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# Imerican Peony Society Bulletin

SEPTEMBER, 1975



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# SWEET 16 AND HONEY GOLD

A lovely arrangement of two Klehm Estate Peonies. SWEET 16 (Patent 3667) (Late-Double) - a beautifully formed delightful, lively pink. HONEY GOLD (Patent 3270) (Mid-Double) - pure white set off by bright golden yellow.





# ABOVE RASPBERRY SUNDAL

(Patent 2951) (Mid-Doub a Klehm Estate Peony. He of vanilla ice cream raspberry topping that over the petals.

# LEFT KINKO

(Lemoine) - also known Alice Harding. A tree pt with extra large do bloom of brilliant butter low. Exquisite blossoms especially lovely when fl ed in a bowl.



Mr. Fred Roberts, Director of Kingwood Center

Marjorie Dickinson, Librarian, Kingwood Center

To the gracious people of Kingwood Center, The American Peony Society expresses gratitude.

The loveliness of the peony unfolded to exquisite beauty, in your temperature-controlled showroom, that was so artistically designed and transformed into a garden of miraculous wonderment, with a center pool and waterfall, surrounded by growing plants, native to such a setting. The bank of peonies, displayed on the surrounding walls, in a graduated effect was a magnificent sight.

The entire physical arrangement was one of skilled engineering and planning.

We thank you.

Dr. Ray Allen, Director Emeritus, Kingwood Center



Mrs. John Simkins Oakville, Ontario, Canada

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# FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

It was a fine show at Mansfield. The air conditioned show room with the new movable spots along the well-designed, freestanding decorative areas made the flowers more impressive than usual. Our thanks to Mr. Roberts and the staff at Kingwood Center for an unusual artistic staging.

It was a pleasure to see Marvin C. Karrels, Clarence O. Lienau, William H. Krekler and Louis Smirnow receive American Peony Society medals in recognition of their work for the peony, in the Society and in the world. As our year comes to a close, I thank the members who serve us as officers, directors, writers, exhibitors and otherwise promote the Society.

Professor Martin M. Meyer, whose article appears in this issue of the Bulletin gave a review of his work of the cell culture of iris, daylillies and some preliminary work on peonies. The Directors agreed that the Society should lend backing to this project. We also agreed to act as a means of directing any private contributions of members for this research program, to Professor Meyer.

Greta Kessenich is working on the herbaceous check list of peonies and I am collecting information and material, in preparing the tree peony check list.

This is peony time for dividing, grafting, sowing and planting. Use your spare divisions to start friends, acquaintances and neighbours growing peonies. They may become members in a year or so. Good luck in your fall work and may it result in a fine display next spring.

John Simkins



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### **BEAUTY AND THE PEONY**

The Rev. Floyd J. Miller, Fergus Falls, Minnesota

I am sure the members of The American Peony Society are drawn together by their common response to Beauty. They respond to Beauty as centered in this one flower, the Peony.

So at once we ask, "What is this Beauty which is such a part of our lives?" In seeking the answer, we must be mindful that Santayana tells us that "Beauty as we feel it is indescribable; what it is or what it means can never be said." Therefore, we must know it not by definition, but by experience.

We must know Beauty as happiness; as relating only to enjoyment. Without thought or effort on our part, it diffuses within us a secret satisfaction, a feeling of well-being. Within us there is "a consciousness of joy and security, a pure pleasure" and a pure gain. And "a sense of harmony between our nature and our experience."

We must know Beauty as inspiration as it makes its way directly to our souls. Here is "a pledge of the possible conformity between the soul and nature." We must know it as an emotion which is positive, as a "sense of the presence of something good." Here is an enhancing of all our visions, a bestowal of moral dignity on all our strivings.

We must know Beauty as a clear "manifestation of perfection." Here is a suggestion that the object of our delight comes close to our conception of the ideal. Yet we must recognize that we cannot envision what constitutes perfection. Here is only a goal. And approachment toward perfection is the only possible standard of judging.

When factors of quality are present in good measure and in right proportion—color and form and substance and texture—a bloom is considered good. But the final appeal of the flower rests upon an intangible and pleasing and compelling satisfaction felt within ourselves. At the same time we must remember that fragrance is desirable—for is not beauty enhanced by the sensuous charm of odor?

We cannot prove the Beauty of a peony. Of all that we know in life, it least demands explanation. We can say with Emerson that "Beauty is its own excuse for being." It knows no bounds. We do well to gladly accept it, knowing that it satisfies a fundamental need of our lives and a basic capacity of our minds.

\* \* \* \* \*

Peonies like a sunny location, either in full sun or shaded only a small part of the day. They must have good drainage. They will not tolerate wet feet. Water should never stand over them.



## TO PLANT A PEONY

When planting the roots, dig each hole large enough to easily accommodate the root without crowding it. The eyes should be as near two inches below the normal surface as possible. If you wish to be accurate, take a stick about three feet long and nail a piece in the middle that will extend exactly two inches down. Lay this stick across the hole with this guide exactly in the middle of the hole. Take the root by the piece of stem usually left and hold this stem upright and the roots will be in a natural position. Let the tip of the guide touch the crown at the bottom of the uppermost eye. Be sure you do not plant the root upside down. It is amazing how often this is done. A normal division has the crown on top with the eyes pointing upward and the roots extending downward. Then fill in around the root with the soil, working it in with your fingers, until no voids are left below the plant or among the roots. Firm this soil well and fill it in until the roots are covered. Use your feet, if necessary, to firm properly, being careful not to break the roots or eyes in the process. Due care should always be used not to injure the root in any way. If eyes are accidentally broken off, new ones will usually be formed, but the growth will not be as strong from them as from the original eyes. When you have filled the hole and firmed the soil to a point just covering the roots and eyes, pour in about a gallon or more of water and let it settle, then fill with loose soil, mounding it up a few inches for winter protection and to keep the roots from heaving. Mound will normally sink to proper level. If it does not, level it in the spring.

\* \* \* \*

The best time to plant peonies is in the fall, beginning with September in the North and October in the South, and ending when the ground freezes up for the winter. In the South, they should not be planted after active growth starts which is in January or early February. Spring planting is not advised for the South, even though the roots have been kept in cold storage. They begin to grow at once and have no connection, by feeder roots or otherwise, with the ground and, hence, often die from the heat and lack of nourishment.

Spring planting is more successful in the North provided it is done early.

Pot-grown plants may be planted at any time.

If absolutely necessary, they may be moved at any season of the year, even when in full leaf or bloom.

This practice is neither recommended nor encouraged. It always results in a serious set-back for the plant and may cause its death.





# WHEN PEONIES BLOOM

Anthony J. DeBlasi, Rt. 109, Sanbornville, N.H.

What secret threads of melody, On what enchanted loom, Weave through the soft air When peonies bloom?

Their glistening colors sing, As they catch the light, In lyric modulations Of sheer delight.

What celestial harmonies, From what heavenly hall, Enter the privileged grounds Where peonies call?

From the sweet registers Of a beauty unbound, The varied chords of rapture Musically sound. What hypnotic rhythm, Of what ethereal style, Ripples through the garden When peonies smile?

All these wondrous stirrings, Slowly gleaned perchance, Are gentle invitations To a cosmic dance.

So let us move with the music Of this divine strumming— And join the stride of springtime Joyfully humming—

As a rhapsody of creation Ascends from nature's womb— In fragrance and in beauty— When peonies bloom.

# **RENOWN A TRIPLE-CROWN IN 1975**

from Silvia Saunders

My big ancient plant of our beautiful lutea hybrid Renown, put forth its next-to-last bloom on July 4 this year. And what a bloom! It consisted of a triple-crown—three blooms tightly packed together at the end of one stem; the stem being perhaps very slightly stouter and stiffer than the usual.

The blooms were small. We couldn't have borne it if they had been three normal-sized ones up there — and slightly fringed and frilled, as **Renown** blooms sometimes are.

This is one for the chromosome experts, isn't it. What happened here? We cut the stem and brought it into the house for longer lasting and for daily closer inspection and enjoyment. No seeds can possibly have been lost by this maneuver, for **Renown** doesn't set seed, at least not in my garden.

A bloom will last in a vase indoors at least a week, whereas left outdoors—well you just never can be sure. Keep the vase out of drafts, though; and we try to change the water, and cut off (diagonally) a little of the stem each day.

Tomorrow, the 11th, it will be a week old, and it looks as if it still has quite a few days to run.

Further note on this season: Of course I'm officially as well as practically, closed now; but every single little scrap of root left in the ground from previous diggings, rose up and bore a bloom this year! I've never seen such a year for bloom. Other kinds of plants that have sulked for years, bloomed this year. But Renown was the most beautiful of all, as it often is.

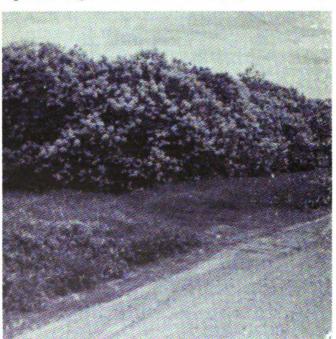


# TRAGEDY OF A STORM

Greta M. Kessenich, Editor

The storm struck at eight o'clock in the morning. In twenty minutes the peonies lay flat, trees were on the ground, a disheveled nursery with a terrific wind, rain and hail taking its toll.

Spring in Minnesota was cold and very late this year, but in time the weather began to moderate and peonies thrust their pink tips through the soil and they grew fast and healthy.



The Brand Peony Farm was a place of tremendous beauty at lilac time. My visit there was not only to see the lilacs in bloom but also to have an interesting page about this Nursery in this issue of the Bulletin. First a picture of the lilacs, for which this nursery is noted world wide. Varieties of all kinds were in bloom, rows and rows of them, all colors and

the panicles were huge. Spring had been good and the perfume from the rows of lilacs filled the cool air.

Two weeks later, my visit was to see the peonies. A sight in itself. The display garden was one of beauty. The hundreds of plants were in great form. Thousands of buds of tremendous size were high above the foliage. It was a sight to see, especially standing on a slight knoll and looking down on the area. A picture was to be taken of Andrew Meughling, which had over ninety buds, almost ready to burst in full bloom. Myra MacRae, a new full double pink was also to have been in this issue, as well as two large plants of the great peony Douglas Brand and the gentleman, Douglas Brand, for whom this peony was named. The buds on these four plants would total in number, over four hundred.

The annual show opened the following Sunday, with beauty all over the farm, with hundreds of iris blooming and the show room filled with peonies of unsurpassed beauty. This was not for long, because soon that morning the rain came. Two inches in a few minutes. Some bushes in the display garden went down, but still flowers were there, and more buds would open. Two days later,



an ominous cloud came without warning and all the Nursery flowers that were so beautiful were destroyed in twenty minutes.

