINSMAN. Byron Bigger origination.

Very light flesh pink to white jap with yellow staminodes and white carpels. Heavy medium green foliage and a heavy bloomer with very good substance.—Photo by Myron Bigger

MEMORIES OF THE HYBRID PEONY

Eldred E. Green, Horticulturist

Garden Editor, Chicago Sun Times, Chicago, Illinois

I just finished looking at a Kodachrome slide. This is nothing to mention, except that the notation on the slide read "1939 Peony Show — Glasscock's Seedlings".

As I looked at the slide the notation brought back memories of the day when the slide was taken. The exact date was sometime around the 10th of June. It was the second year of the Regional Peony show sponsored jointly by the American Peony Society and the Midwest Horticultural Society. The show was held in Horticulture Hall of Garfield Park Conservatory, Chicago, Illinois. This show continued until the war stopped such events.

As one of the Conservatory staff and a member of both societies I was in the show up to my ears. The exhibits began arriving quite early on that Saturday. The show had many excellent exhibitors in both amateur and professional ranks. Among the peony notables showing up were Bill Christman, the Sass brothers from Nebraska, Charley Klehm, Edward Auten, Bill Murawaska and many more.

When the show was about a third set up Lyman Glasscock arrived from his farm in Elwood, a small town about 60 miles south of Chicago. Lyman had exhibited the previous years with considerable success. So when he laid his blooms on a table to get them ready, it was taken as a matter of course. However, when some of the exhibits were placed in bottles and they could be seen, there was a rush of exhibitors to see what was going on. The peony experts just stopped and stared.

The blooms were exquisite. There were singles, Japs, doubles in colors ranging from white through blush to coral, pink, red and purple.

When the flowers had been sorted and were ready for the show, Lyman asked the show officials how he should classify them. They were, he explained, hybrids between the early Peony officinalis and the chinensis. This was the first time he had shown them and so he was at a loss to know how to enter them.

A hurried conference of the show committee produced one answer. A new class had to be created and the entire collection entered as a special exhibit. The committee also arranged to have the exhibit placed at the entrance to the show. Horticulture Hall is entered from the south end from the rest of the Conservatory. It is about 3 feet lower than the other rooms. Consequently when one enters the Hall he is above the exhibits and can look down the length of the exhibits. The sides of the hall had temporary tables for the blooms while the center which was a lawn with various beds in it was used for special displays. The Glasscock hybrids were placed in the very first bed which received the most attention from anyone visiting the show. In previous shows this had been the Court of Honor.

When the exhibit was finally in place the center of attraction was the Glasscock display. A special award was given.

Naturally everyone wanted to know how the new hybrids had been created. Mr. Glasscock in his modest way explained that he had taken pollen from the officinalis and sealed in it in a tight vial and kept it in a refrigerator until the later varieties bloomed. Then he made his crosses, saved the seed, planted it and selected the varieties he liked.

As I studied the slide I was able to count 32 varieties. This count may be slightly off as the Kodachrome of that time did not show up the darker colors such as purple and some of the reds that appeared to be the same. In any case it was a large display and stupendous. The color range covered all of the normal peony colors and the rich lavenders and purples were something new. In addition many of the varieties had a translucence that was entirely new. The petals appeared to be made of choice crepe paper.

Mr. Glasscock explained that his stock of many of the varieties was not enough to market. A few varieties were in good supply and these were released that fall.

Well, thirty-four years is a long time when looking back at the calendar. However, the thrilling excitement of seeing that display, the first of the new type seems only a short time ago. I have never encountered anything that could equal that display. Truly it was a historic day in the development of the peony.



LYMAN GLASSCOCK'S HYBRIDS

View of feature display of Lyman Glasscock's new hybrids (Officinalis X Chinensis) at the 1939 Midwest Regional Peony Show, Garfield Park Conservatory, Chicago, Ill.

*This collection is in a somewhat circular group in the foreground. The regular exhibits are in the bottles in the background. Note * Singles, Japs and doubles. Many of them were translucent. All were strong and glowing colors.*

This will give an idea of the great work that Lyman did before he released any stock.

Eldred Green

THE PEONY FAMILY

Edward Lee Michau, Derby, Kansas

"What kind of a flower is that?"

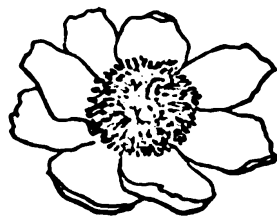
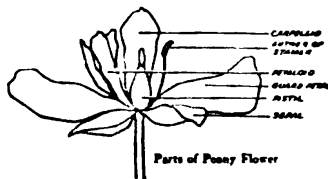
Most growers of Single and Japanese peonies have been asked that question by visitors. When they say it is a peony, the visitor sometimes replies:

"It's not what I call a peony."

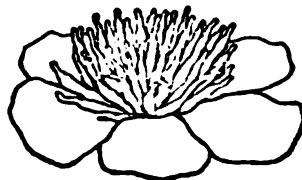
And indeed it is not what many people call a peony, since that is a pink, red or white herbaceous Double.

Quoteing from "Peonies":

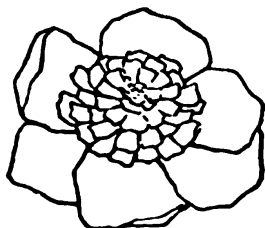
"Peony blooms naturally arrange themselves into the following groups: Single, Japanese, Anemone, Semi-double, and Double.



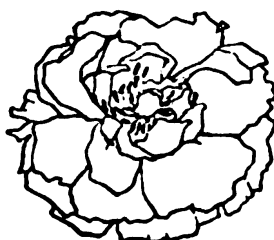
Single



Japanese



Anemone



Semi-double

The "Single Type" is a flower with five or more true petals and a center made up of a stamens with pollen bearing anthers.

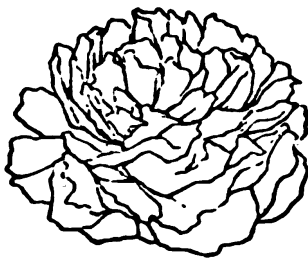
The "Japanese Type" is characterized by five or more guard petals and a center made up of stamens bearing abortive anthers, nearly or completely devoid of pollen, thereby distinguishing itself from the true single with pollen bearing anthers.

The "Anemone Type," resembles somewhat the Japanese but is distinguished from that by the absence of anthers of any kind. While the filaments of the stamens have taken on a petal-like character, being narrow, more or less incurved and imbricated. While constant in some varieties, in others it appears in side blooms and flowers of very young plants.

The "Semi-Double Type" is well marked and includes some of the most artistic blooms. Flowers of this type never become full doubles and always show a greater or less number of broad petals intermixed with the stamens, the latter always a prominent feature.

In the "Double Type" the transformation of the stamens and sometimes the stigmas into petals has advanced to that stage where they make up the main body of the flower, sometimes leaving no trace whatsoever of either stamen or stigma and in others still showing these to a greater or less extent imbedded among the petals."

In modern usage the "Anemone Type" is classed as either Japanese or Double.



Double

While we are happy that people know the doubles, we want the Singles and Japanese forms to become as well known. The lighter blooms, held firmly in wind and rain, have unique attractions all their own.

Many large singles appear as giant goblets when in full bloom. This is even more striking in the case of the hybrid singles because of the new colors available. The pale yellow of *Starlight* and *Claire de Lune*, the very large white of *Garden Peace*, and the cool salmon pink of *Janice* and *Cytheria*.

In the Japanese the fact that the center section is often of a different color from the guard petals leads to a wide variety of blending and contrasting blooms. Even the self colored Japanese are often eye-catching, with feathery centers. *Hot Chocolate* is just that, it looks as if the whole flower were soaked in cocoa. *Patricia Hanratty* was one of the most impressive blooms in the Milwaukee show. Other Japanese much admired are *Ama-No-Sode*, *Bu-te*, *Westerner*, *Neon* and many others.

Of the red Jap Mount Palomar our Secretary-Editor says:

"Mount Palomar does so good for me. It grows strong like a tall tree covered with dark red blossoms, the blooms are like that of an opened umbrella, up side down." Of singles; "Helen always reminds me of a large old fashioned pink floppy hat and *Sea Shell* is such a fresh delicate pink like the inside of a large pink shell from the sea."

Each person who grows them would have their own favorites. As a hybridizer I like the Japanese for seed crosses because the absence of pollen make them less trouble. As a result I have acquired a number of Japanese. I have also raised a dozen or so Japanese seedlings of my own. The singles I grow are mostly hybrids and species, and I first obtained them for the different bloodlines. Many are outstanding plants in their own right.

If you haven't singles or Japs in your planting, try a few. Then perhaps more people will decide that these are: "What they call peonies."

Breeding of peonies are the interest of Mr. Michau. Records, dates and information on all his crosses are always at hand. He has just reported that his *lactiflora* X tree peony was transplanted on this date, September 23, 1973.

Quote: "I think I have something different. My cross is *Festiva Maxima* X *Alice Harding* tree peony. The pollen came from a bloom from the Kansas City District Show of 1969. The plant came up in 1972. It was questionable in appearance because of its foliage. In 1973, it had tree peony color and several leaves had toothed segments. In the late spring, it sent up a third stem in the manner of *lutea*.

The plant is small for a two year old. I don't believe it can bloom before 1975. However the root is herbaceous. I have *Yellow Crown* and the root does not resemble it, in the least. The foliage does not look at all like the

seed parent, *Festiva Maxima*. Possibly it is not a true cross, even tho I think it is. More growth plus the bloom, whenever that comes should be the deciding factor.

* * * * *

Mans quest for the unknown is far reaching and the results sometimes, a realization fullfilled.

