

# American Peony Society Bulletin

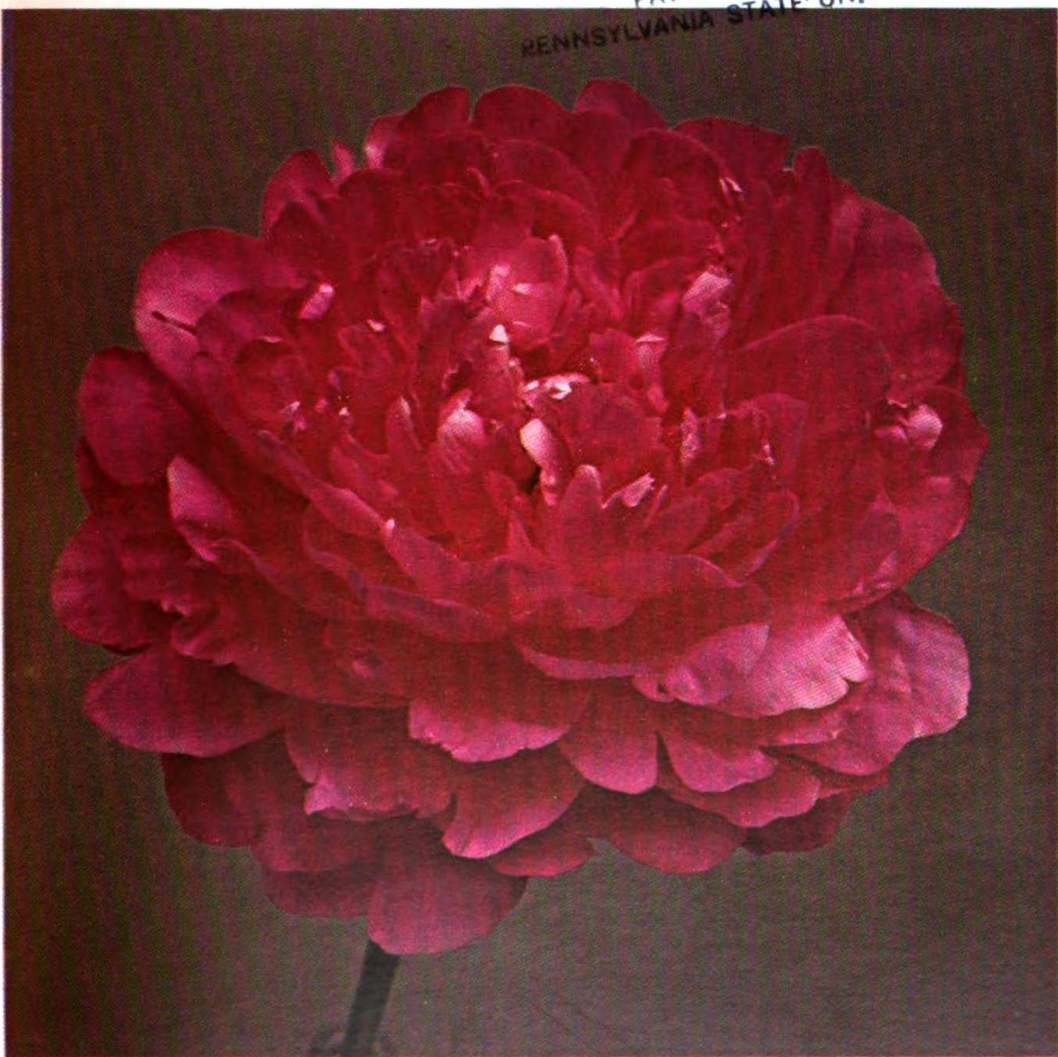
SEPTEMBER 1974

No. 211

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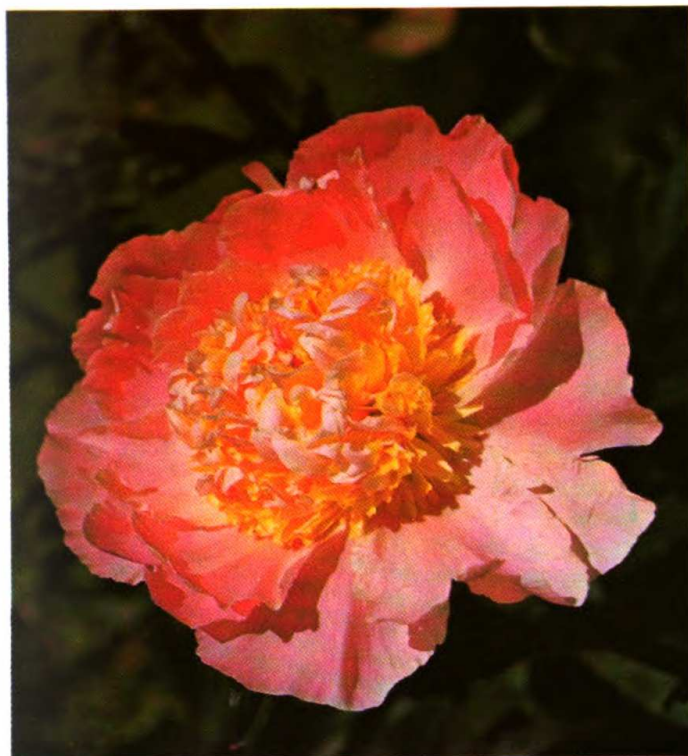


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**PRINCESS MARGARET (Murawska - 1960)**

**1974 NATIONAL GRAND CHAMPION**



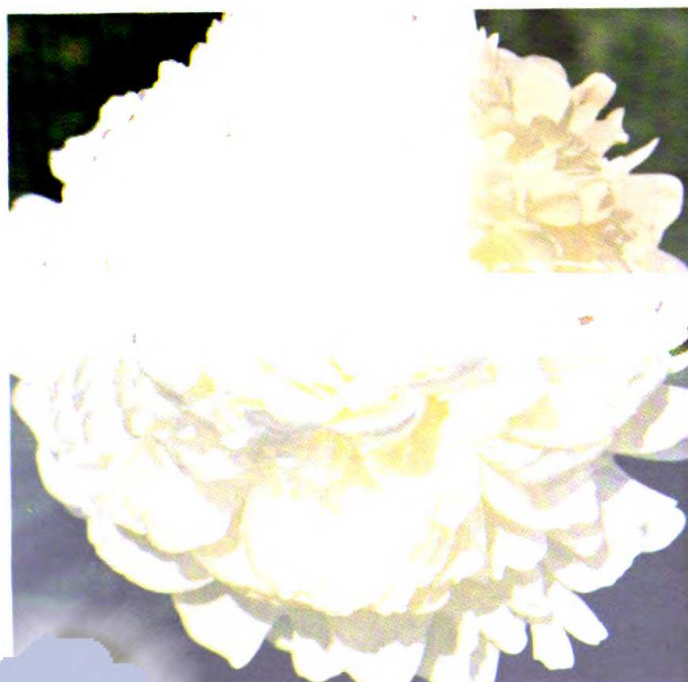
### **PINK LEMONADE**

Klehm Estate Peony  
(P.P. 3395)

Mid. - Double  
Soft blend of yellow,  
pink and cream.  
Enhancing fragrance.

### **ON THE FRONT COVER**

**PRINCESS MARGARET** (Murawska - 1960) -  
Mid. - Double. Deep rosy pink, extremely  
large flower. Ideal show variety. 1974  
National Grand Champion.



### **BOWL OF CREAM**

Klehm Estate Peony  
(P.P. 2451)

Mid. - Double  
Huge, bowl-like  
flowers of creamy  
white.

## **PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY**

C. W. Ward	-	1903-1908	George W. Peyton	-	1944-1947
B. F. Farr	-	1909-1916	Marvin C. Karrels	-	1947-1949
James Boyd	-	1917-1918	Frank E. Moots	-	1949-1951
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Dr. Earl B. White	-	1940-1942	W. G. Sindt	-	1970-1972
L. W. Lindgren	-	1942-1944	Roy G. Klehm	-	1972-1974
Mr. John Bongers	-	June 1944			
		Died Oct. 19, 1944			

So that the dates will be more accurate in the records of past Presidents, research has it that:

Professor Saunders was elected Jan. 27, 1930.

Mr. W. G. DuMont was elected March 19, 1932.

Mr. John Bongers was elected June 1944 and died while serving his term as President, Oct. 19, 1944.

Mr. Peyton was appointed to fill out the year and then was elected President and served the regular term of two years.

The first annual meeting of the American Peony Society, Detroit, Michigan, 1903.

Certificate of Incorporation was filed in Albany N.Y., July 2, 1904.

The main purpose for which the Society was founded was to attack the difficult question of peony nomenclature and to bring order out of confusion which then reigned among named peonies in commerce.

The second meeting and first exhibition was held in New York, June 8-9, 1904. "...There was a great lack of names, thereby diminishing the value of the show . . ."

The American Peony Society has made giant strides in the last seventy years. The power of the peony names! The power of registration!



## AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

250 Interlachen Road

Hopkins, Minn. 55343

President ..... John E. Simkins  
Vice President ..... Gary P. Seaman

Secretary-Treasurer ..... Greta M. Kessenich  
Bulletin Editor ..... Greta M. Kessenich

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4512 North 64th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53218

#### MIDWEST DISTRICT

Chairman and Newsletter Editor: Leo J. Armatys, Central City, Nebr. 68826

### DEPT. OF REGISTRATION

The department was formed to properly supervise the nomenclature of the different varieties and kinds of peonies. All new varieties should be registered to avoid duplication of names.

Greta M. Kessenich, Secretary

### 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 kind of the general objects herein specified by holding or causing to be held exhibitions, and awarding or causing or procuring to be awarded, prizes therefor 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 through 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





# AMERICAN Peony Society Bulletin



September, 1974 — No. 211

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## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

It is an honour and privilege to be the second Canadian president of the American Peony Society, which is a community of people interested in the peony.

There are many groups that make up a community or Society throughout the world.

There are members that come and go. Members that continue each year, enjoying the information received from the Bulletin. Some are more active and submit articles for the Bulletin, grow peonies from seed and promote the Society in their area. There are those that attend the annual show and exhibit their peonies. The concerned person for a better peony, starts to hybridize. Finally there is a group of dedicated men and women that administer the affairs of the Society.

As President, I will try to promote the inward movement of the peripheral group and the involvement of new members so they will decide to be a permanent member of the organization, as it is one of dedication to the furtherance of the peony.

Those involved derive a great deal of deep down pleasure from our association in the Society. We want all the members to share this joy and sense of achievement in increasing the total beauty and pleasure of the world. The returns on the effort expended are immeasurable.

There are three major ways to achieve this goal. We have an informative and interesting Bulletin, and to continue we need many contributors. Write about your experiences with the peony and do not worry about split infinitives or grammatical problems. They will be corrected.

The second method is to have a continuous influx of new members to enlarge this circle. This is a task for all members. Give a piece of your favorite peony root to a friend in return for a membership.

The third method is to have a large number of members participate in the annual show. The location is changed every year, to cover the areas of highest membership density. It is necessary to have someone in the area to arrange for the show and a suitable facility to house it. If you feel that your area has been neglected and would be willing to set up the arrangements, let us know.

The locations have been set until 1978. The 1975 Annual Meeting and Exhibition will be Kingwood Center, Mansfield, Ohio, June 13, 14 and 15.

Every member is invited to join me during my regime as President, in the joyful effort, on behalf of our favorite flower, The Peony.

John E. Simkins

*PEONIES RECOMMENDED BY THE AMERICAN  
PEONY SOCIETY*

**LIST OF PEONY VARIETIES FOR USE AS GARDEN PLANTS**

**DOUBLE—**

Festiva Maxima ..... White-medium to tall  
Lora Dexheimer ..... Red-medium height  
Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt .... Pink-medium height  
Mrs. Frank Beach ..... White-medium height  
Mabel Gore ..... Red-medium to tall

**ANEMONE—**

Ruth Clay ..... Red-medium height  
Winnefred Domme ..... Red-below medium height  
Butter Bowl ..... White-medium to tall

**JAPANESE—**

Hari Ai Nin ..... Tall red  
Largo ..... Tall pink  
Lotus Queen ..... White-medium height  
Red Splendor ..... Rose-red—medium height  
Setting Sun ..... Deep rose-purple—medium height  
Nippon Brilliant ..... Tall red

**SEMI-DOUBLE—**

Rare China ..... White—below medium height  
Red Goddess ..... Red—medium height  
Sylvia Saunders ..... Pink—medium height  
Flamingo ..... Pink—medium height

**SINGLE—**

Angelus ..... Light pink—medium to tall  
Arcturus ..... Red—medium to tall  
Harriet Olney ..... Deep pink—medium to tall  
Cygnet ..... White—below medium height  
L'Etancelante ..... Pink—medium to tall  
Multnomah ..... Red—medium height

**DWARF—**

Flower Girl ..... White Double  
Peggy ..... Pink Double  
Rosalie ..... Rose-red semi-double

**HYBRIDS—**

Friendship ..... Pink single—low to medium height  
Heritage ..... Red double—medium to tall  
Laddie ..... Dwarf red single—fern leaf  
Roselette ..... Pink single—tall  
Seraphim ..... White single—low to medium height