This one hundred-year-old nursery is one of pride and joy to all Minnesota. Bus loads of people have journeyed far to see the peonies bloom. The soil is indescribable in itself. A rich black heavy clay, the kind peonies enjoy. No fertilizer is ever used. The sun and the rain is all that is required to bring forth such tremendous flowers, together with the capable planning and ingenuity of Bob Tischler, who has been the owner since the days of Mr. Brand.

No, it is not a park, but a farm; and if one is fortunate enough to walk over acres of it, being careful of the deep furrows of the plow, which is purposely left for drainage, it is a pleasure, seeing a seemingly forgotten seedling in bloom or walking across an area of buffalo grass to another open field to rows and rows of seedlings or new peonies that are being cultivated for the trade. A day in this Nursery gives one an invigorating and healthy outlook on life. It is just good to be back to nature's own.

# **BU-TE**

Now comes the great Japanese peony BU-TE to receive the Gold Medal Award for 1975.

BU-TE has eye-catching power, as it stands straight and tall, with charm and dignity in the garden. It displays beautiful large white blooms with golden yellow centers like a filigree of gold, intermingled in a large ball. This graceful plant has a habit of spreading out its strong stiff bloom stalks which gives it individuality, making it one of tremendous garden value and beauty.

This peony of such outstanding qualities was introduced to the peony world in 1954 by Mr. Wassenburg.

One can imagine that its name might have originated immediately in the mind of the breeder when he first saw this plant in bloom, as Bu-te---ful and this peony is just that and more.

\* \* \* \*

Peonies must not be crowded by other plants. They need plenty of room for good growth and free circulation of air. They must be far enough from trees and shrubs so that they will not be robbed of their nourishment by the roots of these plants.

They will grow in any good garden soil. Sandy soils make more foliage and less blooms. A clay soil makes slower growth but better flowers. They are less liable to suffer from nemas in a clay soil.

They should never be planted where a peony has been grown before, unless all the soil is removed to a depth of three feet and replaced by new soil in which peonies have never been planted.



## ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS ONE PEONY

By Ann M. Goodrick, Reading Eagle Staff Writer

All of us, at one time or another, have had this dream or a version of it: We enter a contest or a sporting event for the very first time and walk off with the top prize. Be it the Oscar, the Indy 500 trophy or the Nobel, we grab it.

Perhaps John D. Kreichbaum didn't have this dream in mind when he entered his first American Peony Society Show in Ontario, Can., last June. But he walked off with first prize. Another first prize and seven more first prizes. Following this were seven seconds, six thirds and a bunch of honorable mentions.

For very good measure, the judges gave him the coveted Society Rosette for best group in his class and a bronze medal for his entries just to make the trip to Ontario a complete success.

Mr. Kreichbaum had plenty of blooms to choose from for the show. He has 400 peony bushes on his Bernville R.D. 2 property. The bushes represent 200 different varieties of peonies including some magnificent single blooms with centers which look like pompons.

And if you thought peonies were either lavender, white or in shades of red, think again. Name a color and John Kreichbaum can take you to a peony bush of that color.

"I planted an old red peony about 20 years ago," said the Reading Railroad engineer, "And that was the beginning."

The next year there were a few more roots planted, and the year after that a few more.

Mr. Kreichbaum reviewed the history of the peony.

"Peonies originated in China and the Himalayas. And you know, a peony bush will outlive you. There is one on record which is 104 years old."

Because of the different varieties on his property, Mr. Kreichbaum has bushes blooming for four or six weeks.

When the blooms are past, he clips the flower. Then in the fall, he cuts each stem off to the ground and burns them. That's a lot of backbreaking work, but worth it, according to Mr. Kreichbaum.

Unlike many gardeners who are reluctant to share their good-growing secrets, Mr. Kreichbaum was pleased to outline his planting process.

"In the fall, dig a hole about 16 inches deep by about one and one-half inches across. Be sure there is good drainage."

He said a gardener can put small stones or crushed shells in the bottom of the hole for drainage.





John D. Kreichbaum, Bernville, Pennsylvania, R.D. 2, planted one peony root 20 years ago. Today he has about 400 bushes of magnificent flowers. An engineer for the Reading Railroad, Mr. Kreichbaum puts many, many hours into his rewarding hobby. Last June he entered his first American Peony Society show and walked away with nine first place ribbons, seven seconds and six thirds. Eagle Photo by James R. Cutler

"Then use a mixture of peat, rotted cow manure, bone meal and good dirt. Put this into the hole and cover it with about two inches of good soil. Put the root in and cover with some more good soil. Don't let the root touch the manure!"

The eye of the root should be about one and one-half inches below the surface. Then Mr. Kreichbaum covers the spot with straw for the winter and the peony bush is on its way. He plants the roots about four feet apart.

Mr. Kreichbaum's wife is interested in the flowers also, and has done some pollinating. Developers of new blooms must be patient, though, since it takes anywhere from three to seven years for a flower to appear.

Many of the roots planted in the Kreichbaum garden come from a supplier in Missouri.

From the Himalayas to Missouri to Berks County.

No wonder a peony bush can live for 104 years!

# PEONIES THAT SET SEEDS

Elva Hemphill, Springfield, Missouri

Each year when I evaluate my collection of herbaceous peony plants, I find that cross pollinating the bloom for seeds can be both exciting and disappointing. Some peony varieties set seeds profusely, while many different varieties of herbaceous peonies are sterile, having neither stamens that contain pollen or carpels to form seed pods.

To a hybridizer it is very important when buying and planting a collection of peonies that we know which plant is fertile.

Most of the singles and semi-double types of herbaceous peonies have both, stamens that contain pollen and carpels to make seed pods. Of the singles and semi-doubles that set seed abundantly in my garden are: Krinkled White, Helen, Sea Shell, Dawn Pink, Minnie Shaylor, and President Lincoln.

Most all of the Japs types are fertile. My favorite reds are: Mrs. Wilder Bancroft and Nippon Chief. After the flower petals have fallen and the large bronzy red carpels full of seeds, hanging on to the arched branches makes a lovely display. Some of the other Jap peonies that are fertile that grow in my garden are: Carrara, Sitka, Westerner, Do Tell, Fancy, Nancy, Alstead and Mikado.

Double herbaceous peonies are the type that are most difficult to get seeds to set. P. Officinalis and Lactiflora or Albiflora, which are the parents of many of our beautiful double-flowering peonies should be in every amateur hybridizer's garden.

For many years I have tried to collect seeds from the Anemone peony with the yellow bomb center. Carolina Moon will set a few seeds along with Primevere and J. C. Legg.

This past blooming season, I was fortunate enough to have three seedlings bloom from a cross of Minnie Shaylor x Primevere. One of the seedlings was a glorified Primevere, growing tall and rank like Minnie Shaylor with identical flowers of Primevere and having five large chartreuse carpels in the center of the flower. This caused me to believe that perhaps Minnie Shaylor should be used more as a seed parent, where crossing for color breaks in the anemone types of peonies, even though Minnie Shaylor is a semi-double flower.

In many of our modern varieties, the carpels add so much to the beauty of the flower. Cygnet has a large flower with coral pink carpels and Le Jour, a very large white flower, with a group of reddish carpels, tipped with a darker shade of red and a pink line at the base. It is regrettable that so many of these rare peonies are disappearing from the peony catalogue listing.

A few years ago, I purchased a plant of Emmy Swan, a Saun ders introduction from Silvia Saunders. This spring the plant was



well-established and bloomed perfect white flowers with a large center of sulphur yellow. For information, in my work with peonies, I would like to know the parentage of the rare and beautiful Emmy Swan.

# NOTES RELATING TO THE HISTORY, DISTRIBUTION, AND CULTIVATION OF THE PEONY IN CHINA AND JAPAN

Submitted by Don Hollingsworth

Translated from Original Chinese Works, into Dutch, by D. I. Hoffman, of Leyden; and again translated from the Dutch, by Mr. Polman Mooy, of Haarlem.

[JOHN DICKSON has much pleasure in laying before the readers of "The Magazine of Gardening and Botany," the following interesting particulars on the cultivation of the Paeony, placed at his command by the kindness of his talented and respected friend, Mr. Polman Mooy, of Haarlem.]

Editorial Note: This fascinating work was published in the 16th Volume of PAXTON'S MAGAZINE OF BOTANY in 1849. The original article by Johann Hoffman appeared in the Royal Netherlands Horticultural Society reports for 1968 (John Wister, 1947, THE PEONIES, p. 201). While these Western translations reflect an enormous scholarly investment, the reader soon becomes aware that the "original" sources with which Hoffman worked had drawn upon much older writings, up to 1000 years before, the present work representing the successive efforts of numerous scholars. We are fortunate indeed that the events of history have brought forth this account of the peony in Oriental history in a form that we, too, can enjoy.

Owing to the overall length of the article, it is not feasible to reproduce it entirely in one issue of the BULLETIN. Accordingly, it has been divided into four parts and will appear in serial form. In Part I is traced the distinction between the herbaceous and tree peonies in Chinese history and the distribution and use of the herbaceous peony. Part II will include that portion of the article devoted to the tree peony in China and the history and distribution of peonies in Japan. Part III will present recommendations on tree peony culture from Japanese manuals. Part IV will contain the portion covering propagation, including grafting, and other horticultural information on the tree peony from the Japanese sources.

PAXTON'S MAGAZINE OF BOTANY AND REGISTER OF FLOWERING PLANTS was published monthly at London, England, beginning in January 1834 and continuing through December 1849. It included descriptive information and color illustrations of newly introduced species having horticultural interest as well as general information and recommendations on horticultural practice. "... As



a medium of conveying sound practical instruction, — its utility increased by the beauty of its illustrations,—he (the author) hopes to render it deservedly popular...", from the introduction to Volume 1. (The name of the publication as reproduced here was taken from the title page of the bound Volume 16 as it appears in the collection of the Linda Hall Library of Science and Technology, Kansas City, Missouri. However, it is curious that this is not the same as that used in John Dickson's preface to the article). —Don Hollingsworth

# HISTORY AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE PEONY IN CHINA

The Chinese distinguish the common Paeony from the improved sorts, and grow both, the common one for the use of the roots, which are considered to contain powerful medicinal properties; the latter for the charming beauty of their flowers.

The common sort is known in China by the name of Sho yo,\* and the improved sorts by the name of Mow tan† or Muh tan.‡

The communications relating to the two sorts given by the Chinese Naturalist Le she chin, in his work "Pentsaon Kang muh," (published in 1596), is not uninteresting.

The following is an extract of what he states upon the subject: The name Sho yo,\* given to the common sort, signifies 'most beautiful,' which name, without doubt, it really deserves; this sort serves in its native country for a Forget-me-not, which one friend presents to another when called to separate from each other. A Sho yo plant is received for a friendly remembrance after separation, which custom has created a Chinese song, saying—

"'Will any one rejoice his friend with a present,
Of course he gives the most beautiful of all!"

and it has also given occasion to its name Le tsaou, 'a plant to take leave with.'"