PEONIES IN BRITIAN

C. Graham Jones

'Redgarth' The Piece. Churchdown, England

When I received a request from our Secretary in May 1973, for an article on the above subject for the December Bulletin, I thought, where do I start, with Britian covering a very large area however with a little bit of



ingenuity, I decided to use the title but cover an area south of a line across the country from the River Mersey to the River Humber. From my notes of 1972 and my further wanderings this year, I have found three Tree Peonies growing in my own village, all having some connection, being planted about three years ago. It was this period when my interest in the Peony family was gaining momentum.

*Peonies in the Estate Gardens of
Sir George Dowty, Cheltenham, England*

I went into Sussex to meet Micheal Haworth-Booth, our only commercial hybridist, to talk Tree Peonies. He informed me that due to botrytis troubles he had stopped tree peony work and also said his last consignment from Japan was rejected because the plants showed this complaint. However this consignment was purchased by a World wide store and sold over the counter, this is how their local plants were obtained. Examination showed no ill health, one plant setting seeds freely but the owners description of the bloom being insufficient for identification.

A contact I made with a lady gardener, took me to that lovely village of Painswick, in the Catswolds (a range of hills) to examine the Tree Peonies growing in her tiered garden, my surprise was the growing conditions for the many trees and shrubs in excellent growth. The soil being about six inches deep on loose limestone, the secret being that this property had its own water supply, using irrigation to keep the plants growing. I paid four visits to this attractive garden to see the peonies as they bloomed and record habit and colour. They ranged from *P. Lutea*, both yellow and brown form, both being quite common in this country. *P. Potanini Alba*, a dwarf white

form, which is stoloniflorous; A Japanese type tree with semi-double lavender blue petals, containing a dull red flash and one containing a large double yellow flower overlaid red and a very weak stem, which was said to be



n a m e d MONS BEAU-CARE, one I have not yet traced, the bloom reminding me of SOUVENIR DE MAXIME CORNU.

Then I went further into the Stroud valley, to the village of Pichcombe and found a garden which had only been developed during the last six years, around an old wool mill, the owner being interested in the peony family and had made many plantings, unfortunately the

MONS BEAUCARE

Garden in Painswick, England

only plant identified was *P. LUTEA LUDLOWII*. I did make arrangements to return next spring to see them all in bloom and take a photographic record to help identification.

At the end of May, I went to London to visit the Chelsea flower show and from here my covering of the country extends to meeting three firms exhibiting peonies, namely J. Kelway and Sons, Somerset (Southwest), Bees Ltd. Chester (West) and Norcutts, Suffolk (East). The most comprehensive display being 'Kelways' who had a full stand of herbaceous varieties, dotted with tree varieties. The most notable being, *MRS. J. KELWAY* (white), *MONTROSE* (pink), *DIAMOND JUBILEE* (red), with herbaceous varieties being too numerous to mention. Talking to one of their representatives, I found that all the tree peony stock sold was imported from Japan and sold under their variety names — IS THIS A QUESTION OF NAME DUPLICATION?

The old established firm of Norcutts displayed vases of *P. DELAVAYI* hybrid this also being seen on the new plants for award section. It was a single maroon flower with a yellow center, not having seen *P. DELAVAYI* before I cannot compare. This firm also lists *P. LUTEA LUDLOWII* and six European/Chinese varieties. As yet, I have not visited the east Anglian firm, so their method of obtaining stock is not known. Bees of Chester had a few vases of the herbaceous peonies, *BOWL OF BEAUTY*, which is classified as, *IMPERIAL STRAIN* and what a beauty it was, with large eight inch blooms of bright rose with yellow centre, looking very good against the green of the remaining herbaceous plants for which this firm is famous.

My next visit covering the south of the country was to the Royal Horticultural Society gardens at Wesley in Surrey but unfortunately my visit was too late to see the peonies in bloom but I did manage to contact the assistant

Botanist, the Director of the gardens, who supplied me with a list of tree peonies they had growing on the last check, this showed: LOUISE MICHELET, SATIN ROUGE, CHORAKU, HAKUO-JISHI, HIGURASHI, JITSU GETSU NISHIKI, KAMADA NISHIKI, KAMATA FUJI, NAIMI-JIN, RIMPO, SUIGAN, YACHIYO TSUBAKI, ALICE HARDING and many other un-named forms of *P. SUFFRUTICOSA*.

Continuing the South of England, we went to Hampshire to visit the Exbury gardens, the home of the de-Rothchild family of *Rhododendron* fame, where at times the nursery garden displays tree peonies but alas, no stock was available, so we decided to motor through the New Forest to Winchester to the home of Hellier and Sons, our largest shrub nursery. Here we found a good supply of imported Japanese varieties. I had a word with one of the gardeners and it appears all the stock they were holding should have been delivered to customers during the 1972-1973 planting season but they were experiencing rooting difficulties in the potting medium. I did manage to obtain a plant of *P. SKUNKO DEN*, which had made reasonable root growth. Additional varieties seen in the frames were: *SPECIES*, *DELAVAYI*, *LUTEA LUDLOWII*, *EUROPEAN/CHINESE*, *ALICE HARDING*, *CHROMATELLA*, *SOUVENIR DE MAXIME CORNU*, *SUFFRUTICOSA*, *GODAISHU*, *HANA KISOI*, *HIGURASHI*, *HOWDAI*, *KUMAGAI*, *MISSYO*, *RENKAKU*, *SAKURA JISHI*, *TAIYOW*, *YACHIYO TSUBAKI*.

Norcutt & Co. of Suffolk, a very old established firm on the east coast side, list the following varieties: *P. DELAVAYI* hybrids, which is described earlier. European varieties: *CONTESSE DE TUDOR*, *REINE ELIZABETH*, *LACTEA LOUISE MOUCHELET*, *OSIRIS*, *SOUVENIR de DUCHER*.

Go over to the west coast area and we have Bees of Chester. This is a very large firm noted for seeds and general herbaceous stock, also carrying a small stock of herbaceous peony varieties, namely: *DUCHENE de MEMOIRS*, *Mme. L. CALOT*, *SARAH BERNHARDT*, *KARL ROSENFELDT*, *OLD DOUBLE ROSE*, *BOWL OF BEAUTY*.

Kelways & Sons, of the southwest, which are probably the best known in the peony world, carrying a very large list of herbaceous and tree varieties, many carrying their own introductory names, too many to list. Many of the varieties listed cover the prefix, "Kelways" and "Langport". Many of the listed varieties being raised by the founder, James Kelway.

The peonies seen at Chelsea, particularly the herbaceous types, had been flowered out of season to make the show, so when June came, I decided to see what varieties in this area, I could find growing. In my travels, I met the head gardener of a large estate and mentioned the subject and to my surprise, he informed me they were used in the house and at functions for decoration. His two main beds contained *P. ELSIE CARLILE*, a full double white with a small red center flare and *THE PEARL*, a full double soft pink, both these varieties being obtained from T. Carlile of Soddon Nurseries in Berkshire. I contacted this firm but alas, neither of these varieties are now obtainable.

The firm of Thomas Carlile, an old established firm has been through mixed times but has introduced many well known herbaceous plants, including HELIANTHUS and SOLIDAGO, with the prefix "LODDON".

This brings me to the end of my wandering for spring 1973. So many contacts were made, so much ground was covered but to my great dissappointment, I have no pictoral records, my camera shutter failing without my knowledge. However, I will make up for this in the spring of 1974.

The writer of this very interesting article, Mr. C. Graham-Jones of Churchdown, England, is a Horticulturist, hybridizer and grower of the Tuberous Begonia. A lecturer on the Begonia and a flower judge.

A few years ago when he decided a diversion to Begonias was required and looking for a subject, decided the Tree Peony was the answer, this was confirmed when he saw P. Rocks Variety blooming in Hampshire. He still carries on his work with the Begonia, hoping to work Peonies up to the same high standard as the work on the Begonia.

He grows the Gladioli, Dahlias Roses and unusual flowering shrubs. His greenhouses are always in use, with experimental and results of work being done.

Photography is of interest and used continually in his work.

HERBACEOUS PEONY STEMS

Roy L. Pehrson

Right at the outset it may be useful to make a couple of catagorical statements which may stir up some rebuttal.

It is probable that there are no herbaceous peony cultivars which have stems which are too strong and stiff. There are, of course, many which have *adequate* stems, but these stems are not so heavy or so stiff as to detract from the usefulness of the variety either in the garden or in the show-room. The very opposite condition is more common.

Unless you are already aware of the big differences in stem quality make this test in your garden next summer. Grasp the stem of an early blooming hybrid between your thumb and fingers and squeeze down hard. The stem will yield to this pressure. Then do the same with a stem of a lactiflora variety. This stem will not crush unless you are capable of exerting quite a bit more pressure. Then in early fall, when the foliage is no longer needed, cut off a stem of each of these plants. Examine the two cross-sections carefully. Notice that the hybrid has a very large pithy core and an outer shell which is very thin. Gouge out a bit of the pithy center of the lacti and observe that it is crisper, moister and firmer than that in the hybrid. The outer shell is thicker in proportion to stem diameter — so more fiber.

The few species plants with which I have become familiar — *p. officinalis*, *p. decora*, *p. lobata*, *p. Mlokoewitschi*, *p. decora*, *p. daurica*, *p. tenuifolia*, all have those soft and pithy stems. All are low in stature, have light weight flowers and smallish seed pods which these stems are quite capable of supporting throughout the growing season. They are however only just strong enough to accomplish this purpose, and not a bit more. It is logical

that this should be true. The species plant would be at a competitive disadvantage with other plants in its environment if it were to use unnecessarily of its resources to build a more durable stem than one just good enough to serve its purpose. Evolutionary forces have brought about just the right balance.