## RECOMMENDED LIST OF DOUBLE TYPE PEONIES

<b>WHITE—</b>	<b>Gardenia</b>	<b>LIGHT RED—</b>
Ann Cousins	Hans P. Sass	David Harum
Bowl of Cream	Minuet	Felix Crousse
Dr. J. H. Neeley	Nick Shaylor	Felix Supreme
Elsa Sass	Nancy Nicholls	Kansas
Festiva Maxima	Reine Hortense	Mabel Gore
Frankie Curtis (Bomb)	<b>MEDIUM PINK—</b>	<b>MEDIUM RED—</b>
Kelways Glorious	Doloradel	Lora Dexheimer
Mary E. Nicholls	Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt	Mary Brand
Mothers Choice	Mon. Jules Elie (Bomb)	Shawnee Chief
Laura Treman	Mrs. Livingston	Tempest
Snow Mountain	Farrand	Paul M. Wild
Victory	Souv. De Louis Bigot	<b>DARK RED—</b>
<b>BLUSH—</b>	Sarah Bernhardt	Bonanza
Annisquam	Therese	Carolyn Mae Nelson
Alice Harding	Walter Faxon	Highlight
Florence Nicholls	Vivid Rose	Judy Becker
La Lorraine	West Hill	Karl Rosenfield
Moonstone	<b>DARK PINK—</b>	Matilda Lewis
Norma Volz	Blanche King	Noel
<b>LIGHT PINK—</b>	Emma Klehm	Phillipe Revoire
Ave Maria	Loren Franklin	Richard Carvel (Bomb)
Dorothy J.	Mme. Emil Debatene	
Dinner Plate	Princess Margaret	
Ella Lewis	Rose Glory	
	Wilford Johnson	

## RECOMMENDED LIST OF SINGLE TYPE

<b>RED—</b>	<b>WHITE—</b>	<b>PINK—</b>
Arcturus	Cygnat	Angelus
Imperial Red	Exquisite	Dawn Pink
Red Velvet	Krinkled White	Helen
Florence Bruss	Le Jour	L'Etencelante
President Lincoln	Pico	Sea Shell
	Spellbinder	Sparkling Star
		Mr. Thim

## RECOMMENDED LIST OF SPECIE HYBRIDS

<b>WHITE—</b>	<b>Seraphim</b>	<b>PINK—</b>
Garden Peace	Sanctus	Cytheria
Chalice	White Innocence	Dainty Lass (Jap)
Requiem		Friendship

Great Lady	YELLOW, LEMON,	Carina
Janice	CREAM TINTS—	Crusader
Laura Magnuson	Clair De Lune	Chocolate Soldier
Lovely Rose	Day Star	Diana Parks
Ludovica	Early Daybreak	Golden Glow
Roselette	Starlight	Heritage
Salmon Glory	Rushlight	Illini Belle
Paula Fay	Prairie Moon	Laddie
Athena		Red Charm
Flame	RED—	Walter Mains (Jap)
Ellen Cowley	Alexander Woolcott	Burma Ruby
	Avelyn	Carol
	Black Monarch	Bravura

*RECOMMENDED LIST OF SEMI-DOUBLE TYPE*

WHITE—	RED—	PINK—
Miss America	Albuquerque	Sylvia Saunders
Minnie Shaylor	Red Goddess	Rose of Tralee
Rare China	The Mighty Mo.	Liebschen
Susan White		

*RECOMMENDED LIST OF ANEMONE TYPE*

WHITE—	RED—	PINK—
Butter Bowl	Red Bird	Gay Paree
Duchess De Nemour	Ruth Clay	Vesper
Golden Dawn	Winnefred Domme	Aureolin
Laura Dessert		
Primevere		

*RECOMMENDED LIST OF JAPANESE TYPE*

WHITE—	RED—	PINK—
Bu-te	Dignity	Ama No Sode
Isani Gidui	Hari Ai Nin	Akashigata
Lotus Queen	Mrs. Wilder Bancroft	Break O' Day
Plainsman	Nippon Beauty	Goddess
Moon of Nippon	Nippon Brilliant	Patricia Hanratty
White Gold	Onahama	Largo
Carrara	Red Splendor	Neon
Toro-No-Maki	White Cap	Rashoomon
		Kay Tischler
		Westerner

**LOU SMIRNOW—**

**MAN OF THE PEONY PAST AND FUTURE**

*by Raymond L. Scheele, Dix Hills, New York*



What is the measure of a man? What sorts of rulers enable us to say that one has made a major or a lesser contribution to his chosen field? In the case of Louis Smirnow, a considerable contribution to the peony world is immediately obvious—in the long list of his introductions, and in the impressive number of plants he has popularized and made part of so many gardens. But this is really just the more obvious dimension of his accomplishment. The long-range significance of these achievements has re-

mained somewhat obscure for many—requiring a degree of scientific sophistication for its grasp. Most peony lovers have come to associate Lou Smirnow with a large number of introductions. But the botanical character of these, and the difference they may eventually make to ‘peony-dom,’ has to date been recognized by only a few. It is my hope to here provide a sketch of the scientific backdrop which bestows such tremendous importance on Smirnow’s work.

The fact of change has been one of the central notions of 20th century science. Over the last hundred years, the history of the social as well as the natural sciences has been written largely in terms of the constancy and pervasiveness of change. It is the cumulative effects of change, of course, that we call evolution. Although there has been a tendency to identify evolution with progress, we have come increasingly to recognize that not all change is for the better—and that particular changes may be most unwanted. Change is inevitable, but this does not guarantee change of the sort we would welcome. Changes that constitute ‘improvements,’ or ‘progress,’ are limited to those we approve and value.

This situation gives rise to the question of deliberately induced change. “Change is inevitable,” 19th century science told us; “to a yet unknown extent, we may determine its direction,” added 20th century science. For change can occur in two fundamentally different ways: in an accidental, haphazard, unplanned fashion, from the standpoint of human beings; or deliberately, by design, and with specific intent.



Let's begin to apply all of this to the flower world, because it explains the role of hybrids and those who introduce them: We know that change, in the form of new peony varieties, is virtually inevitable. — Bees and other insects see to that. But not all such new plants would be welcomed. 'Progress' in peonies would have to consist in changes in the direction of particular goals or standards—related to form and substance, flower carriage, stem stiffness, etc. The people of the peony world have agreed, for example, that good stems stand erect, while poor stems bend and fall to the ground, unable to cary the weight of their flowers. Again, good flower carriage means that blooms are held slightly out of the foliage and in an upright, or semi-upright position; if the blooms occur in the midst of the foliage, or are obscured because petals and stamens face the ground, we call this poor carriage. These agreements, then, define improvement. Progress is limited to those changes which meet these standards more adequately than do previous plants.

But in addition to specific standards such as those related to flower carriage, hybridizers have also accepted a very fundamental and pervasive standard of progress. Any enlargement of the available 'genetic pool' for any flower represents a significant contribution in itself; for even the smallest addition opens vast new potential. The greater the array of different genes, of course, the larger the array and diversity of plants that can result—an obvious boon in itself for peony lovers. But more important to the hybridizer, the more diverse the genetic pool available, the greater the possibilities for achieving any particular effect one chooses—e.g., such a specific combination of traits as a bright lavender, double, re-blooming, tree peony, 30 inches tall, simultaneously bearing six or more upright blooms each with a 14-inch diameter. Given a diverse enough genetic pool, such a specific combination of traits—even such spectacular ones—becomes a genuine possibility.

It is important to note that the mixing of the genetic pools of two **species** of plants—as opposed to the usual mixing of two **varieties** of the same species—results in a spectacular increase in the resulting genetic pool. Such a cross makes possible new gene combinations so numerous as to defy accurate representation. The creation of a fertile hybrid representing two species establishes a genetic pool with a potential to be explored for decades. Furthermore, the greater the contrast between the parents of the hybrid offspring, the greater the variety of traits thus contributed to the genetic pools of the hybrids.

Now this provides some sort of setting for comprehending the magnitude of Lou Smirnow's expansion of the peony genetic pool. Hybridizers have made much of what Father Fiala hailed as the brand new "race" of peonies—the Itoh-Smirnow introductions of Yellow Heaven, Yellow Emperor, Yellow Gem, Yellow Crown, and

Yellow Dream. Peony lovers have come to recognize these as combining previously elusive colors and hues, with all the sturdiness of tree peonies. Hybridizers have recognized them as representing the inexplicable cross of two different species of floral life—a type of inter-breeding which biological presuppositions have claimed impossible. But potentially, the significance of this accomplishment is even greater. For through the crossing of a plant of the herbaceous variety with one of the tree peony variety, the way is opened to making one vast genetic pool of what had previously been two distinct, unconnected ones! It is simply mind-boggling to even consider the number of combinatorial possibilities thus opened.

But Lou's most dramatic genetic pool expansions do not end here. He followed up his initial discovery of a successful *Lutea* tree peony-herbaceous cross by finding a cross between a Japanese tree peony with an herbaceous. This yielded two varieties Lou calls the forebears of "an even newer race": Pink Harmony and Pink Symphony. Although these lovely flowers have not yet received the attention the peony world has showered on the earlier yellow hybrids—the Itoh-Smirnow\* introductions—they represent precisely the

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\* Some may note the departure from the original "Ito" spelling first offered as a translation of the Japanese characters by one of Lou Smirnow's Japanese correspondents. The 'h' was added subsequently, by Mr. Itoh's widow, and we honor her wish with the revised spelling.

same sort of impossible accomplishment. And they open up genetic combinatorial possibilities of precisely the same magnitude. For the Japanese peony group alone enjoys enormous diversity with respect to color. These original crosses—Pink Harmony and Pink Symphony—may serve as the genetic 'bridge,' eventually enabling the combination of the full color spectrum of the Japanese tree peony, with its obvious superiority with respect to stalk carriage and sturdiness, with all the adaptability of the herbaceous peony.

Perhaps Lou's greatest contribution to peony-dom, then, will not be fully realized for years to come, as the vastly enlarged possibilities of genetic combination are gradually worked out. Meanwhile, however, he has a number of more immediate accomplishments to his credit. A list of some of the more outstanding would have to make mention of his introduction of new hues to the peony world. Two of his introductions, Oriental Gold and Fan Tan, represent significant color contributions to herbaceous peonies. The former rewarded Lou's long search for a yellow herbaceous, while the latter provides the unusual combination of apricot-beige suffused with yellow, and edged in delicate pink. (Both these varieties may also prove of long-range botanical interest. Oriental Gold may represent a mutant or a new species, according to Dr. George Morel who is said to have attributed a 10 chromosome count to the plant. The several hues marking Fan Tan blooms are ordinarily a *Lutea*

trait, not found in the herbaceous group—suggesting the possibility that this, too, may be a mutant or a new species.)

To most of those who love peonies without having made a study of them, Lou Smirnow's greatest contribution lies simply in the number of flowers he has introduced and made available to gardeners. The list is lengthy indeed. For instance, his *Lutea* hybrid introductions to the United States include *Eldorado*, *Satin Rouge*, *Mme. Louis Henry*, *Sang Lorain*, *Flambeau*, *Surprise*, *Aurore*, *La Lorraine*, *L'Esperance*, and *Mine d'Or*.

His major Japanese tree peony introductions consist in *Stolen Heaven*, *Red Moon*, *Black Sea*, *Fairy Tale*, *Chichibu*, *Yokohama*, *Heaven Sent*, and *Hiroshima*, imported from Japan; and *Reine Elizabeth*, *Souvenir de Ducher*, *Jeanne d'Arc*, *Bijou de Chusen*, *Mont Vesuve*, *Osiris*, *Weiss ou Koch's Weiss*, *Louise Mouchelet*, *Baronne D'Ales*, *Carolina D'Italie*, *Fragans Maxima Plena*, and *Banksi*, all of which Lou located in Europe.

He has also introduced these herbaceous varieties to this country: *Bowl of Beauty*, *Shirley Temple*, *White Kings*, *Alex Fleming*, *Blush Queen*, *Borden Gen*, *Vogue*, *Gayborden June*, *Show Clouds*, *Peter Brand*, and *Kakoden*.

Finally, Lou's species introductions include *Broteri*, *Daurica*, *Japonica*, and *Microcarpa* of the herbaceous division, and *Suffruticosa Rock's Variety*, *Potanini var Troilliodes*, *Potanini Alba*, *Potanini Red*, and *Delavayi Vera* of the tree peony division.

As Lou's name came to be known in peony-dom, some of his new flowers came from friends and American hybridizers. Most, however, came as the result of extensive searching carried on throughout the world. His quest for the elusive yellow herbaceous is illustrative. Lou pursued it quite literally for decades—via inquiries to correspondents on all five continents, personal trips to Japan, and the sponsorship of numerous fieldtrips by Japanese botanists in pursuit of innumerable tips—many of which turned out to be the disappointing fakes and forgeries of nurserymen and 'nursery jobbers' in Japan and Europe. His efforts in Japan were tireless and many businessmen associated with flowers came to learn of the American's quest. One, a cut flower merchant named Itoh, sent his son-in-law, Oshida, to track down a tip he had received. The younger man was instructed to return with the pollen of a yellow peony grown in the North. He evidently was even unaware that five yellow tree peonies of French origin were regularly grown in large numbers in Japan. And it was apparently his ignorance that led Oshida to make the cross which more knowledgeable men would never have attempted: between a *Lutea* tree peony (*Alice Harding*) and the herbaceous peony *Kakoden*. Ironically, neither Oshida nor Itoh recognized the significance of the result. They were interested only in color! And when the now-historic *Yellow Dream*, *Yellow Gem*, *Yellow Emperor*, *Yellow Crown*, and



Yellow Heaven were called to Louis Smirnow's attention, it was only because they were yellow. They were presented as yellow peonies, not as a landmark accomplishment in hybridizing—for their originators had no idea of what they had! So Mr. Itoh was selling a color, while Mr. Smirnow was buying a history-making cross, a cross which might never have been made at all—or, if made, never come to light—without the stimulus provided by his long search and unceasing efforts.