The improved sort bears the name of Mow tan, "male scarlet flower," in consequence of its propagation (although occasionally from fruit and seeds) being principally effected by dividing the roots; and it got its name of scarlet flower, on account of the scarlet-coloured sort being considered the principal one.

The Mow tan flower resembles the so-called "most beautiful," of which the stems are hard-wooded and perennial. The Thanglauders (inhabitants of Nan yang, in the south-east part of the province Honan) for this reason give it the name of Muh Sho yo, tor "tree-like most beautiful" (Paeonia Moutan). In the flower-garden, the Mow tans claim the first place in point of beauty, and the Sho yos take the second rank; the former are occasionally named Hwa wang, ‡ "king of the flowers," and the latter Twa seang, \$ "the king's ministers."

The most ancient author in China, Hung king (536), considers



the mountains called Tseang shan, Pih shan, and Maou shan, as the places where the best white-rooted plants can be found, and considers the scarlet one, found elsewhere, very inferior in medicinal virtue.

The original native country of the Mow tans is there stated to be the valleys of Pa keun, in the district of Han chung, on the easterly part of the province Sse chuen, and the neighbouring south part of Shen se, or the country about the two rivers Kea lin keang and Han keang.

About these places also, the roots of the **Mow tans** are brought to market as a medicine, for which purpose they are taken out of the ground, and slowly dried in some shaded situation.

The same author also mentions a pale rose-coloured sort, which was at that time grown in the province of Tung keen. The distinction of the Sho yo family into white and red-coloured sorts, adopted by Hung king, is also supported by Mas ze, "horse dealer," another author upon Natural Philosophy, who wrote about 968 - 975.

In the early part of the eleventh century the **Sho yo** plant was, according to Soo sung, distributed all over China, and the most valuable roots were considered to come from the country of Hwae gan foo (situated 33°32'24" N. Lat., 116°54'12" Long. easterly from Paris). The description of the plant given by that naturalist is as follows:—

"From the red heads, which make their appearance above the surface of the ground early in spring, a compact bush is formed one or two feet high; each stem is furnished with five three-lobed leaves, being narrower and longer than those of the **Mow tan** plant, to which they, however, bear much resemblance. At the early part of summer a red, white, or purple flower developes itself, producing afterwards a fruit resembling the **Mow tan** fruit, but of a smaller size: the harvest of the roots takes place in autumn."

Tsuy paou, an author of more recent date, distinguishes two sorts of Sho yos, viz. Tsaou Sho yo, or "the herbaceous one," and Muh Sho yo, or "the tree-like one." According to his statement, the latter one produces larger flowers and of a darker colour, and is known among the lower class (although erroneous) by the name of Mow tan.

Towards the end of the eleventh century, when Chin ching wrote his Botanical volume (1086 - 1093) the Sho yo plant (originally growing in uncultivated spots) was grown all over the country in pleasure gardens and nurseries; at that time the nurserymen and florists used their utmost diligence, also, by powerful manures to



<sup>\*</sup> The original word Sho yo, has afterwards been changed with the same-signifying word Sho yo, of equal meaning to Sho, "medicine." Loureiro being a Portuguese, in his "Flora Cochinchinensis" has used for this word, Xo yo.

procure extraordinary large specimen plants, which in consequence of their vigour, were productive of extra large-sized flowers. Their cultivation was at that time most general at Hwae gan foo and its environs, in the southerly district of the Hwae stream, from Hwae gan foo to Fung yang (32°55'N. Lat., and 115° 3(?)9' Long. easterly from Paris), and at Chin yang (32°35'N. Lat. and 112° Long. east from Paris). The roots gathered and brought to market, during the 8th and 9th month are by the same author looked upon, notwithstanding their superiority in size, as possessing very little medicinal property, as well as having a bad smell and taste.

At the time of Le she chin, (1596) Yang chow (32°26'32" N. Lat., 117°4'13" E. Long.) was the most favourite place to have the Sho yo roots from; and the old reasoning that the Mow tan plant of Lo yang, (Ho nan foo) (34°43'15"N. Lat., 110°3(?)7'40"E. Long.) and the Sho yo of Yang chow, were generally considered most superior, and were in the author's time still in full power; the valleys and hills surrounding the Centralpike\* were profusely furnished with Sho yo plants, whose roots were also gathered and brought to market.

The Sho yo plant, says this author, of which now thirty varieties are known, forms its buds about the 19th month (November), and develope from these the charming flowers at the ensuing spring. The red or white roots, gathered from the common red or white-blooming plants, are most suitable for medical purposes; after being taken out of the ground, properly scraped and cleaned, they are cut into small pieces, and then cooked from 9 A.M. to 3 in the afternoon, in a mixture of honey and water; they are afterwards in this state, when thoroughly dried, preserved until they are wanted.

After these observations relating to the distribution of the Sho yo plant, let us now return to the Mow tans.

(To be continued)

## TREE PEONY TOPICS

Louis Smirnow, 85 Linden Lane, Brookville, Long Island, N.Y.

As is my usual custom, I made a number of visits in the Eastern part of the country to observe the 1975 growth of tree peonies. I made a careful record of the rarely seen varieties that did unusually well.

Tsuru no hane, a huge double free-blooming flower on a tall plant, beautiful light pink with a most unusual array of crinkled petals.

Showa Beni, enormous Japanese double of velvety bright red,

<sup>\*</sup>Chung yo, at present called Sung yo, or Sung shan, south-easterly from Honan foo.

very large petals, each one crinkled, flowers held high in great profusion.

Komachi Shiro, an old Japanese favorite, larger white than Renkaku, similar flower form, freer bloomer, eleven-inch flowers, a sensational white.

Kowgyoku den, as fine a maroon as ever seen, large velvety, fragrant, double, almost black, elegant.

Jurow, extremely original Chinese extraction, ten-inch vivid crimson of excellent symmetrical form.

Duchess of Kent, famous English beauty, most fascinating color, cerise pink, very large free-blooming double, exquisite shape of flower.

Cardinal Vaughan, another rare famous English beauty, huge double deep purple red, leaves cover stalk to the ground, beautiful in flower and in shape of plant.

Yoshina Gawa, that enormous brilliant ten-inch lustrous pink, beautiful petal arrangement, many flowers on tall plant, eye-catching beauty.

Orion, that unusually beautiful Lutea hybrid, brilliant warm gold, with darker flares in center, one of the largest of semi-doubles, fragrant.

Wings of Morning, palest of all yellow Lutea semi-doubles, very fragrant, huge blossoms, free bloomer, tall plant, greenish tones flared dark.

Mine d'Or, that great French introduction, greatest of all yellow cup-shaped, fragrant.

Some of the other rare varieties we saw, which were in excellent bloom are Flambeau, San Lorain, Togawakan, Senjin no soko, Seidai, Sumizome-nishiki, Ikuhomon, Kasumi-no-mori, Kansenden, Kagura Jishi, Hiodoshi, Bugakuden.

Once more success in growing tree peonies will be achieved by strict adherence to these fundamentals.

- 1. Dig the hole eighteen inches deep and eighteen inches wide as a minimum, deeper and wider if possible.
- 2. Do not allow any dead growth to remain on the plant, as dead stems can result in fungus infection.
- 3. Spray occasionally to avoid Botrytis, using a Bordeaux Mixture.
- 4. Plant in full sunlight, although tree peonies will thrive in semi-shade.
- 5. At time of planting mix two or three cupfuls of superphosphate with the soil, also a trowel full of dried cow manure. Add a spade full of compost if you have it.

All of us at one time or another received a plant that proved to be mislabeled. The old problem of shipping Japanese varieties occasionally mislabeled is still with us. You will get a replacement if you will notify the shipper.

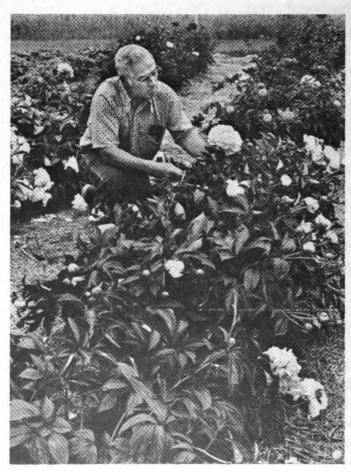


# PEONIES IN KOSHKONONG

Carroll F. Spangler, Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin

Koshkonong is an Indian word meaning "place where we live." It is the name of the township in this area often referred to as South Koshkonong. The waters of Lake Koshkonong borders close to the farm of Mr. Spanglers, it being 9 miles long and 5 miles wide.

—Editor



C. F. Spangler admiring a prime bloom of NICK SHAYLOR

The peony season of bloom has been over for some time now, this being mid-July. However, interest continues and there is much yet to do.

The season started slowly, with a cold indifferent spring. New growth was slow and erratic, but in spite of it, the earliest hybrids were not more than a few days behind their normal blooming schedule-Rushlight being first on May 20th and that great performer Laddie on May 23rd. The unfolding of colorful beauty continued until the end of the month.

The weather was quite co-operative from late in May, continuing on with proper temperatures, abundant and timely moisture. It could well be the best season we will have in a long time.

Perhaps there are about one hundred plants in my garden and about sixty varieties. There are about one hundred seedlings, some of which bloomed this year but most will bloom next season. Many more will make their first appearance the following spring.

The real excitement is in hybridizing. The last crosses were made on June 11, but study and planning continues. Where did we make our mistake; how can we improve our techniques, what varieties might be best to add to our plantings! (Orders for the new

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roots are already coming in, although I really do not need any more. I have a long "want list" like every other peony lover.)

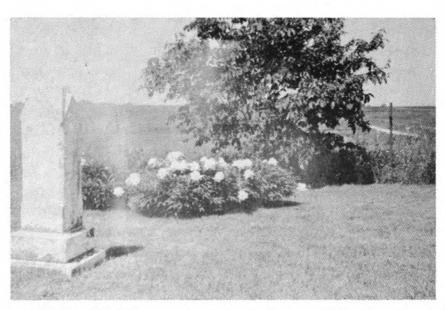
We must consider a way to include next years National Show and Annual meeting in our busy schedule. I have been saying "We." The other person of whom I speak is my neighbor, Roger Anderson. A year ago, I was able to interest him in peonies. At that time he had only a few "rogue" plants in his yard. He is now assembling a group of choice plants of both beauty and breeding value. Roger is a young man, an experienced gardener and has been a big boon to my efforts.

If you are now working alone, get your neighbor interested in joining the Society. It is so much more interesting to have company in your work.

# **REGISTRATION**

Names of peony hybrids submitted by Mr. William Krekler, Somerville, Ohio. Full descriptions will be published in the Bulletin 1976.

Allen Lewis	Brucie	Middletown
Israel	Renykens	Columbus
Don Richardson	Oxford	Germantown
Normie	Richmond	



A part of a 90-year-old peony plant, which was recently divided in "Sweet Home" cemetery at Lamoni, Iowa. A few years ago, the old plant was glorified with 160 blossoms and buds and sometimes more, each season.