The later blooming *p. lactiflora* has those much stiffer stems, in keeping with its greater height. If some of the garden varieties bend too much under the weight of their heavy blooms it is because the dimensions of the stems have not increased in proportion. A few of the dwarfed growers however stand up wonderfully well. There is another tall growing species, *p. emodi* which must have a hard stem since its hybrid with a *lactiflora*, *WHITE INNOCENCE* has a good stem.

It is the hybrids derived from those little species previously listed that are so baffling — and so exasperating to a hybridizer. Blended together in various ways and with *lactiflora* they frequently produce hybrids as tall as the tallest *lactis*, but with soft stems. These advanced — generation allotetraploids, almost invariably, are extremely fertile. They produce large, very fleshy pods filled with big seeds. These pods, so much heavier than the generally single blooms which they succeed, are too great a load for the soft stems to support. The stems break over about mid height or lower and the whole clump collapses in a tangled heap about its base.

At the present time there are probably no very tall hybrids of this type which are nice enough to name and introduce. If there were, some of them might still be acceptable because the fancier would cut off the tops of the stems with the blooms when they were finished blooming. The hybridizer however wants to plan ahead. If he were to obtain a big fine double bloom on a plant like this the result would be pure disaster. The plant would break down even before the blooms opened.

Why it should be true that the soft stems of the low growing species should be so dominant in hybrids containing 50% *lacti* I do not know. Possibly it is because all of the very fertile allo-tetraploids which we have, came into being from those rarely produced seeds sometimes found on the quite sterile triploids. I shall not go into the genetics of this argument here, but it does make some sense.

What then shall the beginning hybridizer do to adapt his program of crossing to this particular problem? First I believe that he should recognize that in a hundred years or more of selection, ideal stem quality has not yet been achieved in the *lactifloras* we have today. He should also realize that perfection may be even more difficult to accomplish in the hybrids. Although his choice of parent plants to use in his work will still be very limited for a long time to come, he should be as selective as he can. To some extent at least, he should try to breed for plants of low to intermediate height. This does not mean that he should avoid entirely the use of his very tall plants, for the seedlings from these may also vary considerably. Most important of all, he should grow as many seedlings as his circumstances permit, recognizing

that the "experts" have no advantage in this game; that a fine hybrid is purely a matter of chance. If he does this and if he is also a little bit lucky he may some day walk out into his garden to find blooming there that wonder of wonders — the perfect peony!

It's fun, really!

OUR NURSERY'S HERBICIDE PROGRAM FOR 1972-1973

Roy G. Klehm

This report is designed to help people with a quantity of peonies, either amateurs or commercial people, who may want to use commercial herbicides to help control weeds.

At our Barrington Production Farm last November we covered all our peony plant fields and peony cut-flower fields with 5 lbs. of 80% wettable powder Princeps per acre. In actuality, this is 4 lbs. of active ingredient per acre. Because of the amount of acreage involved, the wetness of the soil, and the timing, we hired a helicopter to apply the chemical. The aviation firm supplied a Jet Ranger unit with 150 gallon spray tank and 40 ft. wide boom plus a talented pilot and two other men in a mixing tank truck. The mixing truck consisted of a 1400 gallon tank for our spray solution. This tank had constant agitation to keep the wettable powder in suspension. It also carried 700 gallons of auxiliary jet fuel.

We choose a central part of the farm to land and refill the helicopter spray tank with spray solution. The tank truck had a long hose and high capacity pump for the refilling function. The men were able to refill the helicopter's spray tank in 2½ minutes. This is important to keep the ground time down to a minimum. We were able, in one day, to apply this chemical to 350 acres.

At our Production farm east of St. Louis last April we applied 8 lbs. of Enide and 2 lbs. of Princep per acre with a 220 gallon tractor drawn ground unit. The ground at application time was smooth and dry, and we had very good results with this on this type of silt loam soil.

We have found that Princeps needs ¾" of moisture within 15 days to be fully effective and should be applied before weed seeds start to germinate — either in late fall or early spring. In lighter soils or more sandy soils it is necessary to cut the application rate on peonies because Princeps is a strong chemical and has approximately 30% residual carry over into the following year.

I hope this information may prove useful. Everybody has to work out their own weed control program to fit their own schedule and soil type. I definitely encourage test plots and careful reading of any available directions.

It is our nursery's policy to always choose safe chemicals so that the applicators will be safe and the environment will be disturbed as little as possible. We encourage everyone else using chemicals to always insist on biodegradable products which will dissipate in a short time in the environment and will not contaminate our resources or injure other plants and animals unnecessarily.

ITS A PLEASURE TO KNOW YOU, MR. EDWARD AUTEN, JR.

Mr. Auten planted his first peony seeds in 1916. Thousands of plants were grown from them. 2800 were selected for future trial. He named and introduced 275 varieties, over the years.

In those few lines, years had elapsed, years of joy, anticipation and frustration. Patience, energy and good judgement, all goes into a project of this kind. A life time of work. Love of flowers, a will to improve the peony, give to floriculture new varieties that would stand the test of time. Varieties that would be used in the future by peony breeders to achieve a goal, not yet accomplished.

His objective always, was to produce a plant with good color and took special delight in the red blooms that held clear, showing no purple, from the start to the fallen petal.

He sent fifteen of his hybrids, *Officinalis* X *Lactiflora* to the Royal Horticultural Society, England and received seven AWARDS OF MERIT, two of which had previously received HONORABLE MENTION. The American Peony Society awarded three medals for outstanding work in the origination of new varieties.

He was a recipient of the A. P. Saunders medal in 1968. Special pride has always been taken in one particular peony, "EARLY SCOUT". Pollen was sent him by Lyman D. Glasscock. This peony blooms before any other hybrid peony and has a distinctive ferny foliage. A good deep red.

Mr. Auten was 92 years of age on September 19, 1973. He sent the above information. He has been writing poetry since he was 84. Forty one of his first poems are in book form. They all tell of the home spun philosophy of Mr. Auten.

At School

I got a licking
at school today
When I told Maw,
She told Paw.
"That's good," said he
"It takes lickings at school
To make good boys
And it takes good boys
To make good men."



I saw my chance
And said my say;
"Tell me, Paw did you
Ever get licked at school?"
"Never," said he, "We always went
By the golden rule."
"Well, then, Paw, please tell me
Just how good a man now
Do you think you be?"
And then Maw snickered,
And then I sneezed—
Got out the back door,
But a very close squeeze.

Thus ends the tale
Of my licking at school.

Meet The Man

Edward Auten, Jr. was born in 1881 at Princeville, Illinois, where he resided all his life. He was graduated from Harvard University in 1904 Cum laude. Two of his several hobbies have been sacred music and peonies. His musical activities included twenty years service as church organist, and many compositions of sacred music. In 1910, having become disgusted with winter losses and thorns on roses, he quit them and made his first planting of peonies. This hobby developed into a full time business and has resulted in the origination and introduction of more than 275 new varieties of Peonies.

His Work

As to aims in Peony breeding—I had none when I started out, just simply thought I would see what I could do. First seed was planted about 1916, and first introductions in 1925. In 1923, one of the most prominent Peony growers told me I was wasting my time, that there were enough good peonies already, that the possibilities had already been just about exhausted. Since then he took time more than once to tell me how wrong he had been.

As I got into the work, one of my first discoveries was that we did not have to be satisfied with reds that went dead as the bloom aged. In all types of bloom, double, single, and Japanese, I was able to secure clear reds that held their good color as the bloom aged, or when sudden heat struck them. This latter point is of especial importance in the southern two-thirds of the peony belt. Of course, I always sought good stems and plant vigor.

Soon I realized that the field in Japs and singles was almost untouched. Many of the Japs from Japan were slow growers, and many of most outrageous colors. In the singles, hardly one of the older kinds was worth keeping. You might be surprised to know that one of the most difficult things to get is a first class deep pink single. Most singles are lovely when they first open, but most of them also start to fade within a day or so, and also have poor substance. I looked at thousands before I selected Elfin Pink.

In white doubles, I sought rose fragrance and refinement in color and texture. Extreme size has never meant much to me and I have discarded a good many big ones. Like most other originators, I have accomplished least with the dark pink doubles, but Pink Monarch has class, and Cathie Ann comes nearer to a 100% rating for commercial use than any other kind I know. Some exquisite light pink doubles however have in part made up for the small number of dark pink doubles.

Of course I have had countless failures in my work. One project which worked out just as successfully as hoped for was my search for new white Japs. I got just what I tried for, and more good ones than I will ever introduce.

In the officinalis hybrids, working with Albiflora pollen, the careful choice of pollen varieties paid big dividends, for here, as with the pure Albiflora reds, we get some dirty, fading colors, and others nonfading and of extreme clarity and brilliance. I never worked as much with the hybrids as I wanted to, did not have time.

I never tried Colchicine on Peonies, and don't understand the full story of its possibilities. But as I understand it, it is primarily a destructive process, and is valuable only on the chance that the destruction (or variation) will halt at some point that will give something new that is worth while. My concept may be wrong, but anyway I decided to let it alone. I did get some seed X-rayed once, And got a red bomb type bloom with Jappy yellow edges on center petals. Never named it, though it is a nice flower. It may not be the result of the X-ray, as I have had variations just as striking from ordinary seed. Some of my originations are definitely novelities. I do not expect every one to like them, but they sell to people who see them in bloom, that is, some of the people.

I have used both hand pollenized and naturally pollenized seed, with good results from both methods. But with so many fine kinds now, one is foolish to use seed not hand pollenized. I never supposed one could get reds in the pure Albiflora kinds to equal the pure reds of the Officinalis hybrids, but some of my newest seedlings come very close. One factor I have always sought has been SURE BLOOMING in the late doubles. Many kinds which look like a million dollars in cool climates like Minnesota are no good at all down here. Mrs. A. M. Brand is one such variety. On the other hand, my Virginia Lee, Cleopatra, Plymouth, and others never fail even in hot weather here in Illinois.