This story of how the "new race" was born is representative of the sort of contribution Lou Smirnow has consistently offered. He has not functioned as the inventor or creator, but rather, again and again as the perceptive discoverer of peony creations—the man whose persistent efforts have resulted in the diffusion of countless peony varieties. And interestingly, he has consistently accomplished all of this as a hobby and sideline, never a fulltime occupation—for even today, in his seventies, Lou continues his career in finance. Yet as a peony expert he knows no living superior, and he often receive live blooms and peony pictures from all over the world with requests for identification. For perhaps no one else alive can identify more peonies than Louis Smirnow. This feat comes not just from his wide acquaintance with plants, but Lou has also concerned himself with the classification and nomenclature of peonies. He has repeatedly clarified misnomers and aided in correcting false categorizations. Lou tells the story of how he found Alice Harding, L'Esperance, Souvenir De Maxime Cornu, Chromatella, and La Lorraine growing in the Swarthmore Arboretum—labelled Kinko, Kintei, Kinkaku, Kenshi, and Kenyo. He persuaded John Wister to replace the Japanese names with the more popular titles so as to avoid the confusing and misleading impression that these were ten *Lutea* hybrids instead of the same five.

Yet Lou Smirnow presents a fascinating blend of all of this knowledge and expertise, with the normal garden lover's unspoiled appreciation of his flowers. He is much more disposed to talking about the hue and fragrance and personality and bearing of his flowers than of their more technical attributes. His role has not been that of the hybridizer but rather that of the seeker after newer varieties, going to endless trouble and expense to discover new plants and make them available to peony lovers throughout the world. And he has been remarkably successful at bringing an ever growing list of varieties into the price range of home gardeners. Perhaps no single individual alive has played so large a part in giving tree peonies a prized and visible place in private gardens, as well as in public parks and arboretums throughout the world.

Editor's note:

Louis Smirnow was President of the American Peony Society 1962-1964. He was a member of the Board of Directors from 1955-1972.

## SEED EXCHANGE

I have been encouraging our members to try and grow both herbaceous and tree peonies from seed.

Seeds are not readily available in small quantities, although Louis Smirnow sells 100 tree peony seeds for \$8.00.

Therefore I will supply packages of from five to ten seeds of various crosses from my garden. The maximum to any one member will be 25 seeds with a maximum of 10 from any group. The number may be reduced depending on the crop and number of requests.

The list is as follows:

1. Cousin's seeds: These are taken from the collection of Mr. W. Cousins given to me by Mrs. Cousins in 1973. They are all single herbaceous plants and seem to be F-2 hybrids. The colours are white, pink, red or a mixture.

2. Light blush single probably Apple Blossom crossed with pollen from a lobata hybrid, Cytheria, Janice, Good Cheer or Lovely Rose.

3. Nosegay pollinated by Mloko, Daystar, or Gwenda.

4. All red Jap. x lobata hybrid.

5. Miscellaneous herbaceous peonies. Some crosses may be noted otherwise they will be bee crosses.

6. Tree Peonies bee crossed in white, pink, and red.

Order by number and colour to: Seeds c/o John E. Simkins, 1246, Donlea Crescent, Oakville, Ontario. L6J 1V7.

They will be sent out probably in October, with sowing instructions included. There is no charge.

## GIVE PLANTING DUE CONSIDERATION

*From the files of Marvin Karrels*

While roots are the key to peony success, planting is a procedure which should be given due consideration; so a few remarks regarding care in planting may be apropos. My personal regard for a peony prohibits any guess-work. I am such a strict believer in proper depth that I use a gauge in planting. This gauge is made from a  $\frac{3}{4}$ " piece of pine, 3 inches wide, and 3 feet long. To the side of this, at the center, is nailed a piece of lath projecting two inches below the bottom. The gauge being wide, lays flat over the hole and does not tip over. This permits the use of both hands in planting. It is simple and takes no time to use, eliminates guess work, and accuracy gives one a sense of security. I even use it when planting small propagation stock.

Be sure to firm the under soil on which the roots rest to prevent settling later. If the hole is too deep, keep adding earth and pound it down solid with the fist until the roots are resting on a solid base—and the eyes touch the gauge. Then carefully fill in around the roots and up over the crown, being extremely careful not

to injure either "eyes" or roots. This will leave a cone-shaped depression like the top view of a sombrero. Around the rim pour two or three quarts of water and let it soak in well so as to force out all air pockets. When sufficiently absorbed fill the rest of the hole and gently firm with the palm of the hands. Fill over the top, above grade, to a height of from four to six inches and then insert a stake from the outer edge of the hole, at an angle, so the top is over the crown of the plant. This will protect the new shoots, the following spring, from damage my animals—and clumsy people.

By mounding over with earth it is not necessary to mulch with leaves or straw. In the spring—do not try to level off the mound as you will damage the tender shoots. The spring rains will reduce the mound considerably and the tender new shoots will need this cover to protect them from late freezes. Early cultivating at a distance of about eight inches away from center, if a crust is formed, may be beneficial, but do not worry about those delicate little shoots, for old Mother Nature has provided them with plenty of power to lift a ton of weight. Don't pamper the child or you'll have a spoiled weakling. Let 'em fight and they'll be more rugged. About the time you feel so sorry for the "pore lil feller" with a huge hunk of crust bending the back of his tender little neck—along will come a rain to take care of the situation. Old Ma Nature looks after her young. The ignorance of man is her greatest opposition.

To divide properly, to dress up the divisions you receive in a rough state from the grower, and to exercise care in planting, will take only a few minutes longer than haphazard methods—and the reward will more than justify the extra time and slight effort.

## **PLANTING PEONIES THE ORGANIC WAY**

*by My Friend Alma — Submitted by Silvia Saunders*

I am more fortunate than most untalented gardeners, as my neighbor is not only a strict organic gardener on her own property, but her enthusiasm, love and talent for gardening reaches across our non-existent border to perform miracles.

Mrs. Ford "took over" when my first shipment of peonies arrived last autumn. I just helped and did as I was told.

I didn't expect any bloom the first spring, although I did secretly hope for just one blossom.

To my surprise, in the spring, each plant in turn had lovely blooms and even the Tree Peony (High Noon) produced two indescribably lovely yellow blossoms, as relaxed and proud as though they had lived here for years. They had established well in their new surroundings, which is several hundred miles from their first home in Clinton, New York.

There is no doubt but what it was due to the organic method of planting and the green thumb of Mrs. Ford. Peonies do seem to



like just folks who talk to them, give them food and loving care. They do respond.

She accomplished the first season, miracles with my Saunders Peonies with her knowledge of how to prepare the soil, using all the elements that nature provides.

Her compost heap is started in the spring with grass clippings, tender weeds, leaves as they fall, some manure and kitchen wastes. Since ours are week-end homes, time is necessarily limited. There is no time for turning or shredding the material. (Shredding would be desirable.)

During the week, she accumulates her garbage or food wastes, securing it in a plastic bag and takes it to the country each week end in her station wagon. Horse manure from a neighboring station is also hauled in open zinc tubs.

I do not mind helping with this chore and accompanying Mrs. Ford and her garbage to her country home.

When the compost heap has a large accumulation of kitchen wastes, a little lime and some soil is sprinkled on it and in the fall, leaves are raked and dragged over to the heap, on an old bed spread. For every six or eight inches of leaves, she adds some manure and sometimes the heap is covered with a sheet of black plastic. (I never knew or questioned why, but later she did explain that this adds to the heating process which accelerates decay). In the spring, the heap, now compost, is used for mulching plants or in holes for transplanting flowering plants.

Two weeks or so before the peonies were expected, we started preparing the holes. Our soil is heavy clay, so after putting aside the top soil from each hole, we dug out and discarded the heavy clay earth. The digging was hard work, as we dug almost four feet down into the earth, which meant that the holes were wide, about two feet.

We put a layer of gravel and stones on the bottom for drainage and then filled each hole with a mixture of compost and that well-rotted manure we had carted from several miles away. I noticed when my good neighbor was replacing the top soil, she stirred in about one cup of bone meal in each hole.

Two weekends later, after the prepared soil had settled (my peonies had arrived) we opened one of the holes and placed the first plant, Seraphim, carefully spreading the roots. It was at this point that I noticed how extremely careful she was, in regard the planting depth, explaining that the eyes should not be too far below the surface. She even placed a board across the top of the hole and measured, precisely two inches below the surface being the correct point for the eyes. "They will not bloom" she explained, "if planted too deep."

Before the start of cold weather, we mulched them and in the spring, when the first tender shoot appeared, I watched Mrs. Ford, one morning from my window, as she scratched some bone meal in each hole, around the little shoots.

## DRAMA OF CREATION

*"... the golden promise of all life ..."*

*Dr. Julian L. Janus*

*Sleeping Beauty Gardens, Chicago, Ill.*

From a small book, which was really a compilation of a series of lectures given by Professor Erwin Schrodinger at the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies and dealing with the physical aspects of the living cell, I gained a deeper appreciation of the awesome mysteries of life that are beyond our sensory comprehension . . .

I had been breeding various plants for some time, following the Mendellian Laws and the techniques required before I chanced across this little book while browsing around in old book stores in Chicago's Loop (I live in Chicago but our garden is in Warrenville, Illinois, a small town just 7 miles west of the Morton arboretum). Ever since that time each plant, to me, was pulsing with life, sentient and busy with the internal drama of creation and regeneration.

The following gives my impression of life as manifested in the cell and where the search for "WHAT IS LIFE" finally opened the doors to a better understanding of its physical aspects and a true "REVERENCE FOR LIFE" that the late, great Dr. Albert Schweitzer spoke of:

Through all the ages the endless search went on . . .

Then into the iconoclastic cell we peered with eager, searching gaze; and so to pierce and there to find, within its ancient crypts, and midst its secret, hidden veils, the radiantly golden promise of all life . . . and there in awesome, wondrous splendor shown, in infinite medleys, yet each its own, was Life incarnate! Continuous and immortal, as from its first stirrings, with muffled sibilance, in some desolate, primeval sea. The air and heavens mute, but for the thunderous roar of monstrous lightning flash, reverberating endlessly o'er dour crags of barren rock and dismal seas. No flight of birds or bees; no sighing of tepid winds through ancient trees.

The quickening life from each ancestral vase was poured into a perfect molded image of itself; and so this primary, now complete, molecule of matter that first the surge of immortality did feel, and changed its form by mutants of all sorts, so coped with change; then clawed or struggled from the ageless slime to gain dominion over earth and sky; and life was life; if blade of grass, a gnat, a lovely fawn or fawning man.

Sartor resartus! and thus cloaked; in infinite, diversified similitude, like a funded mutual trust of shapes and forms, whose chief aim that Life, its principal, remain secure; with aid of endless time and change succeeded; and thus the ancient orbs of life, that scanned the countless eons, though old, were ever new, bright with the pristine beauty of perpetual regeneration.

Then with eyes teared from everlasting staring, through sight multiplied, we the silken chromosomal chains espied; with pearl-like genes in orderly array; the joining and the tight embrace of like with like; the busy spinning of a mystic loom; the splitting, leaving part of each to each; the magnetic-like journeys to the distant poles; the repetition of the cycle into equal-formed quartets, to form the prelude to that symphony called Life. The cleavage and the final separation of the multi-morphous forms; and the all enclosed in monumental permanence . . .

And so within each cell the tiny, microscopic genes of countless scores of atoms structured, thus by their composition against most all invasive forces do a balance keep:

Each cell provides a sheltered creche for generations yet unborn to cradle; for cell to mother cell; and thus Life mothers Life!

When the soft winds blow and Spring is singing in our garden, while I place the golden dust on some nectar-laden lip, I am reminded of Louis Pasteur's letter to his boy-hood friend Chappuis, "I think I have already told you that I am on the verge of mysteries, and that the veil which covers them is getting thinner and thinner."

## **LUTEA BLOOMS OF MAGNIFICENT BEAUTY**

*Louis Smirnow*

For years we have been reading about the Tree peony Luteas that hang their heads, giving readers the impression that these flowers are undesirable. These varieties are **Souvenir de Maxime Cornu**, **Chromatella**, **La Lorraine**, **Surprise** and **Flambeau**. I feel it is necessary to discuss the virtues of these grand flowers.

I have known people to cut these flowers and place them in proper bowls or vases indoors, so that the flower can be seen at its best. Recently saw three blossoms of **Chromatella** and two of **Souvenir de Maxime Cornu** in a show room at a local Arboretum. The two huge blossoms of **Souvenir de Maxime Cornu** were magnificent, huge balls of yellow petals suffused strawberry shade. If you grow **La Lorraine**, examine this gorgeous flower. It is completely yellow, but if you look closely you will see the beautiful scarlet blotches hidden deep at the base of the petals. **Surprise** and **Flambeau**, with their yellow petals and suffused shades are beautiful.

Last but not least is **Satin Rouge**, that famous French beauty, tremendous ball-shaped flowers, eight to nine inches in circumference and several inches deep. Many visitors were delighted to see this glorious blood-orange colored flower in bloom. Their delightful fragrance, and this applies to every variety mentioned above, and their beautiful flowers easily overshadows the fact that they hang their head in the garden.

One should not judge a flower merely by its appearance on a plant. When flowers are judged at a flower show, they are appraised by their appearance as a flower and not how they grow in the garden.

## PEONY TIME

by Anthony J. De Blasi

As I write (June 26th), five cut blooms of Philippe Rivoire invade the living room with their haunting perfume and strike the eyes with their dusky crimson charm.

"Peony-Time-74" fades into legend as we catch our breath between spring plantings and summer activities. Any year is a better one for having witnessed the blooming of peonies. Warmed by their company, lifted by their beauty, regaled by their perfumes, we find ourselves at once haunted by a galactic riddle and infused with the pure essence of spring. The splendor of the season is ingested through the senses and inwardly transmuted, through a divine alchemy, into a magic that eases weary bones, brightens jaded spirits, summons a smile to the face and a twinkle to the eye. And with a luxurious flamboyance never dreamed of by any monarch, the peony delivers, punctually and without fail, the Annual Report of all annual reports: "Anything is possible!" Spring has had its say!