Oren Allen, Publisher Joe's Bulletin

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# RAISING PEONIES FROM SEED

By the Late Edward Auten, Jr.

New peony varieties are obtained by raising plants from seed. However, the new plants almost never come exactly like either of the parents. Most of them will be singles, reverting back to the wild single form, even if their parents were semi-doubles, Japs or doubles. The tendency is for nature to perpetuate the species, not the individual variety, so that the specimen worth keeping is very much the exception and most seedling plants are of no value.

Peony seeds of common P. (lactiflora) species are dark brown and about the size of small buckshot; of the P. (officinalis) species, oval and shiny blueblack. Seed ripens in August or early September. One pod from a bloom of a single variety might yield 20 to 50 seeds; from a semi-double, possibly only two or three. So, while it is easiest to collect seed from the big podded types, it is wise to save carefully all seed from doubles or semi-doubles even though it will be found in limited amounts. One grower made the statement that he planted only the largest seeds—most probably a mistake.

Seeds should be planted immediately after picking. If hard and dry when planted, say in September, most of them will lie dormant all the next growing season. In late fall they send down a long root and then the second spring leaf growth appears. However if the seed is picked before it gets hard, planted and kept moist until winter, many of the seeds will send down their root the same fall and send up leaves the first spring. Seed does not ripen evenly and it is impossible to tell just when it is safe to pick it. If too green, it will rot and thus perhaps the very variety that would have paid for your work may be lost. So, if using seed from hand crosses or from extra special kinds, it is safest to let the seed get ripe and take the extra year.

Seed should be planted in well-drained, rich soil, without fertilizer and in the full sun. Sow one inch deep in rows six inches wide, the seeds an inch or two apart. Or, if one has plenty of room, plant in single rows, seeds four to five inches apart. They can then be left until they bloom, saving a year or two, but it means much more work than to plant the seed thickly and then transplant it.

If the ground is dry, soak the bottom of the row before planting the seed and again after covering. A light mulch of lawn clippings will help to hold moisture the first fall and thus hasten germination. Very fine results have been obtained by making the top three inches of soil of the seed bed a mixture of one part small grained Vermiculite with two parts of soil. This works as well as, or better than, a mulch. Any mulch should be taken off very early the first spring. If seed is hard when planted, a rinsing in a mild solution of permanganate of potash, with a complete rinsing afterwards with clear water, will kill any blight spores which might be present. Never plant



seed where peonies have been grown.

It is commonly said that it takes five years to get a peony bloom from seed. With a combination of favorable conditions, bloom might be obtained in three or rarely in two years. The first leaves on a seedling come in varying shades of green and red. Occasionally, a plant will appear with white or almost white leaves. These are the runts, those endowed with the poorest factors of the genetic line, and almost invariably die the first year.

Seedlings may be transplanted either the first or the second year after they come up. Unless they are too crowded, it is best to wait until the second or even the third year, as germination is not complete until then and the bed can be torn up too soon, to the detriment of the late comers. They can be transplanted when the root is the size of a match, but the ideal size is when the root is one-third to one-half inch in diameter. There is great variation in size and vigor of seedlings of the same age. Set them in rows three to four feet apart, the eyes a scant two inches deep, with the plants 10 to 14 inches apart in the row. Do this in early fall and thereafter treat the plants the same as mature peonies. As a preventive, the baby plants can be sprayed once or twice a season with half strength Bordeaux solution to prevent blight.

As the plants increase in size, great difference in plant characteristics will appear in height, color of foliage, stiffness of stems, number of stems, leaf placement on the stem, shape of leaves and time of coming through the ground in early spring. These are all factors to be considered in choosing a new variety for introduction and much study can be given during the years before a block of plants bloom. One is almost certain to find some plants that seem to be ideal in all plant characteristics—then most likely when the plant blooms it is off color, or of poor substance and hopes are all turned to disappointment. But then, some day, right in the midst of a lot of ugly, weak and worthless plants a bloom will appear that seems to be just made to order and one immediately forgets all the disappointments.

When a good one is produced, the first desire is to divide the plant and increase the stock as rapidly as possible. However, a seed-ling plant during its first year of bloom is somewhat like a youth of high school age, not able to stand the hard knocks, and its full possibilities are not always apparent. Dividing a seedling plant in the fall after it first blooms sometimes seems to ruin the constitution of the plant—a shock from which it does not recover. So, it is best to let new plants bloom two or three years before dividing them. Little time is lost by so doing, as some new kinds never do better than the first year, while others will not show at their best until several years later. Thus more effective selection can be made from older plants.

Seedlings large enough to divide are treated like any other peony.



On an average, three to five divisions can be made from the original plant. Once again it is best not to hurry division. It is better to let them grow four or five years rather than two or three. Your rate of increase will be almost as fast and bloom will be much more characteristic.

What proportion of good ones can you expect from a block of seedlings? That varies. There used to be a saying that one could expect one worthwhile specimen out of a thousand plants. Ninety per cent singles might be called average. Many of them are lovely when they open, but soon flop or fade badly. It is just as difficult to get a high class single as a double. My best record was 60 per cent doubles and semi-doubles out of a lot of 98 plants. These came from one seed parent, possibly from two pollen parents. At least 16 of the 98 were named, others could have been had they not been too similar to those already named. One attempt to get new Japs resulted in only three per cent of Japs, all inferior, but with some fine singles and semi-doubles. On the next attempt 25 per cent Japs, some of the very finest, were procured. Seeking new white Japs, 60 plants worth advancing were obtained from 420 plants and five have been named. Some other crosses, many of them in fact, have been complete flops, even though the results should have been outstanding.

Do not try to originate new kinds unless you have patience, persistence and can stand innumerable disappointments. The ultimate in peonies of the pure P. (lactiflora) species has not yet been attained. In selecting seed parents, look first to plant vigor, rapidity of increase, resistance of roots to decay, resistance to blight and then to color and type. The whole process is a gamble, you may get a magnificent double where you expected to get a Jap, you may get a hideous color from outstanding parents, good color from poor color. In other words, you do the work and take what nature decides to give you. A dozen poor seedlings from one certain cross does not prove the uselessness of that cross. It might take hundreds of that cross to get the best characteristics in one new variety. The only way to make sure of getting good results is to study your kinds carefully when choosing parents and raise in good quantity. Do not think all doubles are worth saving, don't worship size and do be familiar with all the fine kinds now in existence so that your standard of judgment will enable you to know a good new peony when you get it.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. Peyton wrote in Bulletin #91, Sept., 1943, regarding the spelling of names, especially the surname which has been given to a flower. Quote—"Why not spell your names correctly, or not at all." We especially refer to the spelling of the name ITOH. This is the correct spelling, and it is the desire of this famous family to have it go down in peony history as such. In memory of the man that has given so much to the world of peonies, the least we can do is to commemorate his correct heritage, the family name.

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# INTRODUCTION TO TISSUE CULTURE PROPAGATION

by Martin M. Meyer, Jr.
University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign



Prof. Martin Meyer University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Tissue culture propagation is now being used commercially to rapidly increase several varieties of plants. This type of propagation appears difficult to the uninitiated for several reasons. The techniques require care, patience and persistence. The many technical terms to describe tissue culture propagation are often misleading. This paper will hopefully clarify some of the mystery surrounding tissue culture propagation. The technical details of tissue culture are complicated, but the basic principles are easily understood. Small pieces of plant tissue are excised and induced to grow rapidly either a large number of new shoots or masses of callus tissue. The callus is then induced to make new shoots or plants. The shoots are rooted like ordinary cuttings.

A person will have a better feeling for this type of propagation if he or she understands some of the terminology used to describe the above processes. The small pieces of excised tissue are grown in test tubes or glass jars, and this method of propagation can be referred to as in vitro, meaning in glass. A plant scientist separating a portion of the whole plant to study in the laboratory, calls this an in vitro study. Since the excised meristem or plant tissue is very small, some people will call this micropropagation. The small portion of plant tissue used for proliferation may be the growing point or meristem of the plant, hence the term meristem propaga-Some types of meristem propagation are used for other things besides rapid production of plants as discussed later. small pieces of tissue excised from the plants are not capable of growing on their own so far as making the necessary food is concerned. Sugars and other organic materials as well as inorganic materials must be supplied. This means the plant material must be sterilized and grown free of competing fungi and bacteria on a sterile medium. This type of propagation is sometimes referred to as sterile or asceptic culture.

A historical background of tissue culture propagation will help with its understanding. The propagation of plants in test tubes has been of interest for a considerable time. The orchid grower used test tube culture for minute seeds and the plant pathologist used The terminal meristem is the growing point of the meristems. plant which divides cells to become leaf and stem tissue. The meristem under proper conditions tends to outgrow the internal pathogens infecting many plants. Plant pathologists found by excising this meristem plus the first one or two minute leaves plants could be produced that would be free of internal pathogens. These meristems are rooted and induced to grow as very small cuttings in a test tube under sterile conditions, however, only one plant is obtained per meristem. The stock is then increased by cuttings, checked frequently for reinfection, and sold as disease free or cultured plants.

Morel, a pathologist, was attempting these techniques to recover virus free orchids when he discovered that these meristems were unusually good for propagation purposes (Amer. Orchid Soc. Bull. 29:495-497, 1960; 33:473-478, 1964). Orchid seeds are extremely small. When they germinate they make a clump of green tissue called a protocorm. The young plant emerges from and is nourished by this protocorm. Morel found the excised meristem in vitro does not produce a plant, but produces a protocorm-like body. If this protocorm is divided or cut on its surface before it makes a new plant, it makes more protocorms. If the protocorms are quartered on a monthly basis, it is possible to end up with one million in a year's time. Protocorms left alone develop into a plant as if seed produced. Orchid growers and fanciers were quick to seize the significance of this method. They also had some background in the techniques because orchid seeds are grown by sterile culture. There are over 22 orchid genera that are propagated by tissue culture techniques. A group of plants that can be traced to one original plant by vegetative propagation is called a clone in botanical terms or a variety in terms of the American Peony Society. orchids produced from a single meristem or meristems from a single plant are referred to as mericlones. These are said to be reproduced by meristem propagation or meristeming, but a more appropriate term would be protocorming. Since the portocorm is a mass of green tissue, this author prefers the broadly based term, tissue culture propagation, to cover all types of rapid plant increase done under sterile conditions.

Unfortunately, orchids are the only plants which have the protocorm mechanism which leads to easy tissue culture propagation. There are several other herbaceous plants which use the meristem as a starting element for a tissue culture propagation system. These plants take considerably more manipulation and rigid control of the media to get adequate propagation in vitro. How-

ever, commercial production of plants like asparagus, chrysanthemums, lilies, carnations and gerbas is routinely carried out.