I never had time to do all the pollenizing and seed planting I wanted to do. After thirty years, I feel that if I could start all over again, I would at last really be prepared to make still greater improvements in Peonies.

*Information pertaining to his work was written to Mr. R. F. Koby, February 28, 1948.

For one that has named and introduced so many beautiful peonies, a card to him now about any one of them would be appreciated.

Address:

Edward Auten, Jr.
White Billet Nursing Home
412 S. York Road
Hatboro, Penna. 19040

NORTH DAKOTA PEONY SOCIETY

Officers for the North Dakota Peony Society elected for 1974 are as follows:

President—Wyman Sheppard, 612 S. 5th St., Grand Forks

Vice President—Mrs. Harold Jeglum, 1326 Walnut, Grand Forks

Secretary—Mrs. Lawrence Hanson, 117 Cherry, Grand Forks

Treasurer—Mr. Ed. L. Olson, First National Bank, Grand Forks

Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Page of Hamilton, N.D. have had an enviable record in the Society, as this is the 46th consecutive year they have exhibited and still winning honors.

The Society have some new, younger members, interested in the activities of the Society as well as the growing and showing the peony.

BRAND PEONY FARMS, FARIBAULT, MINNESOTA



R. W. Tischler of Brand Peony Farms, Faribault, Minnesota. Display of Gail Tischler at his peony show 1973. Peony, Gail Tischler was a reserve champion at the American Peony Society National Exhibition, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 1973. — Courtesy of Faribault Daily News

Brand Peony Farms of Faribault, Minnesota, is a misnomer to a certain extent and has been for many years. Over a hundred years ago when this nursery was started, its main business was supplying apple trees, small fruits, evergreens and forest trees to the farmers of the young state. In the early 1890's Oliver Brand became interested in peonies which grew well and gave little trouble in this exacting climate of the middle northwest. Work on improving the peony was started and continues up to the present time.

About 1930 the firm became interested in lilacs and accumulated nearly 150 varieties from the best known growers in the United States and France. Hybridizing was also done with lilacs and a number of new lilacs were introduced. It is still an olfactory pleasure to visit the nursery during late May when the lilacs are at their best. Just at the end of the lilac season and before the peonies are in their full glory, the iris take over. Almost any time from mid-May to the end of June there is a riot of color provided by lilacs, iris, or peonies.

If by chance you should visit Brand Peony Farms and do not especially like flowers, the present owner Bob Tischler has still other items of interest. Bob is an avid pigeon fancier and exhibits his birds in many specialty shows. In addition to pigeons there is a rather extensive collection of game birds, including several kinds of pheasants, geese, ducks, and partridge.

Brand Peony Farms has excellent peonies such as the Gail Tischler shown with Bob in the picture. And so Bob has continued the heritage connected with the Brand nursery — and added other things of interest for old and new friends.

The W. G. Sindt's
Stillwater, Minnesota

OUR GARDEN, GENERATIONS OF SELF SEEDLINGS

J. Trujillo, 29218 E. Barnett Rd., Pueblo, Colo.

Pueblo, Colorado is a thriving city of industry, noted for its iron, steel, brick, tile and foundry products. Also mining and smelting. It is called the "Pittsburgh of the West". In this part of the country, any large cultivated garden is a sight to see and especially so, when it is two acres of peonies.

East of the now, Pueblo City limits and north of the Arkansas river on its flood plain is an area of small family farms. The Lynch family homesteaded in this area in 1880. A few years later a friend gave three peony roots to Mrs. Lynch, red, white and pink. Names were not important to most of the farm women, there was daily work to be done, money, not too plentiful, so a gift of a peony root from one friend to another was so acceptable. Only the flower and the color, was desired.

These roots were planted by the old farm house. They grew and flourished. Seeds from these plants were saved and year after year seedlings were raised and planted in rows in the apple orchard. From those seedlings, came more seeds and more plants, all naturally pollinated.

Two acres of only seedlings, the results of many years, all unnamed provide thousands of flowers for our memorial day customers.



The singles range in color from white, pink, red, dark red. Some have dark green stems, with white flowers, others pale green stems with red flowers. There are a couple of plants with singles and doubles on one stem. The Japanese are many and of varied color combinations. About one third of the peonies are early singles, then come the Japanese varieties, doubles are next, the late singles

and late doubles. Blooming period extends from mid May to mid June. In 1972, we cut and sold only the doubles, so the singles seeded that year.

There is a great range of color in these seedlings, some are fragrant and a variation of size, in the bloom.

We are not in the peony business, the money received from the cut flowers pays the water bill, as water is well, ditch irrigation.

Since the sale of the ditch water last year, which ran through the area, the farms are being "chopped" up and the mobile homes are coming in. The Mesa above the river on the south of us was a truck farming area but it too, is being replaced with Surburia.

We would like to preserve this unique garden. We hope to save the farm from the Bulldozer, which is creeping out in this direction too quickly. We want to save something, we feel is irreplaceable, something that can be enjoyed now and in the future, in the form of a park or experimental garden.

We extend a welcome to all those that would enjoy this interesting old garden of peonies, all self pollinated, during the blooming period.

A SWING TO THE EAST

William Bringe

On a bright and sunny morning, the last of May, the Bringe's started for the Great Smoky mountains, anticipating the viewing of peony gardens enroute. The peonies in Wisconsin would bloom in June and this date should see gardens in full bloom in the south. Arriving at the Great Smokies National Park, the weather was warm and clear and it continued all through our tour of the park and the Cherokee Indian reservation.

Near Ashville, N.C. is the Vanderbilt estate, Baltimore and the gardens we had been dreaming about, hoping to see all the peonies in bloom. A twelve thousand acre park, planned and built by Mr. Vanderbilt, in 1895. A mansion of 250 rooms of which 35 are open to the public.

The beautiful gardens and greenhouses are a short distance below the main building. The large formal garden is laid out in French style and most of the plant material used was that which was available at the turn of the century. Many of the varieties and clones are descended from the original plants. Some of the roses were just beginning to bloom. The Tree Peonies had bloomed, also camelias and azalias. Rhododendrons were in full bloom all over the grounds. The herbaceous peonies were just past the peak of bloom but some late varieties were still in good form. Among them, I found these old varieties MMe. De Vetry, Couronne D'Or, Edulis Superba and a big bush of Fragens in full bloom. Festiva and Officinalis had bloomed many more were in bloom that I did not know, as none of them were labeled.

The nice weather came to an end and it rained all the way to Lexington, Virginia. There, we were to see our good friends Thomas and Mary Gentry, peony people and members of the American Peony Society. After our greeting and a lunch in the Gentry home, the rain abated to a drizzle, we all drove to Bellfield, the garden of Mr. Frank Gilliam.

The garden is built on a hillside with steps leading to beds at different levels. Occasional small patios invited visitors to tarry and enjoy the beauty of this secluded estate. Rustic walks and retaining walls added to the charm of this beautiful garden. Plants consisted mostly of small shrubs and Tree Peonies. I have never seen so many Tree Peonies in a private garden. There are about 50 herbaceous and 50 hybrid peonies also iris, siberian iris, hemerocallis and evergreens. The various foliage and shades of green were an infusion in the rain. This garden would be a great pleasure and a delight to see on a sunny day and when the Tree Peonies are blooming.

LIFE IS BED OF PEONIES

By Art Schaaf

The Topeka Capital Journal — May 20, 1973

Whenever bigger and better peonies have been grown anywhere in the United States during the past half century, Myron D. Bigger, 201 N. Rice Road, Topeka, Kansas, has been in the forefront of those producing the springtime blooms.

With most of his adult life devoted to growing and selling the large showy flowers and their roots, Bigger has accomplished the goal of most people — doing what he wants to do in life.



Bigger, who will be 71 in June, grew up in the dairy business on the family farm on E. 21st and Deer Creek, just west of the tremendously steep Bigger Hill which is on the way east to the present East Topeka Kansas Turnpike interchange.

But dairying was not to Bigger's likes. "I would have starved to death in the dairy business," he says. "I don't like animals."

He discovered his preference for plants over animals early in life when he went with his grandmother to pick greens in the woods along Deer Creek.

"I got to know where every flower in the woods was located," he said.

As a young man, Bigger ordered four peony roots by mail from the Henry Field Co., and also got some from the late Dr. C. F. Menninger, founder of the famed Menninger Clinic.

Bigger and Dr. Menninger struck up a friendship over their mutual love of flowers, and Bigger recalls visiting Dr. Menninger in his office in the First National Bank building. Dr. Menninger grew his flowers at his home north of the city, on Menninger Road.

Bigger became a member of the American Peony Society in 1926 and has made his living from peonies, iris and day lilies since 1943 when he moved his operation to its present location.

He was first elected president of the American Peony Society in 1958 and was re-elected in 1959. He is nationally known as a hybridizer of peonies.

He has originated, named and registered more than 30 varieties of peonies, including the famous "Kansas" variety which has won every honor possible for a peony to win.

In national shows the "Kansas" won the American Home Achievement Medal in 1942, best flower in the show in 1950 and best red in 1953. A gold medal certificate was awarded "Kansas" by the American Peony Society in 1957. That is the highest honor given by the society to any peony for outstanding performance in all sections of the country.

The "Kansas" was registered by Bigger in 1940 and its description at that time read, "Double, bright clear red, containing almost no blue. Fades very little if any. Dependable bloomer every year. Buds all open and color carries better than most reds. Stems strong and stand about 30 inches high."

Peonies originated, named and registered by Bigger include varying shades of red, pink and white.