This is the second season that our peonies are in New Hampshire soil and, judging from performance, the move has favored them. Out of 66 plants moved, we lost one, a fernleaf peony. But Philippe Rivoire, that had not bloomed in many years, came forth with 8 blossoms! La Lorraine, which had never bloomed in the 9 years we had it, gave us 3 beautiful blooms! Throughout the collection, there was evidence of greater vigor, richer color, and larger, more perfect blossoms than we had enjoyed in our former garden. Many of the tree peonies, including some quite old specimens (as La Lorraine), already show signs of re-establishing themselves. During both of their New England winters so far, they have withstood temperatures as low as 24 below zero with no ill effect save that a few exposed buds on tall stems were winter-killed.

Our first peony to bloom, a variety of *P. tenuifolia*, opened its flowers on June 1st. The first tree peonies opened on the 5th, the herbaceous peonies started on the 15th and as of the end of June there are several peonies that have not bloomed yet. Elsa Sass is ready to burst open and Alice Harding is teasing us with its sulphur-yellow showing through the bud. One tries to imagine and relive the unutterable thrill of the originator of such a great flower on the day it first opened! From species, through Japanese and *lutea* hybrid tree peonies, through herbaceous hybrids, to herbaceous *lactiflora* peonies, the show has been varied, long, and magnificent.

Two years after the move from New York to New Hampshire, of 22 herbaceous peonies, 18 bloomed; of 43 tree peonies, 31 bloomed. The star performers were Hana-kisoi with its huge frilly feminine pink loveliness, Shuja-kumon with its fluted silvery pink petals having the look of frosted glass, Gumpoden with its full-bodied effusion of deeply mysterious purpleness, Hira-no-yuki with



its sunny-white airiness, Jitsu-getsu-nishiki from whose wrinkled bosom issues a volcanic red glow, Age of Gold with its buttery ruffled lavishness, Thunderbolt with its fiery dark flashes of crimson, Flame with its electric coral-pink intoxication, Chocolate Soldier with its dashing dark handsomeness, Red Charm with its theatrical bursts of purple-red, Blanche King with its richly sentimental rosi-ness, and Philippe Rivoire with its seductive fragrance of roses.

Red Charm staged an extra fine show, superior in its 2 years in New Hampshire than in its 10 years in Long Island (New York). At the risk of being accused of heterodoxy and the still greater risk of being ostracized from the wonderful family of peony fanciers, allow me to go on record as not being especially charmed by Red Charm! I have observed it for many years now so have earned my opinion that the purplish cast in its red detracts from its beauty, and the plastic appearance of its petals turns me off. I prefer the similarly-formed Diana Parks with its satiny petals and clear red color

To the inevitable question, why the differences in New Hampshire? The deeper colors and finer forms are attributable, in part, to the cooler nights. As for the extra vigor and productiveness, I must confess ignorance, though my guess is more light, cleaner air, and more fertile soil in the new location. Could well be, too, that an uprooting and replanting of a peony that either languishes or is in decline—for whatever reasons—acts as a tonic, spurring the plant into vigorous new growth. The reverse case is well known, namely that moving a thriving plant often throws it into a state of inertia. I am reminded that, in so many instances, in so many ways, just as we believe we have nature pegged, she pulls another trick to leave us dangling by our ignorance. Nature is infinitely complex, dynamic, subtle—as in a great symphony—not analytical and statistical, as in a laboratory report. Unfortunately, a false science, relying too heavily on the measurable aspects of life (which are its least significant), has marred our perspectives and produced many more problems than it has solved. But that is another topic, one hardly appropriate to the present sweet musings over the peony feast we have had!

Peony time is the time to daydream, entertaining none but the happiest of thoughts, and to act on the springtime intimation that “Anything is possible!” What are your plans? Do they seem ambitious? Take a little time to work out some manageable parcel of them. As peonies so well demonstrate, you have all the time in the world! On the other hand, there is no mandate to “think big.” Perhaps you have had your fill of trials and simply wish to enjoy some peace. Whether your program is to take things leisurely, whether it is to draw up a “dream guest list” of all the peonies you would like to invite to your garden in the fall, or whether you will just talk a friend into parting with a small division of a peony you don’t have, if there are peonies in your garden you have the wealth of kings and a touch of heaven.



*Present and Past Presidents, in Hamilton, Ontario, 1974  
John Simkins, Roy Klehm, Frank Moots, Louis Smirnov, Frank  
Howell, W. G. Sindt, Silvia Saunders, Marvin Karrels, Clarence  
Lineau.*

## **WALTER MAINS PEONY**

*Marvin C. Karrels*

The Board of Directors of the American Peony Society at its annual meeting at Hamilton, Ontario, Canada by unanimous vote have awarded the Gold Medal to the variety **Walter Mains**. It is a Hybrid Jap. It received this award for its outstanding qualities of plant habit and growth, for its fine clean medium to dark red color and for its excellent performance in the peony growing areas of the country. It is an introduction of the late Walter Mains of Belle Center, Ohio.

I purchased my first root fifteen years ago and have divided it four times. I have never found a diseased root in all this time. I have one plant in my home garden that is twelve years old now. Every stem produces a specimen bloom and from this plant I have cut flowers to enter our National Shows. It is early blooming and comes into bloom with *Officinalis Rubra*. The color of the guards is a clean attractive medium to dark red with no muddy or blue tones. It retains a cup form to the end of its blooming cycle. The center cushion is rigid and incurved forming a nicely rounded mound. The cushion is slightly lighter in color than the guards. Each staminode is edged with gold. The cushion retains this nicely rounded form with no breakdown until the very end of the blooming cycle. The bloom is large—about five to six inches in diameter under good cultivation. The stems are strong and grow to about three feet in height. The healthy dark green foliage grows well down on the stems.

We do not have many Hybrid Japs and this one is the best as of now. This peony should stay in commerce a good many years in the future.

## FERTILIZER TO HELP GROW PEONIES

*Don Hollingsworth*

5831 North Colrain, Kansas City, Missouri

The peony has a large appetite. It must have high fertility and otherwise hospitable soil conditions to do well. The best of growing conditions are required in order to:

1. bring new plantings into early flower production,
2. grow seedlings to flowering size in a minimum of seasons, and,
3. produce exhibition quality flowers.

Failing to reach these achievements in a reasonable time, garden enthusiasts who try peonies may be expected to turn to other species in their quest for satisfying experience.

For 12 years I have aimed to grow specimen quality peonies. However, I cannot yet say that I have achieved the goal. I am convinced that "poor" soil is the primary barrier, for I started with mostly subsoil that was left by the developer after reshaping the land surface to lay out residential lots. Based upon this experience, I am persuaded to conclude that widespread moving by middle income families to recently developed suburban homesites is working against growth of interest in the peony.

The popularity of suburban living and gardening activity have grown by leaps and bounds. During the same period the popularity of hemerocallis and irises, both generally adapted to poorer soils, has grown immensely. If we are to enlarge the market for peonies, it will be very useful to develop means of directing the attention of would-be growers to sources of information on the identification and reduction of soil problems.

The standard publications of the American Peony Society, **The Peonies** and **Handbook of the Peony**, are excellent in most respects, but not much sensitive to the needs of inexperienced persons who do not already have optimum growing sites for peonies. I believe that something should be prepared to overcome this deficiency which may be used to supplement the other publications.

Home gardeners in the peony-growing regions of this country face a great variety of native soil conditions. While there are sites throughout this broad area which are near ideal for growing peonies, very few homes are selected with gardening as the prime consideration. There is much that is known about what to do with less than optimum sites that will cause them to support plant growth very much like that obtained on ideal sites. This information is known by technically informed agronomists and horticulturists and it is accessible in most parts of the country free through the State University Extension Services. The aforementioned APS publications were prepared just prior to the time when great strides had been made in the application of soils technology in horticultural

tural production. This, no doubt, accounts for the limitation of advice largely to production needs appropriate to plantings on generally ideal soils. Particularly unfortunate is that the reader is specifically cautioned against concentrated fertilizers, especially nitrogen. Nitrogen is the most commonly deficient nutrient in poor soils and is derived from organic matter, animal manures and processed fertilizers with equal effectiveness when not otherwise in sufficient supply.

Upon deciding recently to experiment with heavy fertilization in my own peony plantings, I reviewed accumulated notes and read some additional references in order to see what has been said about maximum safe amounts, fertilizer and peonies, and whatever else that might be of help. Following is what I found that seems especially relevant:

1. Dr. John P. Baumgardt, botanist and horticultural writer, has long answered reader questions in print for several gardening publications. To an inquirer who had some mature clumps of peonies not doing well, he recently recommended the application of one-half cup of 5-10-5 analysis fertilizer in very early spring, applying it in a circle several inches away from the crowns, followed by a like amount again about flowering time. President Klehm gave a similar recommendation while addressing the membership during the APS meeting at Minneapolis in 1972. To see what this amount would be on an acre-rate basis, estimate four feet by four feet spacing and allow that the fertilizer weighs a pound to the pint, giving the computed figure of about 1700 pounds per acre for the year.
2. In **The Peonies** (page 129) Rutgers University research on bud blight is reported. It was found that low tissue levels of potash, especially when combined with unseasonably low temperatures, is a significant factor. Another was nematodes, which are known to be more damaging when fertility is low.
3. In my area, tobacco farmers use up to 3000 pounds of 10-10-10 fertilizer to the acre. Apparently these levels do not result in a toxicity problem, at least for the plant.
4. In an **APS Bulletin** which I am now unable to relocate, I recently read a member report of experience using the relatively high nitrogen analysis 10-6-4. He said that for the first time in his experience certain varieties in his garden gave flowers of color comparable to that of the same kinds seen at an exhibition. This is the report that got me into this subject and my own experimentation with fertilizers.
5. Recent research reported from the University of Illinois showed that shrubs fertilized with high nitrogen treatment gave increased growth for two seasons. Although the plants



showed an immediate increase in growth, the full effect was not understood until the larger burst of growth was observed the following spring as compared to the unfertilized check plants.

6. A garden bulletin on peonies from the University of Wisconsin was mailed with a recent edition of the **APS Bulletin**. It recommends: plant in rich soil, apply annually a handful of 5-10-5 or 10-10-10 fertilizer in early spring, and, for bigger and better flowers, two or three applications beginning two weeks before flowering (in my area this would have to be liquid feeding to get it into the root zone in time to influence current flowering).

7. Information about fertility needs of peonies is not just a new thing. In a 1930 Royal Horticultural Society Journal article the writer states, "the first consideration is the soil, no fertilizer can give best results if the soil is lacking in humus," and, "exhibition flowers can be obtained only from plants that are strong, healthy, and well established."

8. In 1903, **A Manual on the Propagation and Cultivation of the Paeony** was written and published by Rev. Charles S. Harrison, a peony nurseryman and one of the founders of the American Peony Society. Under the heading "Planting for Flowers," he wrote, in part, "To raise the largest and finest flowers, the ground should be very rich. We often cart on soil and manure to increase the depth. Rich, bottom land, well manured is best."

9. About the latter part of the eleventh century, according to a Dutch translator of Chinese works, an ancient botanical writer stated that when growing tree peonies for garden and florist use, "...neither trouble or expense is spared...the soil is very richly manured." The translation was published in English in 1849 by **Paxton's Magazine of Botany** under the title "Notes Relating to the History, Distribution, and Cultivation of the Paeony in China and Japan." The translator found that many references recommended practices for improving fertility, the foregoing being the oldest one quoted.

Each of us gardens within the limits imposed by the site or sites which we have available, both soil and climate, and, by the time and resources available to us for overcoming whatever significant problems those limits encompass. The lack of information should not, I believe, be permitted to add to these limits. Help is available locally in every county of the United States wherever horticultural and field crops are grown. As a society we should at least cultivate an awareness of soil needs and refer the interested person to local sources of assistance in assessing specific problems and measures to resolve them.

## HAPPINESS IS . . . . . PEONY SHOWS



*Award-winning  
John Kreichbaum  
Bernville, Pennsylvania*

*Looking for Pollen!  
P. Chris Laning  
Kalamazoo, Michigan*

*Marvin Karrels,  
Milwaukee, Wis.  
One of the Deans of  
peony show biz.*

### THE CLIMAX PEONIES ON THE TABLES, JUDGING COMPLETED

*The end of a perfect day!*



*Sharon Ewing  
Detroit, Michigan*

*Irwin Ewing  
Detroit, Michigan*

*Gus Sindt  
Afton, Minnesota*

# 69th AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY EXHIBITION

June 14-15-16, 1974

## 2nd International Show

HEADQUARTERS, ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS  
HAMILTON, ONTARIO, CANADA

GRAND CHAMPION — 650 Blooms  
and Best of Show — *Princess Margaret* — Frank Howell  
Best Double White — *Sylvia* — Lienau Peony Gardens  
Best Double Light Pink — *James Pillow* — Lienau Peony Gardens  
Best Double Red — *Kansas* — Roy G. Klehm  
Best Semi-Double White — *Minnie Shaylor* — Joseph Glocka  
Best Semi-Double Pink — *Liberty Bell* — Lienau Peony Gardens  
Best Semi-Double Red — *Harry L. Smith* — Lienau Peony Gardens  
Best Japanese White — *Toro-No-Maki* — Greta M. Kessenich  
Best Japanese Pink — *Commanche* — Lienau Peony Gardens  
Best Japanese Red — *Dignity* — Frank Howell  
Best Single White — *Pico* — Lienau Peony Gardens  
Best Single Pink — *Sea Shell* — Wm. McCallum  
Best Single Red — *Florence Bruss* — W. G. Sindt  
Best Hybrid White — *Moonrise* — John Simkins  
Best Hybrid Pink — *Bill Krekler* — Gilberts Gardens  
Best Hybrid Red — *Fire Belle* — Lienau Peony Gardens  
Best Tree Peony White — *Fuji-No-Akebono* — Dr. Henry Landis  
Best Tree Peony Pink — *Chozo Jyuraku* — Dr. Henry Landis  
Best Tree Peony Red — *Black Pirate* — John Simkins  
Best Amateur — *Moonrise* — Greta M. Kessenich  
Best Novice — *Cytherea* — Wm. McCallum  
Artistic Design — Grand Champion — Western Prairies —  
Mrs. C. P. Mentis  
Reserve Champion — LaBelle Province — Mrs. E. R. Measures

## DIVISION 1 — OPEN TO ANY EXHIBITOR

SECTION A — Class 1. Twenty-five varieties, herbaceous only, any type or color.