This author has worked on the herbaceous perennials, iris, hemerocallis, hosta and peony, and found these plants even more complicated. The meristems of these plants are difficult to find in any They are usually located underground and difficult to obtain in a sterile condition. The iris, hemerocallis and hosta can be propagated by taking small slices of the flower stems, inducing callus and inducing plants in this callus. The results for peony are only in the callus stage; however, it appears that plant production from this callus is going to be more complicated than with the other herbaceous perennials mentioned. The types of tissue and use of sterile techniques to grow peony callus will be covered in a subsequent article. Tissue culture may have potential to rapidly increase new varieties (clones) of the peony to allow the fanciers to have them sooner. This will allow for more rapid spread of more colorful and better adapted varieties. In addition, the plants properly produced by these techniques should be relatively disease free. The peony does need considerable work, however, to develop the possible tissue culture techniques of propagation.

# SUGGESTED FAVORITES OF PEONIES TO BE PLANTED IN THE GARDEN FOR MAXIMUM BLOOMING PERIOD

\*\*\*

Red Charm Jon Van Leeuwen Paul M. Wild Highlight Henry Bockstoce Cytherea Mothers Choice Mary Eddy Jones Ann Cousins Lustrous Doris Cooper Kansas Carina Moonstone Starlight Peppermint Gene Wild Nancy

Nick Shaylor
Mrs. Livingstone
Farrand
Tecumseh
Moon of Nippon
Firelight
Peach Fluff
Red Red Rose

Allen J. Wild, Sarcoxie, Missouri

Festiva Maxima
Walter Faxon
Sea Shell
Blanche King
Duluth
Longfellow
Ella Christiansen
Nippon Brilliant

Philippe Rivoire
Douglas Brand
Mrs. Frank Beach
Ruth Elizabeth
Sarah Barnhardt
Krinkled White
Myrtle Gentry
Fern Leaf Peony

Henry St. Clair
Elsa Sass
Martha Bullock
President Lincoln
Moonstone
Myrtle Tischler
Mons Jules Elie
Yay Tischler

Not in order of preference.

\*\*\* In order of preference

R. W. Tischler Brands Peony Farms Faribault, Minnesota



LACTIFLORA Truth Kansas Westerner Orange Lace Jayhawker Candy Heart Hifalutin Pink Cameo Commanche Snow Mountain Myrtle Gentry Ella Christensen Adonis Leading Lady Moonstone Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt Myron D. Bigger Pink Derby

Hybrids
Carol
Jean Bockstoce
Red Charm
Tecumseh
Lovely Rose
Cytherea
Carina

Favorite twenty-five for 1975.

201 N. Rice Road

Myron D. Bigger Topeka, Kansas 66616

Herbaceous
Alesia
Ann Cousins
Dorothy J.
Mothers Choice
Doris Cooper
Frances Mains
Moonstone
Mrs. Livingstone
Farrand
Carrara
Isani Gidui
Westerner
Gay Parce
Pico

HYBRIDS Athena Carol Henry Bockstoce Cytherea Diana Parks Flame Garden Peace Helen Matthews Heritage Lady Gay Ludovica Paula Fay Red Charm Rose Marie Tiny Tim White Innocence

TREE PEONIES Stolen Heaven Marchioness High Noon Alice Harding Black Sea Red Moon Coronal Fairy Tale L'Esperance Kamada Fuji Rimpow Yachiyo Tsubaki Nissho Tamafuyo Countess

Louis Smirnow, 85 Linden Lane Brookville, Long Island, N.Y.

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

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Hybrids	LACTIFLORA	TREE PEONIES
1. Burma Ruby	2. Moonstone	19. Age of Gold
22. Red Charm	3. Pillowtalk	5. Hana Kisoi
20. Flame	13. Elsa Sass	4. Kamata Fugi
21. Scarlet O Hara	14. Miss America	15. Harvest
11. Paul Fay	15. Kansas	6. Alice Harding
12. Heritage	16. Bonanza	; –
J	7. Angel Cheeks	
	17. Fairy Petticoats	
	25. Krinkled White	
	8. Mr. Thim	
	9. Bowl of Cream	
	10. Jay Cee	
	23. Sarah Barnhardt	
	24. Hermoine	Roy G. Klehr
Charles Klehm	and Son Nursery A	rlington Heights Illinoi

m Arlington Heights, Illinois Charles Klehm and Son Nursery

\*\*\* Hybrids Pico or Spellbinder Red Charm Moonstone Sea Shell La Lorraine\* Lovely Rose Sparkling Star Bowl of Cream Cytherea Imperial Red Mrs. Franklin D. Walter Mains President Lincoln\* Roosevelt Bu-te or Lotus Queen Dolorodell\* Nick Shaylor\* Westerner Gay Paree Emma Klehm\* White Cap Ensign Moriarty\* Miss America Edulis Supreme Snow Mountain Rose Glory Mons Jules Elic Kansas Dixie Rubio

In order of preference

Not recommended for the south. Double peony-Westhill and Reine Hortense recommended for the South replacing \* Clarence O. Lienau, Detroit, Michigan

Angel Cheeks	Mrs. Livingstone	Fairy's Petticoat
Bright Night	Farrand	Glory Hallelujah
Cheddar Cheese	Moon River	Jay Cec
Dinner Plate	Red Charm	June Rose
Felix Supreme	Vivid Rose	Lowell Thomas
Hermoine	Age of Gold T.P.	Pink Dawn
J. H. Wigell	Thunderbolt T.P.	Sweet 16
Lois Kelsey	Best Man	Cytherea
	Barrington Belle	Black Pirate T.P.
	Charlie's White	

In order of preference

Dr. Carl H. Klehm Charles Klehm and Son Nursery, Arlington Heights, Ill.



Jessie

LACTIFLORA Miss America James Lewis Westerner or Bob Krekler Golly Dawn Pink Ray Payton Carrara or Brides Dream Bessie Myrtle Gentry or Becky Joseph Christie Cora Stubbs Camden or Miss Mary Walter Mains Autens Red Sport or Helen Matthews Maestro Cincinnati Pat Victor or Bu-te Do Tell Ann Goemans Nick Shaylor Nellie Shaylor or Karen Gray Dr. J. H. Neeley Betty Warner l'irginia Lec Robinhood Harry L. Smith or Orlando Roberts Martha Reed Oucen of Sheba or Dayton Kelways Glorious Hiawatha Splendens

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HYBRIDS Red Charm Dad Flame A. Krekler Buckeye Belle Firebelle Montezuma Burma Ruby Rose Noble Dutch Dwarf Ludovica Garden Peace Ellen Cowley Laddie Rose Marie Heritage Patriot Illini Warrior Early Bird Claire de Lune Braziura Laura Magnuson Rose Crystal Carina Chalice Fairy Princess

TREE PEONIES Rampo Souv. de Maxime Cornu Hino Tobira Kamada Fuji Tama Fuyo

Bill Krekler

\*\*\* In order of preference William H. Krekler 4030 Somerville, West Elkton Rd. Somerville Ohio

# IN MEMORIUM

The friends of Kenneth Sampson were saddened in hearing of his death. Funeral services were August 2.

Mr. Sampson was a commercial grower, operating the Oakton Peony and Iris Gardens, Park Ridge, Illinois. He was a long time member of the American Peony Society, was Past President of District V, also a member of the Telephone Pioneers.

Seldom in this day of much travel and electronic mass communication does one individual become endeared to so many through time-honored personal correspondence as did Leo J. Armatys. He shared his great interest in the tree peony through a seemingly tireless correspondenc, with a wit, charm, warmth and infectious generosity that touched lives and hearts both at home and abroad. We have been treated to an exceptional experience of friendship.

Don Hollingsworth

# IN MEMORIAM ... LEO J. ARMATYS

By Rev. Joseph Syrovy

Leo Armatys 'lived as he died' with his beloved tree peonies. Even on the brink of death from his hospital bed, a month before he passed away, he was writing about the success of sprouting some of his seeds and hoping he would soon be home to continue working with them.

We best knew him as a member and director of Robin #1. The letters from one to another had a warm and personal touch, filled with valuable information, a little light banter and wonderful sense of humor. His generosity to the members of the group was unstinting, and he would share with them his best and rarest plants.

As with the Robin, so too his articles in the American Peony Society Bulletin were always looked forward to reading. He was gifted with a wonderful gift of conciseness, the power of painting a word picture as he described the beauty of a particular tree peony. New introductions were tested in his garden, his reports and advice were invaluable.

Our Peony Society has lost another "Great," and we all will miss his sparkling contributions to the Bulletin. Those of us that were close to him will miss his warm personal friendship and are saddened by his untimely death. May he rest in peace.

Funeral services for prominent Central City attorney, Leo J. Armatys were held Tuesday, April 29th at the St. Michael's Catholic Church. Mr. Armatys, 59 died Sunday at Bergan Mercy Hospital in Omaha, Nebraska. He was born June 22, 1915 at Silver Creek Nebraska. He attended school there and received a Bachelor of Law Degree from McKinley Roosevelt University after training at the Sampson Law Firm in Central City. In 1939 he joined the firm as a partner.

He served in World War II from Jan. 1941 to 1946 as Chief Warrant Officer with the 35th Infantry Division in Europe. He was awarded the bronze star.

Mr. Armatys was a member of the American and the Nebraska Bar association. He was a member and former Director of the American Peony Society, a member of the American Horticultural



Society, Royal Horticultural Society, American Hemerocallis Society and a 30-year member of the Liederkranz.

He authored articles for the Bulletin of the American Peony Society and the Royal Horticultural Society. He was listed in Who's Who in the midwest. He was a member of St. Michael's church. He leaves his widow, four sons and two daughters.

From the Central City Republican-Nonpareil

We all knew Leo Armatys as one in authority on the tree peony. He was a consistent author of articles that appeared regularly in the Bulletin for several years. Writing and talking about the tree peony was one of his daily enjoyments. In his letters, he talked about his library, the collection of rare books and treasures pertaining to the peony, of his contacts in Japan, his search for more information in conjunction with the peony. Books meant so much to Leo Armatys and now he is offering to you by means of his last will, a listing of some of those treasures. They may be of great interest to some of you and for information, write to Mrs. Leo J. Armatys, 2115 16th Avenue, Central City, Nebraska 68826.

—Editor

I request that the executor, executrix or administrator c.t.a. of mv estate contact the American Peony Society for assistance in selling certain items which should be of interest to its members, such as the following:

- a. "The Picture Book of Peonies Niigata Prefecture, Japan."
  This is a 10x15" album-type green cover, with 54 tree peonies (2 on a sheet) named and pictured in full color. Good condition.
- b. "A Study of the Genus Paeonia," by F. C. Stern. This 11½ x 14¾" blue hard-cover book, published 1946 by The Royal Horticultural Society, 155 pages, with 15 full-color full page illustrations by Lilian Snelling, plus numerous drawings by Lilian Snelling and Stella Ross-Craig, has long been out of print. Mint condition.
- c. Complete set of American Peony Society Bulletins (in 18 green hard-cover 6½x9½x2½ binders costing \$3.50 each) starting with the "proceedings" issues for years 1903-1913, then all Bulletins commencing with No. 1 published August 1915. All in good condition and all originals, except that "A Bulletin of Peony News, No. 1" is a photocopy. Perhaps the only complete set in existence with the exception of one in the yaults of the American Peony Society.
- d. "Peonies," The Manual of the American Peony Society. 1928, edited by James Boyd. 5½x8½" hard-cover blue book, out of print, mint condition.
- e. "The Moutan or Tree Peony," by Michael Haworth-Booth (1963) 515x815" 106 pages and 11 Plates including Pock's variety. Mint condition; out of print.