The "Jayhawker," registered in 1949, is described as a "bomb type double light pink. The bud, guards and bomb are all the same smooth shade of light pink. The bomb holds its shape very well as the flower ages. Tall stiff stems with clean light green foliage."

The "Centennial" (1961, the year of the Kansas State Centennial) is "double dark pink that blooms late. A few stamens do not detract from the bright pink. Dark green foliage on stems up to 30 inches tall. Attracts a lot of attention."

The "Candy Heart," also 1961, is "a strong growing white that is tinted pink, with large splotches of bright red around the center. Good dark green foliage on stiff 30-inch stems. The ladies love this variety."

And what could be more appropriate than a "Myron D. Bigger" peony (1966)? It is described as a "full rose double white with a very light pink flush in the center of the flower when it first opens. This flower is very formal with extra large outer petals and smaller inner petals. The foliage is clean bright green with large leaves and very strong 30-inch stems. Most of the flowers open as round as the full moon."

Those are only a sampling of the peonies that Bigger has originated and a very small fraction of the some 400 varieties that he is now growing on his three acres. He estimates that over the years he has tried more than 1,000 different varieties.

It takes about seven years to develop a new variety of peony, Bigger said. Seed planted in the fall usually doesn't come up until the second year. And in the final analysis, only about one in a thousand develops into a desirable variety for propagation, he said.

Bigger's peony year begins about April 1 and extends to around mid-November. In April there is the spraying of the fields with pre-emergent spray to keep the weeds from starting. Then there is cultivating and straightening of stakes to keep the varieties separate.

Then as Memorial Day approaches, there is the gathering of the blos-

soms which, because of their late May blooming time, have been extensively used for decorating graves.

After the flowers are cut, gathered into 12-bud bouquets and wrapped in white butcher paper, Mr. and Mrs. Bigger keep them in a downtown cold storage plant at 34 degrees. Being a cool-weather plant, peonies will continue to open at 40 degrees.

"Peonies," Bigger says, "can take more punishment than other flowers. You can handle them like sticks of firewood."

Bigger and his wife can cut and get in to cold storage about 250 dozen blooms a day. He said he doubted if they get much more than a thousand dozen blooms this year.



The Biggers cut the blossoms whenever a particular variety comes into bloom. Depending on the season, one variety bloomed as early as May 2 one year and as late as May 25 another, Bigger said. That is why it is necessary to put the early bloomers into cold storage.

Sales of the blooms will be mostly to individuals, Bigger said, beginning around Saturday, May 26. The blooms are brought out of cold storage dry and the buyers are advised to put them in water.

Red, full double blooms seem to be the favorite of most buyers, Bigger said. He advises home peony growers never to cut more than half the blooms because to do so "you rob the foliage."

In addition to the spring crop of blooms, Bigger has a fall crop of peony roots. In fact, he says he sells as many dollars worth of roots as he does of blossoms.

Approaching 71 years of age, Bigger said he saw a TV show in which it was reported that lack of exercise, overeating and tension were blamed as the leading causes of death.

Doing what he wants to do — which is grow peonies — Bigger gets plenty of exercise, he is trim and he reports that his father lived to be 97.

All of which indicates that peonies in the Topeka area will be getting Bigger and better for many years to come.

On April 23, 1948 Mr. Bigger wrote the following letter to Mr. R. F. Koby.

"In growing seedlings, I did not have any particular aim, except to find better peonies if it were possible. My time was limited and space not too plentiful at that time, now it is even more limited, so I grew a few from the best parents that I could pick. I let the bees and the moths do the hybridizing. They could think of more crosses and had more time to work at it. I usually planted seed of a very good variety that did have pollen. Festiva Maxima and Mons Jules Elie are both fine parents. Mary Brand gave me Kansas and Westerner came from mixed seeds that must have been good varieties or I would not have gathered them.

Peony crossing is a very slow process and takes a lot of patience. They do not germinate until the second spring after they are planted. They do not bloom for several years more, so you can see you have to have a lot of them coming along, if you do not want the time to go slow.

Sincerely yours,
Myron D. Bigger

Mr. Bigger became a life member of the American Peony Society in 1926. Over the years he has grown one or more of approximately 1000 varieties. Many were discarded because of similarity and also because of the adverse performance of varieties to climatic conditions, in Kansas.

Letter of June 30, 1973

Quote—"I believe if I were limited to just one peony, it would be MYRTLE GENTRY. I told Mr. Brand one time, his biggest mistake was that he did not name that peony for himself. He named two for himself and they did not get anywhere. My namesake is doing well for me, we will see what it does for others."

Myron D. Bigger

KANSAS

One of the fine peonies introduced in the past two decades. A quality bloom on a strong stemmed healthy plant. Its sterling qualities will keep it in commerce for many years to come.

I have exhibited in 26 National Shows now and have had some Kansas on the show tables for 22 of them. However it is not only a superb show flower it is also a fine home garden plant.

Marvin Karrels

"Go all out on this very fine light red. Many times a blue ribbon winner, good dark green foliage, very fine form, good strong grower, never goes down in a rain storm."

"Bigger is a very fine breeder, Kansas, Spellbinder, Pink Cameo, Snow Mountain, Apache, Carrara, Sparkling Star, Westerner, all very fine varieties."

Clarence O. Lienau

IN MEMORIAM

CARL G. KLEHM

Services for Carl Klehm, 57, head of his family's 122 year old Arlington Heights nursery, were October 25th at the St. Peters Lutheran Church, 111 W. Olive St., Arlington Heights, Illinois.

Mr. Klehm died October 22, 1973, in St. Alexis Medical Center. He headed the Charles Klehm & Son Nursery, 2 E. Algonquin Id., since the death of his father in 1957. The nursery was founded in 1852 and at one time the Klehm Family owned much of the land on which Arlington Heights and Arlington Park race track are situated.

Mr. Klehm also was chairman of the board of the Northwest Tollway Arlington National Bank, Algonquin and Arlington Heights Roads.

He was a nationally famous peony grower. In 1903 his father, Charles Klehm, was one of the organizers of the American Peony Society. The tradition of peony growing was carried on by Mr. Carl Klehm. Through his work, new varieties of peonies were developed, with the characteristics desired, for performance. These are known as the Klehm Estate Peonies.

He won the Sylvia Award from the Society of American Florists in 1967 for a garden display at the Chicago World Flower and Garden Show. In 1970 he won an Award of Merit from the Alumni Association of the University of Illinois, from which he was graduated in 1938.

He leaves his widow, Lois, three sons, Carl Jr., Roy, and Arnold, all in the family business; a daughter, Mrs. Kathleen Marinangel; five sisters and four grandchildren.

RUSSELL H. JONES

Russell H. Jones, 85, 17 Logan St., Carmel, Indiana, died August 10, 1973 after an extended illness.

He was born in Fort Wayne, February 26, 1888 to George and Georgiana Smith Jones. On September 2, 1914, he was married to Enid Runyan, who died June 7, 1968.

Surviving are two daughters — Mrs. Dorothy Knapp, Carmel, Ind.; and Mrs. Betty Hadfield, Sacramento, California; three grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and a brother, Clifford, Peru. Mr. Jones and his brother operated the Jones Hardware Store until its sale in 1954, and the Tuckdawa Gardens from 1927 to 1967.

He was a member of the First Baptist Church, the Masonic Lodge, the American Peony Society, and a charter member of the Peru Rotary Club.

Memorials may be made to a favorite charity.

In "A History of the Peony", Mr. R. H. Jones is listed as one of the contributors of fine peonies. Quote: "It is through the co-operation and study of these peony experts, that we have the many beautiful varieties of today to enjoy". Among the many varieties he introduced, is the ever popular DOROTHY J.

I REMEMBER BERTHA HARPER

By Silvia Saunders

Word reached us late in the summer of the death of Allen Harper's wife Bertha on August 11th. After the first moment of shock, it brought back to me very vivid memories of the times I'd met Bertha. First in June 1970, when they stopped in my garden for an hour or two on their way back from a visit East. Bertha was so appreciative of my father's peonies, which, I'm glad to say, did put on one of their very best shows for her. She had an odd humor all her own, and made delightful and very much to-the-point comments on the garden. I felt then, the deep well of comradeship between the husband and wife.

In the Spring of 1971, several of us met at the Harpers. We had expected Gene Wild to come with her father, but at the last minute they found they could not drive the 200 miles. But Don Hollingsworth and his wife Bernice, were there, so it was the five of us. Bertha, humble and retiring as I believe she always was, stayed in the background (which, as often, turned out to be the kitchen) and later produced the most wonderful luncheon, ending up with a Raspberry Melba Supreme.

Bertha began her peony growing 36 years ago with a collection from Brand Peony Farms. She helped turn their garden into a Show place that has been featured in Kansas City Garden Tours. Besides belonging to the American Peony Society, both were members of the Kansas City and of the National Iris Society, attending meetings and travelling long distances to Exhibits.

Bertha is deeply missed, and I am sure it will be some time before Allen will be able to forget those past months of illness and anxiety, and dwell happily once again in their many many years of rich companionship together.

WILLIS J. SMITH

Willis J. Smith of 404 McCarroll Drive, Ottumwa, Iowa passed away July 11, 1973. He was born, November 22, 1892. He retired from the Iowa Highway Commission in October 1961. He was a veteran of World War I. Member of the Masonic Lodge No. 16 for 50 years. Member of the American Legion for 50 years. Member of the Rotary Club, Iowa County Engineers Association, National Association of County Enginners. On the first Planning Commission of Ottumwa. The district representative of Iowa Engineers Society. Member of the First Baptist Church and The American Peony Society. He was married to Zella Dale Rush, June 19, 1925. One daughter (Jane) Mrs. Gordon Nelson of Minneapolis and one son, James Roger Smith of Riverside, Illinois.