Won by LIENAU PEONY GARDENS. *Gay Parce, Le Jour, Raspberry Sundae, Sylvia, Ensign Moriarity, Anne Cousins, Walther Faxon, James Pillow, Florence Nicholls, Moonstone, Cincinnati, W. E. Blanchette, Shawnee Chief, Better Times, White Cap, Bowl of Cream, Big Ben, Polar Star, Dawn Pink, Marcella, Jay Cee, Princess Maki, Sarah Napier, Snow Mountain, Amelia Olson. GOLD MEDAL*

Second. JOSEPH R. GLOCKA. *Kansas, Minnie Shaylor, Westhill, Heritage, Sea Shell, Break O'Day, Red Goddess, Mons Jules Elie, Carol, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Ave Maria, Edward Steichen, Miss America, Red Charm, Norma Volz, Highlight,*



*Requiem, Toro-no-maki, Princess Margaret, Mothers Day, Largo, Loren Franklin, Illini Bell, Carrara.*

Class 2. Fifteen Varieties, herbaceous only, any type or color.

Won by FRANK L. HOWELL. *Westerner, Judge Snook, Amber Glow, Pink Monarch, Dignity, Sir John Franklin, Carmon Mac Nelson, James Pilloz, Mme Emile Debatene, Miss America, A. G. Perry, Alesia, Franklin Nicholls, Frances Maines, Aerie.* SILVER MEDAL

Second. MARVIN C. KARRELS. *Raspberry Sundae, Walter Mains, Black Monarch, Harold Wolfe, Lovely Rose, Gibraltar, Gardenia, Norma Volz, White Cap, Rose of Tralee, Carrara, Princess Margaret, Golden Glow, Dauntless, Robert W. Auten.*

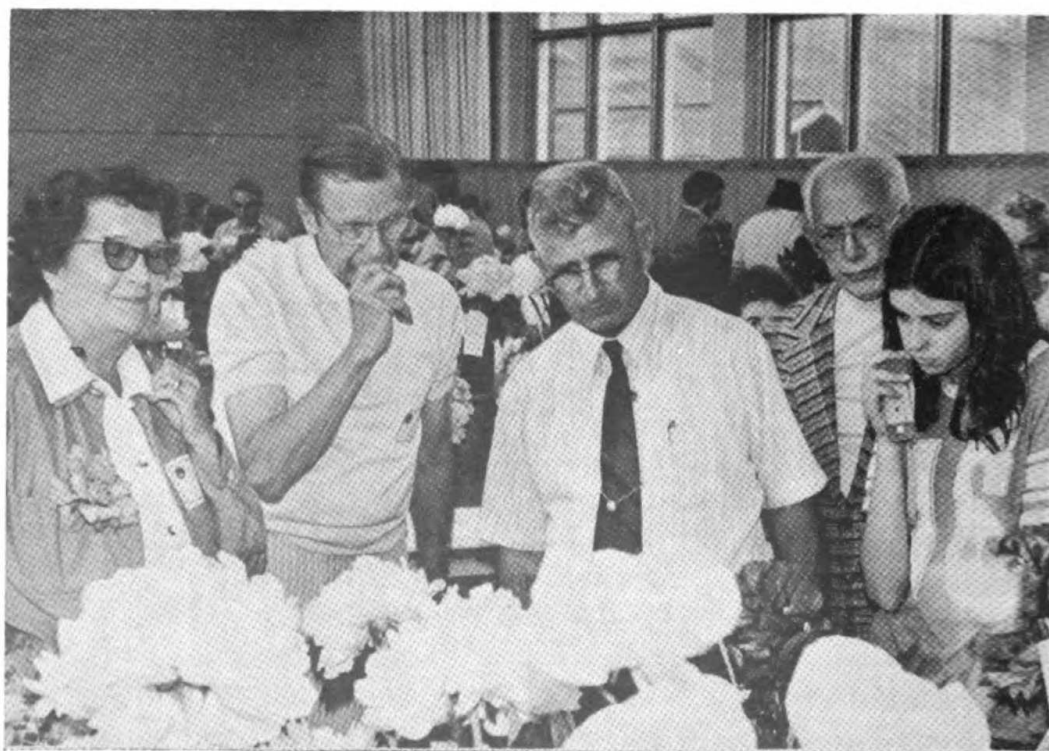
Class 3. Ten varieties, herbaceous hybrid only, any type or color.

Won by MARVIN C. KARRELS. *Walter Mains, Carol, Fire Belle, Red Charm, Conroy, Black Monarch, Paula Fay, Cytherea, Edward Auten, Edward Steicher.* SILVER MEDAL

Second. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS. *Carol, Carina, Ludovica, Lois Arleen, Friendship, Buckeye Belle, Fire Belle, Requiem, Helen Matthews, Red Charm.*

Third. GILBERTS GARDENS. *Jewel, Bill Krekler, Heritage, Indian Hill, John Harvard, Montezuma, Gay Cavalier, Lotus Bloom, Flame, Rosy Checks.*

SECTION B — Three blooms, lactiflora only, in one container.



#### JUDGING PEONIES

*Muryle Kostuik, Oklahoma; Frank Moots, Kansas; Frank Howell, N. J.; Louis Smirnow, N. Y.; Jennifer Simkins, Oakville, Ont.*

- Class 5: 1. FRANK L. HOWELL — *Florence Nicholls*  
2. MARVIN KARRELS — *Norma Volz*  
3. ROY KLEHM — *Moonstone*
- Class 6: 1. J. KREICHBAUM — *Nancy Nicholls*  
2. JOSEPH R. GLOCKA — *Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt*  
3. FRANK HOWELL — *James Pillow*
- Class 7: 1. BOB ROSE — *Dinnerplate*  
2. FRANK L. HOWELL — *Princess Margaret*  
3. ROY KLEHM — *Dinnerplate.*
- Class 8: 1. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *Kansas*  
2. JOSEPH GLOCKA — *Sarah Napier*  
3. JOSEPH GLOCKA — *Rose Glory*
- Class 9: 1. ROY KLEHM — *Kansas*  
2. JOSEPH GLOCKA — *Highlight*  
3. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *Highlight*
- Class 10: 1. J. KREICHBAUM — *Minnie Shaylor*  
2. JOSEPH GLOCKA — *Miss America*  
3. None
- Class 11: 1. JOSEPH GLOCKA — *L'Etincelante*  
2. None  
3. None
- Class 12: 1. ROY KLEHM — *Hoosierland*  
2. None  
3. None
- Class 13: 1. MARVIN KARRELS — *Carrara*  
2. ROY KLEHM — *Gold Standard*  
3. JOSEPH GLOCKA — *Toro-no-maki*
- Class 14: 1. ROY KLEHM — *Gay Paree*  
2. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *Rose Valley*  
3. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *Gay Paree*
- Class 15: 1. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *Break of Day*  
2. None  
3. None
- Class 16: 1. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *Pico*  
2. W. G. SINDT — *Florence Bruss*  
3. W. G. SINDT — *Seashell*
- Class 17: 1. JOSEPH GLOCKA — *Highlight, Ave Maria, Loren Franklin*  
2. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *Sir John Franklin, Dinner Plate, Margaret Lough*  
3. None
- Class 18: 1. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *Dawn Flush, Ave Maria, The Mighty Mo*  
2. None  
3. None



- Class 19: 1. ROY KLEHM — *Gold Standards, Westerner, Ama-No-Sode*  
 2. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *Charm, Lotus Queen, Oh-Na-Hama*  
 3. ROY KLEHM — *Westerner, Toro-No-Maki, Charm*
- Class 20: 1. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *Imperial Red, Le Jour, Dawn Pink*  
 2. None  
 3. None
- Class 21: 1. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *Dixie, Raspberry Sundae, Snow Mountain*  
 2. ROY KLEHM — *Angel Cheeks, Pink Lemonade, Cheddar Cheese*  
 3. JOSEPH GLOCKA — *Top Brass, Red Charm, Mons Jules Elie*

#### SECTION C. ONE BLOOM, LACTIFLORA ONLY

- Class 22: 1. ROY KLEHM — *Elsa Sass*  
 2. BOB ROSE — *Elsa Sass*  
 3. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *Sylvia*
- Class 23: 1. ROY KLEHM — *Moon River*  
 2. JOSEPH GLOCKA — *Marilla Beauty*  
 3. BOB ROSE — *Walter Faxon*
- Class 24: 1. ROY KLEHM — *Emma Klehm*  
 2. ROY KLEHM — *Susie Q.*  
 3. JOSEPH GLOCKA — *Princess Margaret*
- Class 25: 1. ROY KLEHM — *Pink Jazz*  
 2. BOB ROSE — *Jink Jazz*  
 3. LIENAU PEONY GARDEN — *Felix Supreme*
- Class 26: 1. ROY KLEHM — *Kansas*  
 2. MARVIN KARRELS — *Paul M. Wild*  
 3. ROY KLEHM — *Felix Supreme*
- Class 27: 1. JOSEPH GLOCKA — *Miss America*  
 2. MARVIN KARRELS — *Minnie Shaylor*  
 MARVIN KARRELS — *Love Maria*
- Class 28: 1. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *Liberty Bell*  
 2. FRANK HOWELL — *Pink Monarch*  
 3. MARVIN KARRELS — *Rose of Tralce*
- Class 29: 1. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *Harry L. Smith*  
 2. ROY KLEHM — *Hoosier land*  
 3. GRETA M. KESSENICH — *Burma*
- Class 30: 1. BOB ROSE — *Toro-No-Maki*  
 2. BRAND PEONY FARMS — *Solo Flight*  
 3. BOB ROSE — *Gold Standard*
- Class 31: 1. BOB ROSE — *Kukini Jishu*  
 2. ROY KLEHM — *Ama No Sode*  
 3. ROY KLEHM — *Kukini*

Class 32: 1. LINEAU PEONY GARDENS — *Commanche*  
2. FRANK HOWELL — *Dignity*  
3. BOB ROSE — *Charm*

Class 33: 1. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *Spellbinder*  
2. FRANK HOWELL — *Pico*  
3. BOB ROSE — *Krinkled White*

Class 34: 1. BRAND PEONY FARMS — *Seashell*  
2. JOSEPH GLOCKA — *Seashell*  
3. GRETA M. KESSENICH — *Seashell*

Class 35: 1. W. G. SINDT — *Florence Bruss*  
2. None  
3. None

Class 36: 1. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *Top Brass*  
2. BOB ROSE — *Cheddar Cheese*  
3. ROY KLEHM — *Cheddar Cheese*

Class 37: 1. JUDY ROSE — *Angel Cheek*  
2. SARAH KLEHM — *Angel Cheek*  
3. ROY KLEHM — *Angel Cheek*

Class 38: None

#### SECTION D. ONE BLOOM HERBACEOUS HYBRID OR SPECIES

Class 39: None

Class 40: 1. GRETA M. KESSENICH — *Cytherea*  
2. GILBERTS GARDENS — *Bill Krekler*  
3. MARVIN KARRELS — *Cytheria*

Class 41: 1. BILL SEIDL — *Fayette*  
2. GILBERTS GARDENS — *Heritage*  
3. JOSEPH GLOCKA — *Carol*

Class 42: 1. JOHN SIMKINS — *Moonrise*  
2. None  
3. None

Class 43: 1. MARVIN KARRELS — *Cytheria*  
2. GILBERTS GARDENS — *Lotus Bloom*  
3. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *Friendship*

Class 44: 1. MARVIN KARRELS — *Burma Ruby*  
2. MARVIN KARRELS — *R. W. Auten*  
3. JOHN SIMKINS — *Tenuifolia*

Class 45: 1. MARVIN KARRELS — *Walter Mains*  
2. BRAND PEONY FARMS — *Walter Mains*  
3. None

Class 46: 1. W. G. SINDT — *Prairie Moon*  
2. BRAND PEONY FARMS — *Prairie Moon*  
3. None

#### SECTION E. COLLECTION CLASSES, EACH VARIETY LABELED BUT IN A SINGLE CONTAINER

- Class 47: 1. FRANK HOWELL — *Princess Margaret, Mrs. J. V. Edlund, George Payton, Ava Maria, Sir John Franklin*  
 2. MARVIN KARRELS — *Princess Margaret, Gardenia, Andrew Meughlig, Gibraltar, Norma Volz*  
 3. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Paul M. Wild, Edulis Supreme, La Lorraine, Elsa Sass.*

Class 48: None.