- f. "The Peonies," John C. Wister, Editor (1962) 6½x9x½" chambray blue hard-cover.
- g. Book—"My, this must have been a beautiful place when it was kept up,"—by William Gratwick (1965) hard-cover, green, 8½x12". Mint condition. One thousand copies of this book were printed, of which 200 were numbered and signed by William Gratwick. This one is signed and numbered 19, and inscribed "For Leo Armatys—W.G." inside back cover. Includes good photos of Gratwick, Daphnis, Saunders, the Gratwick nurseries and allied enterprises, as well as photo of the mythical pink tree peony. I also have a soft-cover copy of this book.
- h. Minor White portfolio of matted black and white tree peony photographs (10 or 15).

"This world was intended to be a garden. Don't wander through it without tilling a bit of the soil." —Leo J. Armatys

Bulletin #177, June 1965.

# **SECRETARY'S REPORT 1975**

1975 dues letters were mailed to all members on November 19th. A good response. Second notices were mailed April 1st.

The financial report is satisfactory, as the Society operated with receipts in excess of disbursements. The accumulated assets are in savings accounts at  $7\frac{1}{4}$  and  $7\frac{1}{2}\%$  interest. Also a daily interest account of  $5\frac{1}{2}\%$ , which can be used without any interest forfeiture. A current checking account is maintained.

Steady progress in the membership is recorded with 104 new members for the year.

The dies for medals of the American Peony Society and that of the Farr Memorial are now in the possession of the Secretary, in accordance with the decision of the Board of Directors. The medallions have been made. They will again be given at the Exhibitions, as awards for designated classes.

An award has been given to the Exhibition from Mrs. Clara Denlinger, in memory of Pharon Denlinger. The show committee expresses their thanks for this memorial.

A permanent show schedule has been written and will be used for all National Exhibitions.

Historical material has been received from both Silvia Saunders and Wm. Krekler. With appreciation, this has been accepted.

With gratitude and special thanks to those that have contributed so much this past year, Charles Klehm and Son Nursery, Gilbert H. Wild & Son, and Mr. Irvin Ewing.

The colored slide collection has gradually increased due to the special interest taken by Mr. A. Edblom, chairman of the slides. We



are grateful to him and to all the members that have contributed to this program. A picture now, during blooming season and sending the colored slide for this growing collection of peonies, would be appreciated.

To all of you, our members, thanks for remitting your dues, for the many that increased your single membership to a family. For the many that are listed under contributing and for the family memberships and to those that paid for gift memberships.

The Bulletin expense has been kept within our budget, according to membership dues. To continue with the number of pages and pictures that have been in the Bulletin, depends entirely on the remuneration received for payment of dues for the current year.

Much can be said to all our talented members that contribute articles for the Bulletin. The interesting material, the informative articles and the manuscripts, together with pictures, denotes thought, time and concern for a Bulletin worthy of being published and one which reflects the varied aspects of the peony. Letters to the Editor, in praise of your combined literary efforts have been many. Our sincere and grateful thanks to you.

A very special acknowledgement to those members that have donated peony roots and other peony material of value for the annual auction. The proceeds from this event is one of tremendous support financially. Thank you for your help, your wonderful contribution to this worthy cause.

Many varieties of peony roots were generously donated to Kingswood Center, Mansfield, Ohio. The roots were planted in the fall of 1974.

Greta M. Kessenich
Secretary/Treasurer

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, JUNE 20, 1975 Kingwood Center, Mansfield, Ohio

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Peony Society was called to order by President Simkins at 9:00 P.M.

The Directors in attendance were: Joe Glocka, Wisconsin; P. Chris Laning, Michigan; Charlotte Sindt, Minnesota; W. G. Sindt, Minnesota; Edward Michau, Kansas; Irvin Ewing, Michigan; Frank Howell, New Jersey; Dr. Carl H. Klehm, Illinois; Marvin Karrels, Wisconsin; Clarence Lienau, Michigan; Gary Seaman, New York; and Greta Kessenich, Secretary, Minnesota.

Professor Martin Meyer, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign was invited to talk to all the members of the Board of Directors on meristem propagation.

All business was dispensed so that all the time could be given Professor Meyer.

Adjournment 10:00 P.M.

Greta M. Kessenich Secretary

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# AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

June 21, 1975

Downtown Motor Lodge, Mansfield, Ohio

The annual meeting of the American Peony Society was called to order by President John Simkins, immediately after the banquet. He gave a personal greeting and asked for a moment of silence in memory of Pharon Denlinger and Leo Armatys.

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

Mr. W. G. Sindt, chairman of the nominating committee submitted the names of the Directors whose terms expired in 1975, for re-election. Irvin Ewing, John Simkins, W. G. Sindt, Allen J. Wild, Frank Howell and P. Chris Laning. The nominees were unanimously elected for another three-year term.

Mr. Simkins expressed thanks and appreciation to the Charles Klehm and Son Nursery for contributing the colored covers for the Bulletin this past year. Appreciation and thanks were extended Mr. Irvin Ewing for the 1975 year books that were enclosed with the June Bulletin.

The business meeting was adjourned and the program of the evening continued.

President John Simkins thanked Kingwood Center for all courtesies extended the American Peony Society. He then introduced Mr. Fred Roberts, Director of Kingwood Center. Mr. Roberts gave as address of welcome and expressed apreciation to all donors of the peony roots that had been contributed to Kingwood.

The awards were then presented by Greta Kessenich to the Court of Honor recipients. The Pharon Denlinger award was presented by Charlotte Sindt, to Mr. Clarence Lienau, first place recipient in Class 101, showing 25 varieties in separate containers.

Medals of the American Peony Society were presented to four of our peony stalwarts, in appreciation for their contributions over the years, to the Society and the furtherance of the peony.

The American Peony Society medal was presented to Mr. William Krekler by Mr. Bob Rose.

The next recipient of the American Peony Society medal was Mr. Clarence Lienau, presented by W. G. Sindt.

This was followed by Mr. Marvin Karrels receiving the American Peony Society medal, presented by Mr. Joseph Glocka.

Mr. Louis Smirnow was then the recipient of the American Peony Society medal, presented by President John Simkins.

The auction of peony roots followed the meeting. Mr. Clarence Lienau was auctioneer. Our thanks to Mr. Lienau.

Greta M. Kessenich, Secretary



# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, JUNE 22, 1975**

Kingwood Center, Mansfield, Ohio

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Peony Society was called to order at 8 A.M., June 22, 1975 by President John Simkins, with the following Directors present: Clarence Lienau, Joe Glocka, P. Chris Laning, Edward Michau, W. G. Sindt, Marvin Karrels, Dr. Carl H. Klehm, Charlotte Sindt, Frank Howell, Irvin Ewing, Gary Seaman and Greta Kessenich, Secretary.

President Simkins dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the 1974 meetings and proceeded with the business at hand.

The check list for the herbaceous peonies was given time for a lengthy discussion. It was unanimously voted by all members of the Board present that the outline presented for such a list be assembled and published.

The check list for the tree peonies was also given time for a lengthy discussion. A motion was made and carried that a check list for the tree peony should be studied and begin work on all phases of this project. Mr. John Simkins is in charge of this check list.

Greta Kessenich was unanimously voted to fill the vacancy on the Board of Directors.

Mr. Karrels read an article for publication in the Bulletin.

The annual meeting for 1976 was discussed. Dr. Carl H. Klehm was appointed to arrange the sites for future Conventions. They are as follows:

Minneapolis, Minnesota — 1976 June 18-19-20. Champaign Illinois — 1977

Kingwood Center — 1978

Chicago Botanical Gardens — 1979

Ed Michau presented a plan for a membership drive by direct mail, which was approved by all members.

The registration of peonies will be reduced from \$10. to \$5. It was agreed that the 5th district be expanded to all bordering districts except the 7th district.

The Gold Medal was awarded the peony BU-TE.

Meristem culture was given much time for discussion. The American Peony Society is donating 100.00 for this research program. By so doing it will acknowledge the importance of this work. Donations were received which were specifically directed to be used by Professor Meyer of the University of Illinois for his research in this project. It was further stated that any member of the American Peony Society desiring to contribute, may do so by sending their money to the Secretary of the American Peony Society with instructions to be used in this research program by Professor Meyer.

The meeting was adjourned at twelve noon.

Greta M. Kessenich, Secretary





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#### **NEWSLETTER: PAEONIA**

Editors: The Lanings Summarized by Bill Seidl

Ben Gilbertson is offering two new introductions to hybridizers because of their excellent seedsetting abilities, although they are also fine garden subjects. Named WINE RED and MULTIFLORA, the former is an F2 out of PHILIPPE RIVOIRE and KANSAS, the latter is derived from Mloko, tenuifolia, and lactiflora and bears 3 to 11 flowers per stem. Both are bomb-type doubles.

A progress report on heavy applications of commercial fertilizer is made by Don Hollingsworth. Much improved flower color occurred, especially in the lobatas. A "rose-pink" tree peony showed a scarlet color for the first time, which it retained until petal fall. Old plants produced more and finer flowers. Don also believes the regular use of fertilizer will promote earlier flowering of seedlings.

MARCH 1975, VOLUME 6, No. 1. In February, Chris and Lois Laning joined the Klehms in Urbana, Illinois, where they met with Dr. Martin Meyer of the University of Illinois. The Klehm Nursery has approached Dr. Meyer on the research connected with the propagation of peonies through tissue culture. After a tour through the "test tube nursery" at the University where iris and hemerocallis were growing, Chris became convinced that Paeonia should join the Klehms in this venture rather than risk a duplication of effort by financing a separate investigation at U.C. Riverside by Dr. Murashige. Official APS support is desired as it would lend prestige to the venture.

The recent interest in meristem culture caused Rev. Joseph Syrovy to dig into his files where he found a copy of a lecture given by Dr. F. C. Steward (Cornell U.) about 15 years ago concerning the use of coconut milk medium to increase carrots 80 times in 20 days. Inspired by this article, Rev. Syrovy tried to increase his Itoh-Smirnoh hybrid by cutting stems in late October, refrigerating, then later cutting these stems into pieces, each piece with a bud (Although considered herbaceous, Itohs frequently make buds in the leaf nodes.), and placing in a medium of orchid agar and coconut milk and refrigerated at 40°F. Despite precautions against mold and decay, some stem cuttings did not survive. The strongest buds, those cut from near the crown of the plant, continue to survive—after several months of treatment and refrigeration—with cell structure around and below the bud alive, swollen, and expand-It remains to be seen if they will form roots. Rev. Syrovy expects to make the same experiment next season but plans to make cuts in July below each Itoh bud to encourage development of callus tissue.