"Raising pedigreed peonies made an unusual hobby for Willis J. Smith district engineer of the Iowa Highway Commission" so stated the Ottumwa Daily Courier of June 9, 1959. Mr. Smith grew peonies and was a peony fancier for more than 49 years. He found great enjoyment in developing new varieties. He strived for a perfect peony, always trying for strength in stems,

fragrance and for blooms that would hold their color for a reasonable period after they were cut. His interest in the flower, led him into a study of genetics and the laws of inheritance. He kept a detailed record, noting each cross that went into the development of a new variety. At the time of his death, he was growing over one thousand peonies. He has registered several with the American Peony Society.

He gave so much enjoyment to appreciative motorists, that would halt to view the thousands of beautiful peony blossoms as they traveled highway 16, near Ottumwa, Iowa. The memory will always linger!

WALTER ALEXANDER

"Are you here because of the flowers or are you here because you are following that young man over there?" I think my wife and I will always remember this observation by Mr. Alexander when Sarah and I first joined the Peony Society and attended our first Show. We were just newly married.

Of course being an enthusiastic exhibitor I was running around, probably looking very unorganized, when Walter asked this question of my wife. He knew and understood people. He was always a gentleman in his words and actions. He was enthusiastic at all times and never lost faith in the American Peony Society. He attended every show and every meeting when at all possible for him and certainly showed a love and understanding for Peonies equal to the love and understanding he had for fellow human beings. We will all remember him as one of our favorite people with a nice quick smile and an intelligent and enthusiastic twinkle in his eye.

ROY KLEHM, President

SAUNDERS' VARIETIES OF LUTEA TREE PEONY HYBRIDS

Rita Kleinsmith, Norway, Michigan

The Lutea hybrid peonies in the gardens of Dr. David L. Reath began blooming about June 10 of this year. Dr. Reath obtained his original stocks of plants from Silvia Saunders, daughter of Dr. A. P. Saunders, who pioneered in the hybridizing of peonies and successfully produced a wide range of colors and form.

The Lutea hybrids flourish in the cold climate of Vulcan, Mich. The plants have adapted well to the soil and moisture conditions. As the Lutea hybrids have proved hardy in this area, these plants can be expected to thrive in other northern states. The Lutea hybrids are shrublike and stoloniferous. If the stems should freeze back during winter, the roots and buds will grow afresh. The Japanese tree peonies have few or no suckers, and hence, more losses are likely to occur.

The wild Lutea tree peony, a shrubby plant from southern China, with small yellow flowers, has produced hybrids with yellow flowers. Yellow peonies were virtually non-existent among herbaceous peonies. Crosses of the Japanese tree peony, *P. mouton*, onto *P. Lutea* or *P. Delavayi* have produced a variety of colors, flower forms, petal substance, and foliage.

The following varieties of Lutea tree peony hybrids, developed by Dr. Saunders, are growing in the Reath nursery. The range in colors is alone

spectacular. The varieties in the "Tea Rose" Group are generally yellow, but tinted and suffused with red. But it is the "Mystery" Group which enchants with heavenly hues of pearly ivory, suffused mauves, and undertones of a mixture of colors. The list of varieties has been arranged into 6 color groups, which follows:

I. The "Roman Gold" Group. Flowers from pale yellow to deeper tones, generally single.

ARGOSY. A single, delicate pale yellow, with purple flares feathered, 10 petals.

AMBER MOON. A large single amber yellow flower which opens flat; slight flares which tinge petals with pink. Petals of heavy texture. It is the earliest to bloom and continues to the end of the season. Excellent growing habit.

CANARY. A large single dazzling yellow with blooms well above the foliage. A vigorous grower in this area.

NARCISSUS. An early single yellow saucer with maroon flares.

ROMAN GOLD. A large single, sulphur yellow with dark red flares. Very floriferous.

SILVER SAILS. A silvery yellow single with pink-purple flares. Floriferous with flowers just outside foliage.

WINGS OF THE MORNING. A large pale yellow flower with maroon flares. Petals cleft, ruffled and crimped.

GOLDEN VANITY. A single yellow with slight pink tinge, small purple flares. Blooms produced in great abundance.

II. The "Golden Hind" Group. Clear yellow, generally double or semi-double.

AGE OF GOLD. A brilliant yellow, very double, camellia-like, ruffled bloom, with small red flares. Outstandingly floriferous, with blooms produced well above the attractive foliage. The plant tends to produce many stems from the ground, becoming wider each year.

ALHAMBRA. A single warm yellow, with petals crinkled and ruffled.

DAFFODIL. A semidouble, daffodil-yellow without flares. The bloom is characterized by purity of color and perfection of form.

GOLDEN HIND. A large, beautiful, double, bright yellow, fluffy flower with purple flares. Large buds on heavy stems are desirable features for cut flowers. Plant growth is sturdy.

GOLDEN ISLES. A medium to large, semidouble, brilliant flower with raspberry flares. Petals crinkled and notched.

GOLD SOVEREIGN. A bright gold flat rosette with golden heart. An attractive plant with flowers held well above the foliage.

HIGH NOON. A semidouble, bright lemon-yellow, fragrant bloom. This is the tallest of the Lutea hybrids, with tendency to rebloom in August or September.

III. The "Tea Rose" Group. Generally yellow, but tinted and suffused rose.

APRICOT. A yellow suffused with rose. Silver-gray, fern-like foliage.

- HARVEST.** A beautiful semidouble, bronze-gold flower with maroon flares. A sturdy plant with lush foliage and floriferous leaves cutleaf and bronze tinted.
- HOLIDAY.** A double, pearly cream, with lavender picotee. Lavender to purple flares which suffuse petals. Plant compact and rather dwarf in stature. Flowers produced in great abundance.
- MARCHIONESS.** A single, pearly mauve, or yellow suffused with rose. Large raspberry flares. A beautiful creation of color, with good petal substance. Also floriferous.
- SPRING CARNIVAL.** A single, basically golden yellow with dark flares, and edges picoteed with raspberry. Anthers yellow, being transformed into staminodes.
- IV. The "Banquet" Group.** Generally red, but with yellow undertones. Single to double.
- BANQUET.** A semidouble, strawberry red with undertones of yellow, and maroon flares. Outer petals oval and uncurved. Inner petals smaller and narrower. An attractive sturdy plant with blooms well placed. In the sunlight, blooms radiate an inner glow of color.
- CHINESE DRAGON.** A single flower with cerise-red or red-purple petals with deep red flares. A distinctive and unique color of bloom with a golden center. The plant has attractive, finely-cut foliage.
- HESPERUS.** An exquisite single, old rose pink, with yellow undertones and deep pink veins; purple flares. Petals crinkled and notched; inner petals smaller and narrower. Underpetals decidedly yellow with pink flares and edges. The admixture of colors produces a radiance of color.
- RENOWN.** A single strawberry red, similar to Banquet, with suffused yellow undertones; saucer form. A late bloomer.
- RIGHT ROYAL.** A beautiful semidouble, yellow and lavender petals, lavender picotee, and purple flares suffusing petals slightly.
- ROSE FLAME.** A large single deep pink with a lighter undertone; maroon flares and tinges of purple.
- V. The "Black Pirate" Group.** The dark reds and almost black maroons.
- BLACK PANTHER.** A semidouble, very dark or black maroon, with a golden center. Guard petals recurved; inner petals tattered. Foliage cutleaved.
- BLACK PIRATE.** A single dark black-red, petals recurved. Petals puckered and edges slightly irregular. Good substance. The blooms have a glossy finish. The strong stems carry the flowers well above the foliage.
- CORSAIR.** A single dark maroon with black flares. Petals of good substance, ragged edges.
- RED CLOUD.** A semidouble pinkish red with undertones of gray and yellow, giving a translucent effect. Petals oblong, creped and crinkled. Underpetal flare of gray and a suffused yellow tone.
- THUNDERBOLT.** A large single dark red or black crimson. Petals of good substance; crimped and slightly ruffled. Guard petals recurved. Floriferous.

VESUVIAN. A fully double black-red with purple undertones. It has 3 or 4 rows of guard petals; center petals small and numerous. Petals of good substance.

VI. The "Mystery" Group. Basically ivory with pearly hues and suffused mauves.

CORONAL. A single cream or ivory flushed with rose, and a pink tinge at edge of petals. Petals ruffled and furled with red flares. Good plant habit with flowers held above the plant.

MYSTERY. A beautiful large single, pearly mauve or lavender with darker shades. Purple flares and dark veins. Petals puckered and of good substance. Bronze tone to foliage.

SAVAGE SPLENDOR. A gorgeous orchid-like bloom. A single ivory, tiger streaked with lavender. Petals ruffled with maroon flares.

PRINCESS. A large semidouble rose-lavender suffused with a yellow sheen. Petals crepey and slightly ruffled. Dark flares and a golden center. A striking color creation.

PEONY PLANTINGS, REGULAR & IRREGULAR

L. V. Franklin, Hamel, Minnesota

When I read the article by Clarence Lienau in the June 1973 Bulletin #206 on spring planting of peonies, it brought back memories of yesteryears when our nursery did quite a volume of wholesale business in plants and cut flowers.

We used to put a few thousand plants in storage in the basement of our eighty foot long warehouse for spring sales to Bachmans, Bush Nursery, Gregersons Nursery, Homedale Nursery, Rosedale and others. After all orders were filled in the fall, we then divided these plants and stored them in three foot wide bins, which were around the exterior of our storage basement. These were continuous bins divided into three to six foot sections. The top was a permanent three foot wide shelf, three feet off the floor. The divisions and damp planer shavings, were packed in layers, in the bins. In summer the bench tops were used for work benches, when arm loads of flowers were piled high on them.