Class 49: 1. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *White Cap, Polar Star, Do Tell, Dignity, Akasigata*

2. None

3. None

Class 50: 1. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — *Mr. Thim, Dawn Pink, Krinkled White, Sea Shell, Sparkling Star*

2. None

3. None

Class 51: 1. FRANK HOWELL — *Sophie, Carol, Cytherea, Red Charm, Dandy Dan*

2. MARVIN KARRELS — *Black Monarch, Walter Mains, Fire Belle, Golden Glow, Red, Red Rose*

3. GILBERTS GARDENS — *Bill Krekler, Red Charm, Montezuma, John Harvard, Red Red Rose*

## SECTION F. TREE PEONIES

Class 52: 1. JENNIFER SIMKINS — *Age of Gold, Suisho haku, Toki wasshu*

2. None

3. None

Class 53: 1. DR. H. LANDIS — *Fuji no akebono*

2. JOHN SIMKINS — *Okina jishi*

3. JANET COOPER — *Sericha haku*

Class 54: 1. DR. H. LANDIS — *Choe jyuraku*

2. JOHN SIMKINS — *Gyokusho*

3. JOHN SIMKINS — *Akebono*

Class 55: 1. DR. H. LANDIS — *Higurashi*

2. DR. H. LANDIS — *Teikan*

3. None

Class 56: 1. JOHN SIMKINS — *Chinese Dragon*

2. DR. H. LANDIS — *Hokori*

3. JOHN SIMKINS — *Tai hei*

Class 57, 58, 59 — None

Class 60: 1. BILL SEIDL — *Age of Gold*

2. DR. H. LANDIS — *Narcissus*

3. None

Class 61: 1. DR. H. LANDIS — *Harvest*

2. DR. H. LANDIS — *Splendour*

3. DR. H. LANDIS — *Countess*

## DIVISION 2 — AMATEUR

- Class 62: 1. J. KREICHBAUM — *Nippon Beauty, Dr. J. H. Neeley, Nick Shaylor, Florence Nicholas, Francis Mains, Chippawa, Pico, Flamingo, Autins Pride*  
 2. GRETA M. KESSENICH — *Crusader, Cytherea, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Burma, Patricia Hanratty, Red Charm, Alexander Woolcott, Gardenia, Flame, Golden Glow*  
 3. None
- Class 63: 1. GRETA M. KESSENICH — *Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Georgiana, Shaylor, Gardenia*  
 2. None  
 3. None
- Class 64, 65, 66 — No entries
- Class 67: 1. GRETA M. KESSENICH — *Crusader, Nathalie, Red Charm*  
 2. BILL McCALLUM — *Alexander Woolcott, Roselette, Cardinals Robe*  
 3. J. KREICHBAUM — *Red, Red Rose, Burma Ruby, Louis Arlene*
- Class 68: 1. J. KREICHBAUM — *Gardenia*  
 2. J. KREICHBAUM — *Francis Mains*  
 3. None
- Class 69: 1. J. KREICHBAUM — *Nick Shaylor*  
 2. J. KREICHBAUM — *C. Craine*  
 3. J. KREICHBAUM — *Therese*  
 H. M. J. SIMKINS — *Mons Jules Elie*
- Class 70: 1. J. KREICHBAUM — *J. Pillow*  
 2. None  
 3. None
- Class 71: No entries
- Class 72: 1. J. KREICHBAUM — *Flamingo*  
 2. None  
 3. None
- Class 73: 1. None  
 2. GRETA M. KESSENICH — *Toro-no-maki*  
 3. None
- Class 74: 1. W. G. SINDT — *Florence Bruss*  
 2. J. KREICHBAUM — *Pico*  
 3. None
- Class 75: 1. GRETA M. KESSENICH — *Moonrise*  
 2. BILL McCALLUM — *Firclight*  
 3. W. G. SINDT — *John Harvard*  
 H. M. BILL McCALLUM — *Grace Root*

### DIVISION 3 — NOVICE

- Class 76: 1. BILL McCALLUM — *Red Charm, Carina, Cytharea, John Harvard, Alexander Woolcott*  
2. GILBERTS GARDENS — *John Harvard, Rosy Cheeks, Ludovica, Red Charm, Montezuma*  
3. None
- Class 77: 1. JOHN KREICHBAUM — *Florence Nicholls*  
2. JANETH COOPER — *Festiva Maxima*  
3. J. DOWALL — *Alice Harding*  
H. M. J. DOWALL — *Le Cygne*
- Class 78: 1. J. DOWALL — *Princess Margaret*  
2. J. DOWALL — *Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt*  
3. J. DOWALL — *Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt*  
H. M. J. KREICHBAUM — *Mons. Jules Elie*
- Class 79: 1. J. DOWALL — *Kansas*  
2. JOHN KREICHBAUM — *Burma*  
3. JOHN KREICHBAUM — *Ruth Clay*
- Class 80: 1. JANETH COOPER — *Rare China*  
2. JOHN KREICHBAUM — *El Captain*  
3. None  
H. M. JOHN KREICHBAUM — *H. E. Perry*
- Class 81: 1. JOHN KREICHBAUM — *Midnight Sun*  
2. JOHN KREICHBAUM — *Bu-Te*  
3. JOHN KREICHBAUM — *Ama-no-Sode*  
H. M. JOANNE KREICHBAUM — *Fairbanks*
- Class 82: 1. BILL McCALLUM — *Seashell*  
2. None  
3. None
- Class 83: 1. J. DOWALL — *Cytharea*  
2. BILL McCALLUM — *Walter Mains*  
3. BILL McCALLUM — *Queen Rose*  
H. M. J. DOWALL — *Robert W. Auten*
- Class 84: 1. MRS. A. B. MEIKLEJOHN — *Souvenir de Maxime Cornu*  
2. J. DOWALL — *Princess*  
3. JANETH COOPER — *Kirin Nishiki*

### DIVISION 4 — SEEDLINGS AND NEW VARIETIES

#### Certificate of Merit

- Class 85: 1. MRS. L. COUSINS — *Inner Glow Pink*  
2. MRS. L. COUSINS — *Soft warm pink, single*  
3. MRS. L. COUSINS — *Fresh pink 5½. Inner Glow*  
4. MRS. L. COUSINS — *Very double raspberry red (north row)*  
5. DR. H. LANDIS — *Bockstoe #1*  
Honorable Mention  
H.M. — DR. H. LANDIS — *Rose Tulip*
- Class 86: No entries



## **DIVISION 5 — SPECIAL ENTRIES**

Class 87: COMMERCIAL EXHIBIT — LIENAU PEONY GARDENS

Class 88: Visitors from the greatest distance

1. GRETA M. KESSENICH — 929 miles. Hopkins, Minnesota. *Alexander Woolcott, Flame, Mrs. F. D. R., Golden Glow, Campagna*
2. BILL McCALLUM — 914 miles. St. Paul, Minn. *Laura Magnuson, Your Majesty, Rose Tulip, Pageant, Red Charm*
3. W. G. SINDT — 899 miles. Afton, Minnesota. *Wilford Johnson, Firelight, John Harvard, Seashell, Prairie Moon*
4. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — 250 Miles. Detroit, Michigan. *Lillian Gumm, Seashell, Carol, Elsa Sass, Ludovica*

Class 89: Multiple bloom.

1. BOB ROSE — *Miss America*
  2. SARAH KLEHM — *Miss America*
  3. No award
- H. M. ROY KLEHM — *Bonanza*

## **DIVISION 6 — ARTISTIC DESIGN**

Theme: "The Canadian Scene"

PACIFIC FORESTS

1. Mrs. B. Hall. Toronto, Ontario.
2. Mrs. R. Wards. 1101 Pinegrove Road, Oakville, Ont.
3. Mrs. J. Harris. 1154 Tisdale St., Oakville, Ontario.

WESTERN PRAIRIES

1. Mrs. C. P. Mentis. 41 Woodlawn, Port Credit, Ont.
2. Charlotte Sindt. 14252 15th St., Afton, Minnesota
3. Mrs. R. M. Dobbin. Agincourt, Ontario.

NIAGARA PENINSULA

1. Mrs. Grace Irvine. Oakville, Ontario.
2. Charlotte Sindt. 14252 15th St., Afton, Minnesota.
3. Mrs. E. R. Measures. 395 Maplehurst, Oakville, Ont.

LaBELLE PROVINCE

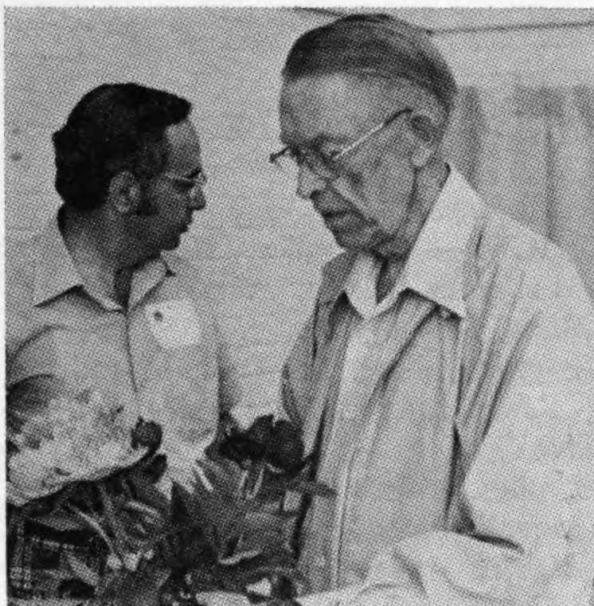
1. Mrs. E. R. Measures. 395 Maplehurst, Oakville, Ont.
2. Mrs. R. Wards. 1101 Pinegrove Rd., Oakville, Ont.
3. George Yates. 88 Parkside Dr., Hamilton, Ontario.

MARATIMES

1. Mrs. G. Lefroy. Oakville, Ontario.
2. Charlotte Sindt.
3. Mrs. W. C. Irvine. 1259 Cleaver Dr., Oakville, Ont.

SNOW IN SUMMER

1. Mrs. R. J. Kjarsgaard. 819 Long Dr., Burlington, Ont.
2. Mrs. L. Kubrlis. 811 Teal, Burlington, Ont.
3. Mrs. W. C. Irvine. Oakville, Ontario.



THE INTEREST OF 2 MEN — THE PEONY  
Dr. Henry Landis, Q.C., Willowdale, Ont.  
Roy Pehrson, Lafayette, Minn.



LOOKING FOR A CHAMPION  
Clarence Lienau, Detroit, Michigan



PREPARATION ROOM, ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS HDQTS., Saurday Morning, June 15, 1974



Illinois and Wisconsin peonies go on show tables.  
Bob Rose, Woodstock, Illinois;  
Joseph Glocka, West Allis, Wisconsin.



JOHN SIMKINS WITH SMALLEST FLOWER  
IN THE SHOW 'TENUIFOLIA'  
Also Clargreen Trophy awarded to the best  
specimen in the Novice Class.

## BANQUET — HAMILTON, ONTARIO — 1974

*Charlotte E. Sindt*

Saturday, June 15, was a very busy day for members in attendance at the annual exhibition of The American Peony Society. It was a day of decisions—for the exhibitors, which blooms to show; for the judges, which blooms to select for which ribbons; still later, which blooms now might have made it. This was the scene at the headquarters of the Royal Botanical Gardens, with peony lovers and growers expending all their enthusiasm and energies in the showing of that prestigious flower. Most of them, when forced to leave the building, did so reluctantly but with steps faltering just a bit when muscles would no longer cooperate.

To the casual observer then it was an astonishing sight to see the same members of the Society that same evening at the Holiday Inn, the scene of the awards banquet and auction, revived and again energetic and full of enthusiasm. Bedecked in their finest, they showed the spirit still abounding for the fun and the business of the organization. From many states they had come—from Rhode Island to Oklahoma, from New Jersey to Wisconsin and Minnesota. At my own table of eight people there were five states represented. In itself the gathering of people from so many locations, from such varied callings, with one central interest in the peony is an exciting achievement. There were members of the Society who had been peony enthusiasts for many decades, others who had not completed their first, for there was a whole table of delightful young children.

At each place at the tables was a peony place mat bearing a striking resemblance to exquisite pictures sold at the 1973 auction. These place mats were the gift of Irvin Ewing, a director of the Society from Michigan. More peonies were in evidence as decorative arrangements and as adornments for several of the ladies in attendance. The food was equally elegant, consumed happily with much chatter and good fellowship.

Then came the business. President Roy Klehm first of all presented to Greta Kessenich, secretary of the A.P.S., a very beautiful peony vase from himself and his family for the services she had so gladly given during his regime. He then introduced his wife, Sarah, and three charming children. He thanked Dr. Leslie Lak- ing, Director of the Royal Botanical Gardens, and his wife, Barbara, for the hospitality extended and the many courtesies and services. He also thanked John Simkins, show chairman, and his wife, Vi, for their efficient handling of a difficult assignment. Roy's final gesture as president was in announcing the Gold Medal winner for 1974, Walter Mains, a red and gold Japanese type hybrid. He then presented to the Society its new president, John Simkins of Oak- ville, Ontario.

President Simkins made his first presentation to the retiring president a hand painted plate with—what else—a peony on it. He expressed the gratitude of the Society for the efforts put forth by the capable and well loved Roy Klehm of Chicago. Mr. Simkins thanked the Oakville Horticultural Society and Dr. and Mrs. Leslie Laking of the Royal Botanical Gardens for their efforts in behalf of the American Peony Society for its 69th annual exhibition, the second one in Canada. Dr. Laking responded with his appreciation of the excellency of the show. The new president expressed as his aims an increase of membership in the A.P.S. with the ultimate objective to promote the peony. Mr. Simkins suggested that we move together through all seasons, talking with people, promoting the flower we grow and show. As we express enthusiasm, so can we draw others to become one with us in our Society.

The awards were many and varied. First was the presentation by President Simkins of the Saunders Medal to Sylvia Saunders. Exhibition awards were presented by Greta Kessenich, secretary. They included the gold medal to Clarence Lienau of Detroit, Michigan, silver medals to Frank Howell of New Jersey and Marvin Karrels of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and the bronze medal to John Kreichbaum of Pennsylvania. Plates with peonies painted by Mrs. C. E. Clark, a member of the Oakville Horticultural Society, were donated as awards. Books purchased in England by the Simkins were also awarded. Best of show was Princess Margaret shown by Frank Howell. Greta Kessenich won the award for the longest distance, 929 miles, from Hopkins, Minnesota. Champion artistic arrangement was won by Mrs. A. P. Mentis of Port Credit, Ontario, the reserve champion arrangement by Mrs. E. R. Measures of Oakville, Ontario.

For many the climax of the evening was the auction. Here individual peonies were described and extolled—peonies of all types, peonies difficult to obtain. Included was a four year old plant of the Itoh hybrid strain, and there were tree peony seeds also in great demand. Other items were plates with the peony painted by hand, as well as Mrs. Harding's books on the peony and books of color charts. And so the bidding was spirited, conviviality paramount (perhaps enhanced by the bar in the corner)! Auctioneer John Simkins knew no bounds in securing bids, allowing bidders to relax here and there to listen to the yarns and tales, some continued between items for sale and others told in a flash. All met with the approval of his listeners who progressed with their bidding to make it another highly successful venture for the Society.