Dara E. Emery, horticulturist at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, brings readers up-to-date on the newest advances in plant reproduction. Paraphrasing an article in Bioscience by Dr. H. H.



Smith, he states that haploid plants can be produced from pollen grains and these in turn diploidized to produce fertile homozygous diploid plants. The latest wrinkle is to make somatic cells available for plant breeding. From two different Nicotiana species leaf cells were stripped of their cell walls, suspended in a special solution, centrifuged together and placed on an agar medium. Fused or hybrid cells grew, were grafted onto parental root stock, and eventually produced fertile flowers and seeds that produced normal F2's. This para-sexual hybridization, suggests Dara, could make possible crosses between peonies which presently are impossible or difficult due to incompatibility problems. He also points out that a successfully developed meristem culture technic would permit embryo culture of hybrid seed incapable of normal germination.

Don Hollingsworth has been doing his homework and tells us that in 1940 a Dr. Bosio reported obtaining peony seed after placing pollen directly into the ovarian cavity, bypassing the stigma and style tissues. Best results were obtained with P. anomala which had a good quantity of naturally-occurring liquid in the ovary. He also described a similar experiment by other researchers in 1960-62 with poppy species. The ovary surface was wiped with ethanol, the ovary punctured twice, one puncture for escaping air and the other for injecting a sterile suspension of pollen. The punctures were sealed with petroleum jelly after which the ovaries grew normally and produced viable seeds. All this suggests methods to use in hard-to-make peony crosses, perhaps the Itoh cross. For the pollen carrier, Don suggests using Dr. Saunders' recipe for a medium to test pollen viability: 100 cc water, 1 g. agar jelly, boil, strain, add sugar to make 5, 10, and 15% sugar solutions. Lily hybridizers have used 1.5% gelatin. Pollen is placed in a drop of solution and, after about 6 hours, microscopic examination should reveal a tangled mass of pollen-tubes if germination has taken place. During the pollen-growth period the test drops must be in a humid atmosphere lest evaporation of the liquid raise the concentration to a level preventing pollen growth. Also, some measures may have to be taken to eliminate or reduce contamination by microbes before using the best solution as the pollen carrier for the intra-ovarian pollination.

More details are given in a reprint of Prof. Saunders' article, "The Testing of Pollens" from the Manual of the APS. Six to 12 hours is the recommended growth time. To maintain a humid atmosphere, a simple method is to lay the slide with the test drops across the top of a water-filled dish and then place a glass cover over both. Microscope cover-glasses are to be avoided as they exclude air necessary for the production of pollen-tubes. Sometimes microscopic examination of the dry pollen indicates which samples are likely to be fertile: the plump appearance of healthy pollen vs. the dry shriveled appearance of weak or infertile pollen.



#### 70th ANNUAL AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY EXHIBITION

Kingwood Center, Mansfield, Ohio June 20 - 21 - 22, 1975

GRAND CHAMPION —

800 Blooms

and Best of Show - Robert W. Auten - Marvin Karrels

Best Double White — Le Cygne — Lienau Peony Gardens'

Best Double Blush — Doris Cooper — Jim Dowall

Best Double Light Pink — Nick Shaylor — Lienau Peony Gardens

\*Best Double Dark Pink and

Best Double Overall — Myra MacRac — Brand Peony Farms Best Double Red — Bonanza — Lienau Peony Gardens

\*Best Semi-Double White and

Best Semi-Double Overall — Mildred Mae — Lienau Peony Gar.

Best Semi-Double Pink — First Lady — Carl H. Klehm

Best Semi-Double Red — Splendness — Lienau Peony Gardens

\*Best Bomb White and

Best Bomb Overall — Berle Crockett — Marvin Karrels

Best Bomb Pink — Angel Cheeks — Bob Rose

Best Bomb Red — Garden Glory — Lienau Peony Gardens

Best Japanese White — Bu-Te — Lienau Peony Gardens

Best Japanese Pink — Gail Tischler — Brand Peony Farm

\*Best Japanese Red and

Best Japanese Overall — Astec — John Krechbaum

Best Single White — Pico — John Krechbaum

\*Best Single Pink and

Best Single Overall — Josette — Lienau Peony Gardens

Best Single Red — President Lincoln — Lienau Peony Gardens

Best Hybrid Yellow, White or Blush — Moonrise—Greta Kessenich

Best Hybrid Pink — Nadia — W. G. Sindt

Best Hybrid Red and

Grand Champion — Robert W. Auten — Marvin Karrels

Best Tree White — Shiro Kagura — H. Landis

Best Tree Pink — Yae Zakura — David Reath

\*Best Tree Red and

Best Tree Overall — Black Pirate — David Reath

Best Tree Yellow - Age of Gold - Marvin Karrels

Best Tree Violet, Blend, Bicolor — Tenyo hagoyama — H. Landis

\*Starred items: Best of peony type.

Best Amateur Bloom (Division II) — Carol — David Risch

Best Novice Bloom (Division III) — Doris Cooper — Jim Dowall Artistic Design Awards

Artistic Design — Grand Champion — Sculpture in the Kingwood Gardens — Martha Beal

Artistic Design — Reserve Champion — Draffan Memorial Fountain — Charlotte Sindt

Special Artistic Award — Kingwood Library — Charlotte Sindt



#### DIVISION 1 — OPEN TO ANY EXHIBITOR

CLASS 101 — Twenty-five varieties, any type or color.

Won by LIENAU PEONY GARDENS. The Admiral, Walter Mains, Doloradel, Bonanza, James Pillow, Nippon Brilliant, Le Cygne, Pink Cameo, Paul Bunyon, Bu-te, Moonstone, White Cap, Lotus Queen, Carol. Helen Hayes, Susan White, Hari-AI-NIN, Sylver, Red Charm, White Charm, Arlington Federal, Commanche, Florence Nicholls, Emma Klehm, Frances Mains.

Second. MARVIN KARRELS. Moonstone, Madylone, Westhill, Princess Margaret, Henry Bockstoce, Florence Nicholls, Mabel Gore, Highfalutin, Florence Mains, Black Monarch, Prairies Moon, Dr. J. H. Neeley, Dorothy Convoy, Bu-te, Cytherea, Annisquam, Gardenia, Walter Mains, Nick Shaylor, Norma Volz, Doris Cooper, Berle Crockett, Ensign Moriarty, Emma Klehm.

Third. JOSEPH GLOCKA.

CLASS 102 — Fifteen Varieties, herbaceous only.

Won by MARVIN KARRELS. Friendship, Carol, Florence Nicholls, Annisquam, Mabel Gore, Highfalutin, Mary Nicholls, Walter Mains, Carrara, Ensign Moriarty, Francis Mains, First Lady, Commanche, Gardenia, Madylone.

Second. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS. Red Charm, Kay Tischler, Carol, Elsa Sass, Walter Mains, Dinner Plate, Lois Arleen, Gardenia, Sir John Franklin, Sylver, President Lincoln, Nick Shaylor, Vivid Rose, Minuet, Longfellow.

Third. JOSEPH GLOCKA.

CLASS 103 — Ten Varieties, Herbaceous hybrids.

Won by LIENAU PEONY GARDENS. Firebelle, Helen Matthews, Bill Krekler, Cytherea, Red Red Rose, White Innocence, Carols, White Charm, Friendship, Red Charm.

Second. MARVIN KARRELS. Red Charm, Golden Glow, Firebell, Burma Ruby, Cytherea, Henry Bockstoce, Friendship, Black Monarch, Diana Parks, Robert W. Auten.

CLASS 104 — Ten Varieties, Tree Peonies.

Won by DR. DAVID REATH. High Noon, Marchoness, Black Pirate, Age of Gold, Thunderbolt, Coronal, Savaga Splendor, Banquet, Chinese Dragon, Gold Sovereign.

Second. None.

Third. DR. HENRY LANDIS. Shintenchi, Gumpow, Miyako No Nishiki, Festival, Hirute Nishiki, Shiro Kagura, Ten'nyo No Hagoromo, Naniwa Nishiki, Koku Ryu Nishiki. One w/o name.

CLASS 105 — Five Varieties Japanese type Lactiflora.

Won by LIENAU PEONY GARDENS. Commanche, Gay Parce, Bu-te, Westerner, Akashigata.

Second. MARVIN KARRELS. Butter Bowl, White Cap. Gold Standard, Nippon Beauty, (Clerk error)



Third. JOSEPH GLOCKA.

Honorable Mention — JOHN KREICHBAUM.

CLASS 106 — Five Varieties, single type Lactiflora.

Won by LIENAU PEONY GARDENS. Virginia Dare, Imperial Red, Harmony, Sea Shell, Josette.

Three blooms, one variety lactiflora only, in one container.

- Class 110: No first and second entries.
  - 3. JOSEPH R. GLOCKA Elsa Sass
- Class 111: 1. FRANK L. HOWELL Dorothy J.
  - 2. JOHN KREICHBAUM Alice Harding
  - 3. JOHN KREICHBAUM Florence Nicholls
- Class 112: 1. BRAND PEONY FARM Myra MacRae
  - 2. ROY KLEHM Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
  - 3. None
- Class 113: 1. DR. CARL H. KLEHM Dinnerplate
  - 2. JOHN KREICHBAUM Princess Margaret
  - 3. ROY KLEHM Dinnerplate
- Class 114: 1. BRAND PEONY FARM Douglas Brand
  - 2. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS Felix Supreme
  - 3. None
- Class 115: 1. JOHN KREICHBAUM Miss America
  - 2. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS Miss America
  - 3. None
- Class 116: 1. None
  - 2. MARVIN KARRELS Liebschen
  - 3. None
- Class 117: 1. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS Splendness No second and third
- Class 118: 1. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS Dixie
  - 2. JOE GLOCKA Snow Mountain
  - 3. None
- Class 119: 1. BRAND PEONY FARM Faribu Gold
  - 2. JOHN KREICHBAUM Bu-te
  - 3. None
- Class 120: 1. BRAND PEONY FARM Gail Tischler
  - 2. BRAND PEONY FARM L'era Tischler
  - 3. BRAND PEONY FARM Kay Tischler
- Class 121: 1. JOHN KREICHBAUM Dragons Nest
  - 2. JOHN KREICHBAUM Charm
  - 3. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS Dignity
- Class 122: No entries
- Class 123: 1. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS Daten Pink
  - 2. W. G. SINDT Sea Shell
  - 3. None
- Class 124 No entries