If any of our planting stock could not be planted in the fall, due to an early freeze or other circumstances, we planted them in the spring, sometimes as late as June 1. There were success and failures in the spring planting. The following will tell you of the strength of a peony root and unusual time of planting.

In the fall when we started digging for our orders, we took all the packing that had been used a previous year, from the bins and run it through a course screen before conditioning it for use again. We found a number of dried up divisions and roots. This one particular year, we found a couple divisions which were in shavings still damp and looked about as good as the divisions we took out in the spring. I threw them in a box with some of the damp shavings and being busy, promptly forgot them. Later, after the fall work was done and divisions for spring sales were in storage, I discovered the

box again. The two plants were still alive but very dry. It was then that I planted them in soil in large flower pots, watered them, took them home and put them in a sunny window. This was just before Christmas. These plants had been dormant for more than a year and had missed a year's growth. The plants grew, one bloomed and one did not. They were about average for the first year. The one that bloomed was KRINKLED WHITE. I did not record the exact blooming date but it was around April 1. I planted it outdoors in May and it grew to be a big plant with no indication that it had missed a years growth.

Business Report of the Society 1972-1973

The annual report of the Society is better told by analyzing the financial report.

For the year beginning June 1, 1972 and ending June 1, 1973, the total receipts were \$5166.04. The expenses were \$4477.43. It is of great satisfaction that the Society operated in the black this year, due to the fact of this being an exceptionally heavy fiscal year with the paying of the past accumulated debts. All debts are paid in full, no outstanding bills and the Society is operating on a current paying basis, with the report showing the receipts are in excess of the disbursements.

The amount of money spent for postage is that of the Secretary only. The Bulletin postage is included in the expenditure of that department. It is noted that the Bulletin is now being sent out under special rates for authorized organizations only. Permit is imprinted on the Bulletin envelopes.

1973 dues statements were mailed to all members on December 7, 1972. Second notices were mailed in April, 1973. To date about 6% of the total membership have not paid their dues and those delinquent will be removed from the active list before September.

The membership has increased over the previous year. Also, I might add that the mail has increased considerably.

A major part of your yearly dues are spent for the publication of the Bulletin. Through this medium, we strive to publish informative articles that are of interest to you. To do this, we must depend upon the membreship, as throughout our vast area, the growing of peonies are approximately the same, although the culture and environment vary as to the climatic regions.

The 1972 auction gave the Society added financial support, in the amount of \$701.00. We especially express appreciation and thanks to all the donors, which made the auction possible and to the auctioneer and all those that helped to make it a huge success.

We are pleased to report that the income tax form for non-profit organizations has been filed with the U.S. Government and the state of Minnesota. The Society now operates under the first identification number given at the time of exemption from Federal Income Tax, which was effective February 18, 1954. Three identification numbers have been used in the past which has caused confusion. Reference for future employes, the identification number is 54-0567098. All credits have been transferred to that number. We are

exempt from Income Taxes as an Agriculture or Horticulture Society.

The American Peony Society has had good press notices of various interests in our reciprocal magazines, also listings in National Magazines and various publications.

More slides have been donated, which is appreciated. More people are asking for them and at times, the requests are overlapping. The slides are catalogued and handled in a very efficient manner. It would be appreciated if more members would contribute to this collection.

An expression of gratitude is due our President and Board of Directors for the sound management and successful accomplishments of the Society this past year, also for the contributions of various services.

Again, it is my pleasure to give you both the financial and Secretary's report. The Society is self-sustaining and the financial status at this time is good. This condition can only continue by executive interest, loyalty of all members and your continued support.

Greta M. Kessenich
Secretary-Treasurer

Financial Statement — June 1, 1972 - June 1, 1973

Balance on hand June 1, 1972		\$3956.13
Receipts:		
Membership dues	\$3535.65	
Total members	441	
New members	116	
Advertising	\$ 224.50	
Rent: color slides	53.00	
A.P.S. Auction, Mansfield, Ohio	\$ 651.50	
Mail auction	49.50	
Total auction	701.00	
Contribution	50.00	
Registration, Nomenclature	50.00	
Publications:		
Bulletins	62.36	
Handbooks	19.00	
"The Peonies"	63.75	
"Peonies Outdoor and In"	45.55	
Binders	3.50	
Total	194.16	
Closing account, Peoples Bank, Van Wert, Ohio	64.29	
1972 Exhibition surplus, Kingwood Center	91.80	
Total	156.09	
Interest on Savings	201.64	
		\$5166.04
Total Receipts		\$9122.17

Disbursements

Publications:

Four Bulletins, June - Sept. - Dec. - March	\$1808.54
March supplement	121.00
American Peony Society postage	247.35
Office supplies	11.95
Printing flyer, Mansfield show	10.40
Refund on advertising.....\$ 35.00	
Refund on membership	5.00
Total	40.00
Travel expense, Editor Harper	81.75
Books. "The Peonies"	53.64
Bank charges	2.00
Balance on deficit (previous administration	2000.00
Telephone	25.00
Show expense, Milwaukee, Wisconsin	75.80
Total disbursements	\$4477.43
Balance June 1, 1973	4644.74
	<u>\$9122.17</u>

Excess receipts over disbursements \$ 688.61

Savings account\$4189.16

Checking account 455.58

\$4644.74

Greta M. Kessenich
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting June 15, 1973

A meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 8:30 P.M., June 15, 1973 by President Klehm.

Members present at the meeting were: W. G. Sindt, past president, John Simkins, Marvin Karrels, Clarence Lienau, Pharon Denlinger, Dr. David Reath, Chris Laning, Allen Harper, Irwin Ewing, Gary Seaman, Edward Lee Michau, and Greta Kessenich, Secretary. By invitation, Dr. Franklin Styer and Joe Glocka.

The nominating committee presented the following nominees for the ensuing year: Charlotte Sindt, Pharon Denlinger, Allen Harper, Edward Lee Michau, Joe Glocka and Ted Mysyk.

Allen Harper, even though present had sent a letter of resignation from his duties as editor of the Bulletin. This resignation was duly accepted.

A motion was made by W. G. Sindt that a vote of thanks be given Mr. Harper for his work in editing the Bulletin the past two years and for taking it over at a very critical time. This was unanimously approved by all members of the Board, present.

Chris Laning made a motion that Greta Kessenich be appointed as Editor of the Bulletin of the American Peony Society. Marvin Karrels seconded the motion. It was approved by all members of the Board of Directors, present. The first issue under the new Editor, to be September 1973.

Due to heavy commitments, Dr. David Reath asked that another Vice President be named, replacing him. John Simkins was appointed as the nominee to that office.

Nomenclature— President Klehm proposed that a new office be created in the Society for the purpose of keeping our nomenclature accurate and for exploring and working to be recognized as an International registrar.

Dr. Styer gave a very interesting and constructive talk on International Registration, also why it was so necessary that the American Peony Society consider this action, at this time.

Commercial dues— A lengthy discussion ensued about the Commercial dues. A motion was made by Edward Lee Michau that all commercial dues for authorized Commercial Growers be \$25.00 a year. Irwin Ewing seconded the motion. It was approved by 2/3 majority.

President Klehm appointed Mr. Allen Harper to work on a check list of the American Peony Society.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

Greta M. Kessenich
Secretary-Treasurer

Board of Directors Meeting, June 17, 1973

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Peony Society was called to order at 9:30 A.M. June 17, 1973 at The Domes, Milwaukee, Wisconsin by President Klehm with the following present:

W. G. Sindt, Past President, John Simkins, Marvin Karrels, Clarence Lienau, Pharon Denlinger, Dr. David Reath, Chris Laning, Gary Seaman, Allen Harper, Irwin Ewing, Charlotte Sindt, Edward Lee Michau, T. R. Mysyk, Joe Glocka and Greta Kessenich, Secretary.

The resignation of Dr. David Reath from the office of Vice President was given due consideration. Mr. Gary Seaman nominated Mr. John Simkins as Vice President. Seconded by Mr. Allen Harper which was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by President Klehm, as follows:

"I move to create a new corporate office for the American Peony Society to be known as DIRECTOR OF REGISTRATION. The duties of the Director of Registration would be to conduct and operate a continuing orderly department of registration for all new Peony introductions. The registration of a new variety is to be done in accordance with the notes for the guidance of International Registration Authorities for Cultivated Plants and the American Association of Nurserymen's "How to name a New Plant".

By its commitment on Nomenclature and Plant name registration the long range goal of this office would be to achieve complete National Authority for the naming and registration of all new Peony varieties and eventually the complete International Authority for all Peony registrations."

This motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Mr. Allen Harper was appointed to this office as Director of Registration.

The "Recommended Variety" list is to be given further study. Each variety is to have a short description. The Gold Medal Peonies are to be listed, with the recommended varieties. Directors are urged to list favorite and good varieties of garden value and some within a reasonable price range. This information is to be sent to Mr. Clarence Lienau.

Lutea hybrid tree peony, AGE OF GOLD was unanimously voted the GOLD MEDAL for 1973.

The 1974 Exhibition of the American Peony Society will be at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. June 14-15-16. Schedule for the show will be written by Mr. Marvin Karrels and John Simkins. The artistic schedule will be written by Charlotte E. Sindt and Mr. Marvin Karrels.

Special membership— A motion was moved, seconded and passed that special classes of membership be available for those who wish to further support the Society. Contribution—\$25.00, Sustaining—\$50.00, Supporting—\$100.00, Patron—\$250.00.

Members of the Board of Directors are to recommend varieties of peonies in order that the directors can study them for approval.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 A.M.