What a fitting conclusion for a day with peonies, hectic at times, exciting at others, satisfying and rewarding always! Surely the annual banquet and auction was a festive occasion once again crowning the peony in the hearts of her devotees.

## THE SIXTH HYBRIDISTS' SEMINAR

*Held at Hamilton, Ontario, June 15, 1974*

*by Silvia Saunders*

As the participants (all five of us, and all supposedly Hybridists, actual or potential) walked down the hallway to the pleasant library room that Saturday afternoon, my heart sank. With only five, how can we have a good Seminar? I asked myself, remembering that our accustomed number for these gatherings has been about twenty-five.

We were in the Headquarters Building of the Royal Botanical Gardens, our Show headquarters in Hamilton, Ontario. It was Saturday afternoon, June 15th.

How wrong can one be! Where experts are concerned, sometimes the fewer the better. The discussion leaped at once into a brand new field: Meristem Culture. Others trickled in, and eventually we were: Roy Pehrson (I don't think Roy has missed a one of our Seminars), Chris Laning, editor of *PAEONIA*, Bill Seidl, Frank Styer from West Chester, Pennsylvania with his associate Harry Gill, our retiring president Roy Klehm, Mrs. Hollis Cornell from near Albany, New York, Mrs. Muryle Kostiuik, all the way from Oklahoma, John Kreichbaum from Pennsylvania, Mrs. Janeth [yes, JANETH] Cooper of Don Mills, Ontario, and two or three others.

Roy Pehrson had brought with him a bloom from his most recent Itoh hybrid (we are hereafter to spell Itoh with an H), a dark maroon flower rather like a single herbaceous bloom but with the "sheath" around the carpels characteristic of tree peonies, and with the raggedy-edged petals that I recall as characteristic of Itoh hybrids. This is the first bloom Roy has had on an Itoh cross made by himself (in 1969 I think). The foliage was in outline rather like T. P. foliage, but the "stuff" of which it was made was more like herbaceous, to the eye and to the touch. The flower takes its color from its pollen parent, Thunderbolt; there was brief discussion as to whether this might not always be the case.

After some coming and going of participants, and some further talk about various hybrids, we all settled down seriously to discuss Meristem Culture; sometimes called "Tissue culture," and also please note that the word meristem does not refer to the "stem" of a plant; but comes from the Greek *merein*, to divide.

This is the process by which a tiny section (say, 1 cubic millimeter) is taken from the very apex or growing tip of a plant (in our case, a peony) in spring or early summer before its cells have differentiated themselves off into bud-cells, stem-cells, etc. This is placed in a culture medium in a flask until this mass of undifferentiated cells can increase in number. The "magic" lies in the fact



that when bigger, this mass can then again be broken up into innumerable other tiny bits to seed many more flasks.

This process is now widely used in the propagation of orchids (where you may have seen the word "mericlone"), but as it has not yet been applied to the peony, there is still a very big question-mark ahead of us. Quite possibly we shall find that the peony cannot or will not be subjected to this treatment, at least not profitably to us. If, however, it works comparably to the way it works with orchids, it may mean that four or five years from the start, you should have, not one or two more of the same clone, but limitless numbers. If we can succeed with Meristem Culture, it should prove an enormously important step, for one of the greatest drawbacks to the peony is the slowness of its ability to propagate. (There was general agreement that this is of no advantage whatever to the hybridizing process; it is purely for propagating individual clones, each of itself.)

The talk then went on to the financing of some work on it. Individuals, amateur or professional, or the Society itself might each contribute. All this is to be taken up in detail by those immediately concerned. The initial steps would be undertaken through a University authority, such as Dr. TOSKIO MURASHIGE at the University of California at Riverside.

There has already been and there surely will be more, discussion of all this in Chris Laning's excellent newsletter PAEONIA. Chris's address is 553 West F Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007. A contribution of \$2.00 should bring you this leaflet for one year, and if you are interested in Meristem culture, ask to have your subscription back-dated to include March and June 1974.

## A VIEW FROM THE OUTSIDE

*by Janice Galivan*

A peony is a big pink flower that produces ants. Right? Wrong! But this is the concept of a peony, of the general uninitiated public. This was my idea before being involved in the recent American Peony Society Show.

The first thing that struck me was the avid interest, almost dedication, that the exhibitors displayed about each other's blooms. I overheard many involved discussions about rare bushes, crosses and graftings. It was then that I began to realize there must be more to peonies than I knew. It's very confusing to the casual Saturday gardener to understand the amount of interest a flower generates.

Then I read the show program. Herbaceous, Lutea, Japanese tree, where's the difference? What do all these terms mean? It was wonderful the patience and the time the exhibitors took to explain, in simple language all these varieties. They demonstrated

and described in detail the basic difference of each type.

Another thing that amazed me was the care taken of each bloom. Packed in layers of paper, carefully handled, with each bloom in a paper bag, what appeared to be thousands of flowers arrived from extreme distances. And then, after all this, so many were discarded as being not good enough for the show. Those who displayed must have the patience of saints and the optimism of all the world, to work with the flowers. I'd have given up at once.

The most amazing thing was the naming of each bloom, "Age of Gold," "Black Pirate," "Mrs. F.D.R." Each flower has a name that is registered and most exhibitors knew most of the names. Some of the flowers looked identical to me. My favorite was Age of Gold. I felt deeply sorry for little 10996. Won't someone please give it a proper name?

I can't possibly say enough about the arrangements. The containers, backgrounds and lines created by the careful placement of each leaf, stem and flower conjured up the winds of the prairies, and the salt tang of the sea. Everyone who entered the decorative class has my deep admiration. I never could have believed that so many moods could have been created by peonies. The judges had a job I certainly would not desire.

The judges for all classes had impossible jobs. The time and discussion that went into each class before a winner was chosen was extensive. They also had to cope with the milling crowds and (in some cases) inexperienced clerks. Some judges were at their task for two-and-a-half hours.

The over-all appearance of the hall with individual classes, the massed decorations along the back wall, and best of all the Court of Honour, was a sight I'll never forget. The amount of time and effort required to organize such a spectacle was too astounding to imagine. To those who spent so much time and energy in exhibiting the flowers whether they won or lost, my heartiest congratulations. I feel that everyone who attended the show as a spectator has gained a tremendous knowledge about the varieties of peonies and hopefully some desire to try growing them for themselves. Your display did more for the American Peony Society than all the written words.

## **SILVIA SAUNDERS**

### *RECIPIENT, THE A. P. SAUNDERS MEMORIAL MEDAL*

One of the really pleasurable highlights of the annual meeting held this past June at Hamilton, Ontario was the award to Silvia Saunders of the A. P. Saunders memorial medal. This medal is awarded from time to time to some person who has made some significant contribution in the field of peony hybridizing.

No member of the Peony Society can be unaware of the

many years of inspired leadership which Silvia has given to it, including a term as President. The Society owes her a resounding accolade for this alone.

All peony hybridizers would probably agree that Silvia's most important contributions to the cause of the peony have been made seated at her writing table. In the beginning we can be sure that she had no ideas about bringing into being a program of "hybridizing by the masses." It had not been done that way in the time of her famous father and his contemporaries, and besides; all of her training and experience had been in another field. Nevertheless she was to be drawn into participation in the new trend in a very active way.

Silvia had the plants in the little nursery left to her by her father. Many of these plants had characteristics which made them useful as parent material by the newly emerging group of hybridists. These were reserved "for hybridizers only." She had her father's comprehensive records, a prime source of useful information. So she was called on to supply both; plants from her nursery, and ideas gleaned from her father's records. A tremendous correspondence resulted and Silvia became Queen Bee of the peony hybridizers world.

This could not continue. Needed was some way whereby the knowledge and experiences of ALL hybridizers could be shared to mutual benefit. Hybridizers were encouraged to set up "Round Robins." At one time there were a number of these in circulation. The idea seemed such a splendid one that a number of years were to elapse before it was realized that the "Round Robin" idea had several basic flaws which could not be overcome. Firstly, the number of participants in each group had to be limited. There could be no over-all involvement of one group with another. Then too there was always a "weakest link"; the member of a group who would hold a letter much too long before sending it on its next flight. Silvia herself at times could not discover where a given robin might be, though she tried her best to monitor them.

Finally, and it may have been in desperation, Silvia was inspired to suggest—and then to implement—the issuance of a quarterly paper to be sent to active and prospective hybridizers only. This newsletter has now come to be called PAEONIA. It has had a very cordial reception, and we believe that it is beginning to attract a slowly increasing number of peony people to the idea of trying their own hands at creating new, fine peonies. If this developing interest can be held and expanded, the effects on the fortunes of the peony and of the Peony Society may eventually be very helpful. We hope so.

Well done, Silvia!

E. L. Pehrson

## A YOUNGER VIEW

*By Jennifer Simkins (age 13)*

On our way down to the Royal Botanical Gardens on the Saturday morning, our back seat and truck stuffed with vases and boxes of peonies, I was fascinated to learn people came from places as far away as Oklahoma and Rhode Island with peonies that had been in cold storage for as long as three weeks.

When I walked into the basement of the Royal Botanical Garden Headquarter and saw millions of beautiful flowers that had to be tagged and run upstairs to the show tables, I almost died. But those dozen of donuts helped a lot.

Out of the confusion and mix up, we gradually moved some of the peonies up to the show room. But believe it or not, more than half of them didn't even get tagged or put on the display tables. Only the best were exhibited.

The judging took place at 11:00 A.M. I had never clerked for a judge, so I assumed position as ribbon girl and also helped with the Court of Honour. When that was over, we had lunch at the Rock Gardens.

For about the next two hours I sat at the door and gave out pamphlets and little bits of information that I had picked up from my father.

Finally the time came that I had been looking forward to all day, the banquet. It was excellent, thanks to Holiday Inn. Then the prizes and the auction. I was a runner. My brother and his girl looked after the show while we were eating and having fun.

The next day my father, mother and I were at the exhibition hall at nine o'clock to let in the bus tours. People came in and out all day. When Sunday night 6:00 p.m., came, it was clean-up time. I dreaded it, but it wasn't that bad. My sister, Janice and her husband, also my brother John, came to help; and we all worked, pouring water down a drain in the corner of the room, packing vases and piling flowers.

Because my father had signed a paper saying that all flowers from out of Canada had to be either burned with an inspector to watch or sent to charitable places, we gathered up armfuls of flowers and took them to the hospitals and a senior citizens home. The ladies there, really grabbed them. My brother stood back and said: "Those little old ladies are a vicious breed"; and then he took some flowers to all his old girl friends.

On the way home at 11:00 p.m. my father bought us all a big ice cream cone and my mother said that if we said peony in the next few days, she would wash our mouths out with soap. We all laughed; we were so tired but happy.



## ARRANGEMENTS IN THE INVITATIONAL CLASS OF THE ARTISTIC DIVISION



*Mrs. W. N. Peebles  
Women's Committee  
Royal Botanical Gardens  
Hamilton, Ontario*



*Mrs. C. P. Mentis  
Cloverleaf Garden Club  
Port Credit, Ontario*

Dear Secretary:

May I ask you to convey to the American Peony Society my most grateful thanks for the beautiful medal awarded to me as RESERVE CHAMPION, ARTISTIC DIVISION, in last week end peony show, in Hamilton, Ontario.

The blooms exhibited in the other division were simply magnificent, and it was a joy to me to work with some of the blooms for my designs. What a real thrill.

I think the entire show was a revelation to many visitors, as to the beauty of PEONIES. I am sure they will want to grow some of those new varieties.

How pleasant it was to meet so many flower lovers from such long distances, what a lovely common bond flower growers have!

I hope it will not be too long before another Peony show is held in Canada.

Yours Truly,  
Irene Measures (Mrs. E. R.)  
395 Maplehurst Ave.  
Oakville, Ontario, Canada

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, JUNE 14, 1974

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Peony Society was called to order at 8:00 P.M., June 14, 1974, at the Royal Botanical Gardens Headquarters, Hamilton, Ontario, by President Roy Klehm.

Directors present at the meeting were: P. Chris Laning, Michigan, Frank Howell, New Jersey, Clarence Lienau, Michigan, Marvin Karrels, Wisconsin, W. G. Sindt, Minnesota, Charlotte Sindt, Minnesota, John Simkins, Ontario, Gary Seaman, New York, and Greta Kessenich, Secretary, Minnesota. By invitation, Mr. Roy Pehrson.

The first order of business was a request by Roy Pehrson that the Board of Directors assume the responsibility of selecting the worthy candidate and the awarding of the A. P. Saunders Memorial Medal for hybridizing. This request was unanimously approved by all the members of the Board of Directors present.

The Directors approved unanimously that the A. P. Saunders Medal be awarded to Silvia Saunders for the "Active Sponsor of the New Era in Peony Improvement." The medal to be presented by John Simkins.

The Annual Meeting and Exhibition of the American Peony Society will be at Kingwood Center, Mansfield, Ohio, June 13, 14, and 15, 1975. A motion was made by President Klehm that the Society co-operate with Kingwood Center and donate peony roots for their project in the relocation and enlargement of their peony planting this fall, 1974. Unanimously approved.

Clarence Lienau was appointed to consult and advise the Director of the project, in the culture and planting of the peonies.

This appointment was seconded by Chris Laning and approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Frank Howell and seconded by Charlotte Sindt that the 1976 annual meeting and exhibition be at the Pennsylvania Horticulture Society headquarters, Philadelphia, Penn. Approved. Invitations were extended to Members of the Board, to have the 1977 annual meeting and exhibition in Champaign—Urbana, Ill., or in Kansas City, Missouri.

The nominating committee presented the following nominees for the ensuing year. Dr. David Reath, Calvin Helgoe, Gary Seaman, Clarence Lienau, Marvin Karrels and Carl H. Klehm.

Approved by 7/2 majority.

Due to the heavy commitments, President Roy Klehm requested that he be replaced, so he could devote full time to the Klehm Nursery business.

W. G. Sindt moved that the Secretary-Treasurer, Greta Kessenich be given the opportunity and privilege of casting a vote on

any question which comes before the governing Board. Unanimously approved.

The motion of the Board of Directors of June 17, 1973 relating to the appointment of the office of Registrar has been determined to be in conflict with our corporate requirements and therefore must be rescinded in accordance with Article # 9, Paragraph 5, of the Articles of Incorporation. Moved by Marvin Karrels and unanimously approved.

For the advancement of the Society and services to the membership, the following recommendations were made:

1. Colored cover for the Bulletin.
2. More pages in the Bulletin, at the discretion of the Editor.
3. Handbook of the peony updated.
4. Recommended list of peonies to be completed.

Peony "WALTER MAINS" was voted the GOLD MEDAL for 1974.

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

Greta M. Kessenich  
Secretary-Treasurer

## **AMERICAN PONY SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING, JUNE 15, 1974**

*Downtown Holiday Inn, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada*

The annual business meeting of the American Peony Society was called to order by President Roy Klehm, immediately after the banquet at 8:30 p.m. The business report and the financial report of the Society was passed to all members. President Klehm briefly summarized the report.

A gift of appreciation was presented to Greta Kessenich from the Roy Klehm family. President Klehm introduced his family to the members. Appreciation and thanks were extended to Dr. and Mrs. Laking of the Botanical Gardens and to Mr. and Mrs. Simkins.

Mr. Marvin Karrels reported that the Treasurer's books had been audited and were in order. The financial report was accepted unanimously.

The nominees for the Board of Directors were submitted to the membership, by the Committee Chairman, Roy G. Klehm: namely, Dr. David Reath, Calvin Helgoe, Gary Seaman, Clarence Lienau, Marvin Karrels and Carl H. Klehm. It was also recommended that Greta Kessenich be given the authority to vote with the Board of Directors.

No additional nominations were made from the floor. Mr. Frederick Woodbury of Rhode Island made the motion that the

above recommendations be accepted. The motion was seconded by Joseph Glocka of Wisconsin. It was unanimously approved, by all members present.

At this time, President Roy Klehm presented the gavel to the incoming President, John Simkins.

A gift of appreciation was presented to Roy Klehm for his dedicated service to the Society.

President Simkins expressed thanks to the sponsors of the Exhibition, The Hamilton Spectator and the Clargreen Gardens of Mississauga, Ontario. Dr. Laking, Director of the Royal Botanical Gardens was introduced. He welcomed all people from "South of the Border." He gave a very interesting talk on the History of the Royal Botanical Gardens.

President John Simkins gave a very enthusiastic and inspiring talk on "The Circle in Gardening."

Silvia Saunders was given the A. P. Saunders Memorial Award which bears the inscription: "Active Sponsor of the New Era in Peony Improvement." She accepted the award with some interesting comments about her father and her work with peonies.

The awards were presented to the Court of Honor recipients by President John Simkins and Greta Kessenich.

The annual business meeting was adjourned. The auction followed the business meeting.

Greta M. Kessenich  
Secretary-Treasurer

## **INTRODUCING OUR NEW MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Carl H. (Chuck) Klehm  
Charles Klehm & Son Nursery  
2 East Algonquin Road  
Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005

Carl H. Klehm received a B.S. degree in Horticulture from the University of Illinois in 1961, M.S. degree in Horticulture from the University of Wisconsin in 1962 and a Ph.D. in Horticulture from the University of Illinois in 1969.

He has worked in his father's nursery all his life, in the fields, in landscaping and in sales.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, JUNE 16, 1974**

*Royal Botanical Gardens Headquarters, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada*

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Peony Society was called to order at 9:30 a.m., June 16, 1974, by

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President John Simkins with the following Directors present: Gary Seaman, W. G. Sindt, Charlotte Sindt, Irwin Ewing, Joe Glocka, Calvin Helgoe, Chris Laning, Marvin Karrels, Frank Howell, Clarence Lienau, and Greta Kessenich, Secretary.

The report of the nominating committee was heard. Mr. Gary Seaman was nominated as Vice President. Mr. Calvin Helgoe moved that the nominations be closed. It was seconded by Mr. Chris Laning, which was unanimously approved.

President John Simkins and W. G. Sindt were appointed for the nominating committee in 1975.

The American Peony Society Annual meeting and Exhibition will be in Kingwood Center 1975. Mr. Gary Seaman will act as liaison for the exhibition. Marvin Karrels and W. G. Sindt were appointed to write a permanent show schedule. The schedule is to be completed by December 1974.

A motion was made that the die for the molding of the medals of the American Peony Society, which is now at the Medallic Art Company, Danbury, Connecticut be sent to the Secretary for storage. The motion was seconded by Mr. Calvin Helgoe and unanimously approved. The cost of various alloys used in the manufacturing of these medals, is to be researched.

The complete list of Recommended Peonies of various types was approved.

A motion was made by Charlotte Sindt that a letter of appreciation and thanks be sent to Roy G. Klehm, immediate Past President, which was unanimously approved.

There being no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Greta M. Kessenich  
Secretary-Treasurer

### **BUSINESS REPORT OF THE SOCIETY 1973-1974**

It is with pleasure that we can present the financial statement for 1973-1974, with assets in four figures. All bills are paid. The American Peony Society is solvent.

We are operating on a very conservative basis even though the prices of commodities have increased and especially that of postage.

1974 dues statements were mailed on November 19th, well in advance of the Christmas rush of mail. In the future, statements for dues for the following year will continue to be mailed in November. Second notices were mailed April 1st.

Our membership is stable, interest in the Society continues with a total of eighty-five new members. Correspondence has increased, which indicates a very healthy condition of the Society.

More colored slides have been donated by members, which are

appreciated. This is one department which needs added support. The slides are carefully catalogued and handled in a very efficient manner. To have a colored slide collection of all peonies is of value to the Society. It is a modern improvement in keeping a record of present and past cultivars. These slides are available to members at a minimum fee as quoted in the Bulletin.

It is necessary that the Bulletin be mailed two weeks in advance of the designated month of publication in order for all members to receive it on time. This means that all material must be submitted six weeks in advance of mailing to be published. It is our desire to have a Bulletin of information and interest. We must depend on you, the entire membership, to make this possible. The Bulletin is for communication in telling all members of programs, activities and relating all phases of peony culture.

For the advancement of the peony, new varieties and colors; the work you are doing and what has been achieved, also the names of the peonies used in your plan of hybridizing, would be of great value to all those that are interested in the beginning of such a program and also to those that are already involved in the breeding of peonies.

United in all the programs that have been outlined over the time, the Society knows no bounds. So much progress has been made. This can continue with the combined efforts of all.

The Society does have a particular interest in the mass planting of peonies at Kingwood Center, Mansfield, Ohio. A design that is more practical from a maintenance standpoint has been completed and after planting and transplanting, there is room for 100 or more peony roots. We would like to complete the project this fall. Your help in the donation of peony roots would be appreciated. Write the Secretary for information.

At this time, we extend an appreciation of thanks to all those that sent memorials to the Society this past year.

Letters written to Prof. Saunders, which are of historical value were presented as a gift to the American Peony Society. These files were accepted, with sincere thanks.

For all those that gave peony roots to the auction, we are especially grateful. Participation in this annual event is of benefit to all in that the proceeds are always included in the total assets of the year.

For material and services contributed in various ways, the officers of the American Peony Society express their appreciation.

The regime of President Roy Klehm has been one of progress and the management by the Board of Directors continues to guide the Society to financial security.

Greta M. Kessenich  
Secretary/Treasurer

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# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## JUNE 1, 1973—JUNE 1, 1974

Balance on hand June 1, 1973 ..... \$4644.74

### Receipts:

Membership dues .....	\$2701.50
Advertising .....	199.50
Rent: color slides .....	15.00
A.P.S. Auction-Milwaukee, Wis. ....	1308.00
Contribution .....	216.55
Registration, Nomenclature .....	90.00

### Publications:

Bulletins .....	\$ 29.50
Handbooks .....	33.50
"The Peonies" .....	68.00
"Peonies Outdoor and In" .....	104.95
Binders .....	10.50
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>246.45</b>
Interest on Savings .....	247.21
<b>Total Receipts</b> .....	<b>\$5024.21</b>
	<hr/>
	<b>\$9668.95</b>

### Disbursements

#### Publications:

Four Bulletins-June, Sept., Dec., March .....	\$2015.41
March supplement .....	82.80
American Peony Society postage .....	446.08
Office supplies .....	22.84
Miscellaneous items .....	37.17
Books—"The Peonies" .....	58.80
Show expense .....	115.00

<b>Total disbursements</b> .....	<b>\$2778.10</b>
<b>Balance June 1, 1974</b> .....	<b>6890.85</b>
	<hr/>
	<b>\$9668.95</b>

Excess receipts over disbursements .....	\$2246.11
Savings account .....	\$5759.37
Checking account .....	1131.48

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\$6890.85

Greta M. Kessenich  
Secretary-Treasurer



## **In Memorium EDWARD AUTEN, JR.**

*By Franklin Styer*

Mr. Auten was born in 1881 at Princeville, Illinois, died May 13, 1974, at Abington, Pennsylvania.

Older members will remember with great respect the devotion of Edward Auten Jr., to the peony. Almost a lifetime member and for many years a Director of the Society. He even continued his interest and attendance for many years after his health forced him from active business.

Mr. Auten ran a successful retail and wholesale business in peonies from his home in Princeville, Illinois, where his plantings were among the country's largest. Auten peonies were well known from one end of the U.S. to the other. Every year that the National Show was within reach, found him on hand with hundreds of flowers.

He generally had an acre or two of seedlings, from which he selected many varieties for introduction. He often put twenty to thirty new cultivars into the seedling classes. We believe it true that they were generally adapted to more southern areas than most new varieties. They deserved more attention than they received. It was noticeable that he favored somewhat smaller flowered free blooming sorts, of which a large majority were red.

It also should be said that even before the general interest in hybridizing, he was putting forth a good deal of effort to produce good hybrids and he had some influence on the works of the later hybridists.

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### **GEORGE E. (Casey) O'DONNELL**

Word has been received of the passing of George E. (Casey) O'Donnell on April 21, 1974, at his home in Lafayette, Colorado. He was a member of the American Peony Society for many years.

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### **TOP TEN ON THE PEONY POLL**

First Choice		Second Choice	
	%		%
1. Princess Margaret	34	1. Princess Margaret	28
2. Cytheria	26	2. Red Charm	19
3. Red Charm	16	3. Cytheria	17
4. Carol	8	4. Carol	9
5. Elsa Sass	5	5. Sea Shell	7
6. Sea Shell	3	6. Elsa Sass	7
7. Rose Tulip	3	7. Catherine Craine	6
8. Break of Day	2	8. Do Tell	4
9. Catherine Craine	2	9. Miss America	2
10. Do Tell	1	10. Break of Day	1

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## **AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY COLORED SLIDES**

The color slide collection of the American Peony Society has been recently enlarged by 45 slides of herbaceous hybrids and tree peonies contributed by Roy Klehm.

The herbaceous hybrids include numbered seedlings and three introductions hybridized by Orville Fay: Blaze, Coral Fay and Paula Fay.

Among the tree peonies are the following varieties: Amber Moon, Banquet, Chinese Dragon, Coronet, Gauguin, Golden Hind, Golden Vanitie, Kronos, Marchioness, Tria and Vesuvian.

A set of 80 35 mm color slides may be rented for a two week period by sending a check for \$7.50 payable to the American Peony Society to Richard W. Edblom, 6917 45th Ave. North, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55428.

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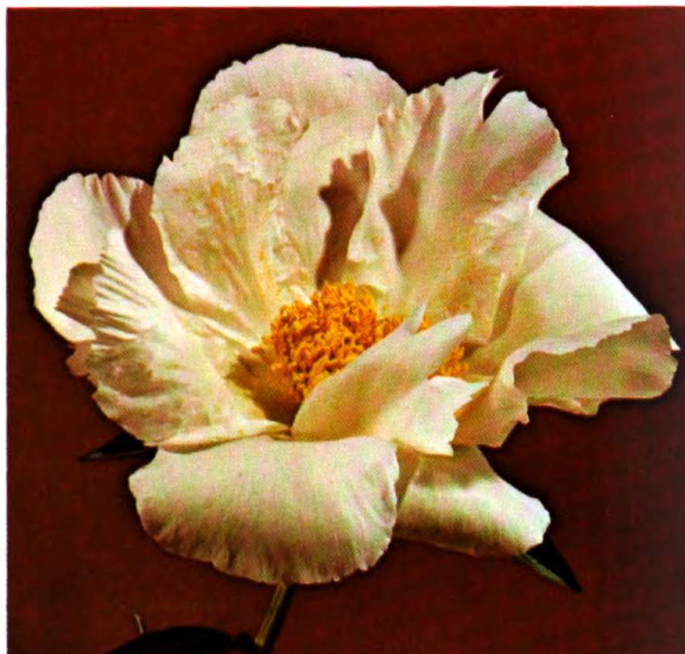
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**ON THE BACK COVER**

**DINNER PLATE** - Klehm Estate Peony.  
 (P.P. 2952) Mid. - Double. Shell pink of im-  
 mense size. 1973 National Grand Champion.

**SCARLET O'HARA**  
 (Falk-Glasscock - 1956)  
 Single - Hybrid  
 Fiery, warm red  
 flowers on a tall,  
 vigorous plant.



*Pictures furnished and cover printed by Chas. Klehm & Son.*





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**ESTATE**  
PEONIES

**DINNER PLATE (P.P. 2952)**

**1973 NATIONAL GRAND CHAMPION**