Greta M. Kessenich
Secretary-Treasurer

LACTIFLORA vs. ALBIFLORA

Most of our peonies are of *lactiflora* origin. This word has only lately been used to denote that species. For many years it was known as *chinensis* or *sinensis*. Then it was known as *albiflora* and only recently has it been found that the word *lactiflora* is probably the correct name of the species, and as botanists have adopted this as correct we have generally used it. It must be remembered that the words *albiflora*, *chinensis*, *sinensis*, *lactiflora*, denote the same species.

Many do not seem to understand what is meant by the term "hybrid" peony. A true hybrid is produced by crossing a variety of one species with another of an entirely different species.

For many hundreds of years, after the peony became well known in China, as a garden plant, the only herbaceous species used for propagation seems to have been *lactiflora* (syn. *albiflora*, *chinensis*, *sinensis*), though they had several others available. Two men in this country, unknown to each other and living nearly a thousand miles apart, had the same idea, namely that by crossing species, the season of bloom would be prolonged, the color range widened, the height and size varied, and better plants be produced. So Lyman D. Glasscock of Elwood, Illinois, and Prof. A. P. Saunders of Clinton, New York, went to work, this was the beginning with the first hybrid in this country.

Urged on by the success of these men, others soon joined in the work, among the most prominent of whom are: Edward Auten, Jr., of Princeville, Ill., Mrs. Mary E. G. Freeborn of Proctor, Vt., W. S. Bockstoe of Pittsburgh, Penna., and Walter Mains of Belle Center, Ohio.

TREE PEONIES

For the benefit of those who do not know, a tree peony is not a tree, but a perennial shrub which is deciduous, that is, sheds its leaves in the winter. In our gardens, it rarely grows more than from three to six feet high, though extra good plants may grow taller. Some have been known to reach ten feet. It is a rather slow grower.

The native habitat of the tree peony is confined to a comparatively small area in Western China and Tibet. Four species are found there, all classified under the general head *Moutan*.

Being woody plants, they are not cut to the ground in the fall but the shed leaves should be collected and burned.

They should be cultivated just as other peonies are and as the same insects and diseases attack them, the cure and preventive measures are the same.

Botrytis is their worst enemy. When attacked, cut out all affected parts and burn. Be sure to spray, as directed, for prevention.

In planting tree peonies, the holes should be dug somewhat deeper than for the herbaceous and the plants set with the union between the root stock and the scion two or more inches below the surface. Some plant it as much as a foot deep. This is done to enable the scion to quickly become established on its own roots. They should also be given plenty of room. Well grown plants are often as much as six feet in spread. For such plants the ground needs deep and thorough preparation and enrichment.

Through the years the annual exhibitions of the American Peony Society has excelled. The viewing public sees blue ribbons and rosettes attached to the "BEST FLOWER IN ITS CLASS" on the COURT OF HONOR. This flower has been grown and groomed by the exhibitor. It means as much in the Peony show as a thoroughbred animal in the livestock show.

The following episode seems to be most apropos:

Thoroughbred Live Stock and Thoroughbred Flowers

I used to keep thoroughbred Jerseys and Shorthorns. Though I enjoyed it they were constant care. One night I was awakened by a fearful crash. I awakened the boys and told them to bring the lanterns. Rushing out, I saw in the barn, two balls of fire. They belonged to the Shorthorn. He weighed a ton and every pound of him was in fighting trim. Aiming a pitchfork a suitable distance below those blazing orbs, I caught him through the ring in his nose. We secured him and led him back to his stall. It seemed the Jersey got loose and thought it a good time to take revenge. The Shorthorn tore himself loose, drove the Jersey back to his stall and with one tremendous thrust, hurled him through the side of the barn. I was younger then but I do not want any more. With peonies you know where they are nights. They do not tear themselves in wire fences. They do not eat their heads off in winter. The food costs nothing. You can go off on your summer vacation and they will be there when you get back. They multiply as fast as live stock.

From the writings of C. F. Harrison, 1907, York, Nebraska. One of the Charter members of the American Peony Society. The Certificate of Incorporation also bears his name.

December—Renew membership in American Peony Society — Show peony pictures to friends and family. Rest and enjoy holiday Season. Buy "The Peonies" from American Peony Society for Christmas present.

A copy of the Certificate of Incorporation of the American Peony Society is available to any member, by writing the Secretary.

PEONIES REGISTERED

PRIDE of McHENRY

(Roy G. Klehm 1973)

Seed Parent, Monsieur Jules Elie.

Pollen Parent, 71D

Large size bloom, full rose type double bloom medium peony, pink with glossy silver edging on all petal perimeters.

CHEDDAR CHEESE

(Roy G. Klehm 1973)

Seed Parent, Monsieur Jules Elie

Pollen Parent, 71D

Full double rose type flower, reliable in plant and blooming habits. Sulphur Yellow in color.

CHARLEY'S WHITE

(Roy G. Klehm 1973)

Seed Parent, Monsieur Jules Elsie

Pollen Parent, Natural Cross

"Bee Job"

Beautiful White early bloomer, ideal for cut flower arrangements. Extra long stems.

AH SO

(Muryle Kostiuk, Harrah, Okla.)
1973

Japanese, deep pink, flat, no fragrance. First bloomed 1970. Parentage: Margaret Atwood X unknown. Flower 5" across. Some side buds. Substance good, strong stems, 32" in height. Vigorous, good garden value, green foliage, lasting flower, bright deep pink color, yellow stamens. Wind does not damage. Early to mid-season.

LULLABY

(Roy Pehrson, Lafayette, Minn.)
1973

Moon of Nippon X Laura Magnuson Blush fading white. No stamens or carpels. First bloomed 1967. Large, tall (47") full double, very dense. Foliage is very dark green, somewhat glossy. This should become a very fine fanciers and showmans peony because the first buds invariably produce blooms of fine exhibition qual-

ity. Later, smaller buds may fail to open unless the weather is cool. Blooms are so heavy and stems so tall that staking is desirable.

SUNGLINT

(A. P. Saunders) 14400

Hybrid, yellow, single two or three rows of petals. Parentage. Saunders lactiflora No. 1026 X Saunders 4710 (Mloka X Macro). Good substance, floriferous. One to three buds per stem. Has pollen. Seeds occasionally. Sturdy upright stems. 35" tall. Very early and medium green foilage. Registered by David Reath, June 30, 1973.

CORAL FAY

(Orville W. Fay)

Hybrid F2, radiant pink, semi-double, fragrant. Parentage Laddie X self. Good substance, stamens, very floriferous. May produce seeds with certain pollen, as from Fayette. Strong stems, 30" in height, very early, excellent propagator. Fine cut, fern leaf hybrid foliage. Registered by David Reath, June 30, 1973.

BLAZE

(Orville W. Fay) 62-6

Hybrid, bright red, single with two or three rows of petals. First bloomed 1962. Parentage Bravura X self. Very reliable, floriferous, good substance. Stamens, sturdy upright stems, 32" in height. Very early, dark green foilage. Good strong plant. Registered by David Reath, June 30, 1973.

MAY MUSIC

A. P. Saunders) 16209

Hybrid, apricot buff with crimson flares. Single. Parentage, Quadruple hybrid. Excellent substance, one to three buds per stem. Not especially fertile as a pod and pollen parent. Sturdy upright stems, 36" in height. Very early and very vigorous with deep green foilage. Registered by David Reath, June 30, 1973.

MARIE FISCHER

(Hubert A. Fischer, Hinsdale, Ill.
1973)

Hybrid, single. Color, Wilson-Peach 5-12-3 to 5-21-1. Ridgeway, pale pink buff, plate # XXIX. Parentage, Moonrise X unknown. First bloomed 1969, fragrant, ruffled, prolific amount of bloom, has pollen, stamens, seeds. Reliable, early, 40 inches in height, exceptional stem strength. Healthy foliage, increases well, good substance, with unusual color. Opens yellow to buff and changes to pink buff as it matures.



Season's Greetings

What other flower that blooms in the spring can be brought out of cold storage and enjoyed in all its freshness and true color in the fall of the year? Only the PEONY.

On September 14, 1973, the Minnesota Peony Society had their annual fall meeting, which is always the election of officers and a program on peonies. At this dinner meeting, a bouquet of FLAME and CRUSADER was the centerpiece and a topic of conversation. The flowers were in perfect bud and full bloom. Other members have had the doubles, on their table at Thanksgiving time.

PUBLICATIONS

Handbook of The Peony—A 36-page booklet containing articles on why and when to plant, the care, culture and propagation of peonies.

Back Bulletins. Current Issues, \$1.00 each, to members. \$2.00 to non-members.

The Peonies, edited by John C. Wister (1962). Published by the American Horticultural Society, Wellington, Mt. Vernon, Va. 22121. 220 pages, information on Herbaceous, Tree and Hybrid Peonies. Many techniques of growing, propagation and breeding. A must for every Hybridizer. Price to Members, Clothbound \$3.50, Paperbound \$2.50.

Send check or money order for the above literature to American Peony Society, 250 Interlachen Road, Hopkins, Minnesota 55343.

Display Advertising Rates Schedule

Size of Ad	4 Insertions	Single Insertion
1-8 page	\$ 25.00	\$ 7.50
1-4 page	40.00	12.50
1-3 page	50.00	15.00
1-2 page	65.00	20.00
Full page	100.00	30.00

COLOR SLIDE COLLECTION

Color Slide Collection: The American Peony Society maintains several groups of excellent sets of peony slides for rental. Each set contains 80 slides. A list of names accompanies each set. Ideal for program and Garden Club meetings, Rental fee \$7.50.

Request for slides write to: Richard Edblom, 6917 45th Ave. N., Minneapolis, Minn. 55428.

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VULCAN, MICHIGAN 49892



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Gary P. Seaman, Manager

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Enjoy this wonderful flower from spring to autumn frost. Its long blooming season will greatly expand your garden enjoyment.

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