One B	loom	Lac	tiflora Only.		
Class	130:	1.	LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — Ann Cousins		
		2.	FRANK L. HOWELL — Le Cygne		
		3.	JOE GLOCKA — Alesia		
Class	131:	1.	LIENAU PEONY GARDENS—Florence Nicholls		
		2.	MARVIN KARRELS — Francis Mains		
		3.	FRANK HOWELL — Dorothy J.		
Class	132:		M'ARVIN KARRELS — Catherine Craine		
		2.	LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — Lottie Dawson		
			Rae		
		3.	FRANK HOWELL — James Pillow		
Class	133:	1.	BOB ROSE — Glory Hallelujah		
			JUDY ROSE — Dinnerplate		
			DR. CARL H. KLEHM — Glory Hallelujah		
Class	134:		LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — Jay Cee		
			MARVIN KARRELS — Hifalutin		
			DR. CARL H. KLEHM — Bonanza		
Class	135:		LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — Mildred Mae		
			SUE SKERKE — Lois Kelsey		
			ROY KLEHM — Miss America		
Class	136:		DR. CARL H. KLEHM — First Lady		
			LIENAU PEONY GARDEN — Bev		
			JOHN KREICHBAUM — Therese		
Class	137:		LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — Harry L. Smith		
			JOHN KREICHBAUM — The Mighty Mo		
			None		
Class	138:	1.	MARVIN KARRELS — Berle Crocket		
			ROY KLEHM — Top Brass		
			JOE GLOCKA — Snow Mountain		
Class	139:		BOB ROSE — Angel Cheeks		
-			DR. CARL H. KLEHM — Angel Cheeks		
			SUE SKERKE — Angel Cheeks		
Class	140:		LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — Garden Glory		
			ROY KLEHM — Best Man		
			ART LANDEN — Best Man		
Class	141:		LIENAU PEONY GARDENS — Moon of Nippon		
			MARVIN KARRELS — Cararra		
			None		
Class	142:		JOHN KREICHBAUM — Astec		
			FRANK HOWELL — Break O' Day		
Class	143:		ROY KLEHM — Chocolate Soldier		
			ROY KLEHM — Walter Mains		
			JOE GLOCKA — Hariainin		
Class	144:		JOHN KREICHBAUM — Pico		
	•		ROY KLEHM — Krinkled White		
		3	FRANK HOWELL Pico		

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- Class 145: 1. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS Sea Shell
  - 2. JOE GLOCKA Sea Shell
  - 3. None
- Class 146: 1. ROY KLEHM Scarlet O'Hara
  - 2. DR. CARL H. KLEHM Scarlet O'Hara
  - 3. SUE SKERKE Scarlet O'Hara

Three Blooms One Variety Herbaceous Hybrids or Species In One Container

- Class 150: No entries in one and two
  - 3. W. G. SINDT Prairie Moon
- Class 151: No entries
- Class 152: 1. FRANK HOWELL Red Charm
  - 2. MARVIN KARRELS Henry Bockstoce
  - 3. FRANK HOWELL Dandy Dan
- Class 153: No entries
- Class 154: No entries
- Class155: 1. LIENAU PEONY GARDENS Friendship No entries in two and three
- Class 156: 1. FRANK HOWELL Carina
  - 2. JOHN KREICHBAUM Burma Ruby
  - 3. JOHN KREICHBAUM Lois Arlene

One Bloom Herbaceous Hybrid or Species.

- Class 160: 1. EDWARD LEE MICHAU Vellow Crown
  - 2. W. G. SINDT Prairie Moon
  - 3. No entries
- Class 161: No entries
- Class 162: 1. ROY KLEHM Paula Fay
  - 2. ROY KLEHM Cytheria
  - 3. No entries
- Class 163: 1. MARVIN KARRELS Henry Bockstoce
  - 2. DR. CARL H. KLEHM Black Monarch
  - 3. ROY KLEHM Tenufolia
- Class 166: 1. FRANK HOWELL Friendship
  - 2. DR. CARL H. KLEHM Flame
  - 3. ROY KLEHM Flame
- Class 167: 1. ROY KLEHM Cherry Red
  - 2. JOHN KREICHBAUM Patriot
  - 3. FRANK HOWELL Burma Ruby

Three Blooms, One Variety, Tree Peonies Only

- Class 170: 1. DR. LANDIS Q. C. Akashi Gata 2 and 3 no entries
- Class 171: No entries
- Class 172: 1. DR. LANDIS Shima No Kagayaki 2 and 3 no entries

Class 173: No entries Class 174: No entries Class 175: No entries

Class 176: 1. DR. DAVID REATH — Black Pirate Class 177: 1. DR. DAVID REATH — Age of Gold

Class 178: No entries

One Bloom Tree Peony

Class 180: 1. DR. HENRY LANDIS — Furowmon 2. DR. HENRY LANDIS — Shirotae

3. DR. HENRY LANDIS - Haru No Akebono

Class 181: 1. DR. DAVID REATH — Yae Zakura

2. DR. LANDIS — Mai Hime

3. No entries

Class 182: No entries

Class 183: 1. DR. HENRY LANDIS — Anchione

2. DR. HENRY LANDIS — Miyo No Hikari

3. No entries

Class 184: No entries

Class 185: No entries

Class 186: 1. DR. DAVID REATH — Thunderbolt

2. DR. DAVID REATH — Thunderbolt

3. No entries

Class 187: 1. MARVIN C. KARRELS — Age of Gold

2. ROY KLEHM — Harvest

3. DR. DAVID REATH — Golden Hind

Class 188: 1. DR. DAVID REATH — Marchioness

2. DR. DAVID REATH - Savage Splendor

3. DR. DAVID REATH — Chinese Dragon

#### **DIVISION 2 — AMATEUR**

Open to exhibitors who raise peonies chiefly for pleasure and do not grow more than 200.

Class 201: Ten varieties, herbaceous only, any type or color.

1. DEE GARRISON — Mrs. F. D. R., Miss America, Ama No Sode, Kansas, Mons Jules Elie, Nick Shaylor, Red Charm, Mary E. Nickolls, Felix Crousse, Moonstone

2 and 3 - no entries

Three Blooms, Lactiflora Only, in One Container

Class 205: 1. DEE GARRISON — Mary E. Nicholls

2 and 3 — no entries

Class 206: 1. DEE GARRISON — Vivid Rose

2. MRS. HOLLIS E. CORNELL — Paul Bunyon

3. DEE GARRISON — Therese

Class 207: 1. DEE GARRISON — Kansas 2 and 3 — entries Class 208: 1. No entries 2. DEE GARRISON — Miss America 3. No entries 1. DEE GARRISON — Red Charm Class 209: 2 and 3 — no entries 1. DEE GARRISON — Ama-No-Sode Class 210: 2. DEE GARRISON — Soshi 3. No entries 1. W. G. SINDT — Florence Bruss Class 211: 2 and 3 — no entries Class 212: 1. J. E. SIMKINS — Henry Bockstoce 2. W. G. SINDT — Nadia 3. W. G. SINDT — Coralic Class 213: No entries One Bloom Lactiflora Class 220: 1. GRETA KESSENICH — Dr. J. H. Necley 2. DEE GARRISON — Mary E. Nicholls 3. MRS. HOLLIS E. CORNELL — Elsa Sass 1. DAVID RISCH — Norma Volz Class 221: 2. GRETA KESSENICH — Lullabye 3. DEE GARRISON — Mary E. Nicholls Class 222: 1. DEE GARRISON — Moonstone 2. GRETA KESSENICH — Myra MacRae 3. DEE GARRISON — Pink Cameo Class 223: 1. GRETA KESSENICH — Paul Bunyon 2. J. E. SIMKINS — Jay Cee 3. DEE GARRISON — Vivid Rose 1. DAVID RISCH — Kansas Class 224: 2. DEE GARRISON — Felix Crousse 3. GRETA KESSENICH — Paul M. Wild 1. DEE GARRISON — Miss America Class 225: 2 and 3 — no entries 1. W. G. SINDT — Jayhawker Class 226: Other entries disqualified 1. GRETA KESSENICH — Bu-te Class 227: 2. DEE GARRISON — Ama-No-Sode 3. No entries 1. W. G. SINDT — Florence Bruss Class 228: 2. W. G. SINDT — Sea Shell 3. No entries Class 220: 1. DAVID RISCH — Carol 2. GRETA KESSENICH — Cytheria 3. W. G. SINDT — Nadia 1. J. E. SIMKINS — Tokiwazu Class 230: 2 and 3 - No entries

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#### **DIVISION 3 — NOVICE**

Class 301: No entries

Class 305: 1. JIM DOWALL — Ann Cousins

2. JIM DOWALL — Elsa Sass

Classes 306, 307, 308 and 309 — no entries

One Bloom Lactiflora

Class 315: 1. JIM DOWALL — Doris Cooper

2. JIM DOWALL - Solange

3. JIM DOWALL — Elsa Sass

Honorable Mention — MRS. HOLLIS CORNELL —

Doris Cooper, Thura Heins

Class 316: 1. JIM DOWALL — Lady Kate

2. JIM DOWALL — Blanche King

3. MRS. HOLLIS E. CORNELL — Lady Kate

Honorable Mention - MRS. HOLLIS E. CORNELL

Hargrove Hudson and Mrs. Livingston Farrand

Classes 317, 318, 319 — No entries

Class 320: 1. JIM DOWALL — Isani Gidui

2. JIM DOWALL — Kay Tischler

3. No entries

Class 321: 1. JIM DOWALL — Pico

2 and 3 — No entries

Class 322: 1. JIM DOWALL — Cytheria

2 and 3 — No entries

Class 323: No entries

#### DIVISION 4 — SEEDLINGS AND NEW VARIETIES

Class 401 — Seedlings

Seedling 780 B.

Grower — SUE SKERKE, Woodstock, Ill.

Seedling 780 B

Grower — DR. CARL H. KLEHM, Arlington Heights

Class 402, 403 — No entries

#### **DIVISION 5 — SPECIAL ENTRIES**

Class 502: Visitors from the Greatest Distance

1. W. G. SINDT -- 699 miles

2. MRS. HOLLIS E. CORNELL — 603.6 miles

3. JOHN SIMKINS — 336 miles

Honorable Mention — EDWARD LEE MICHAU — 937 miles

Class 503: Multiple Bloom

1. ROY KLEHM — Angel Cheeks

2. BOB ROSE — June Rose

3. FRANK HOWELL -- Polorodell

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#### **ARTISTIC DESIGN AWARDS BY CLASS**

Class A: Private Estate

CHARLOTTE SINDT, Afton — 2nd place JANET LETIZIA, Mansfield — 3rd place

Class B: Why is it free?

MARTHA BEAL, Mansfield — 1st place

W. G. SINDT, Afton — 2nd place

Class C: Kingwood Hall

MARTHA BEAL, Mansfield — 3rd place

Class D: Library

CHARLOTTE SINDT — 1st place & special Award

Class E: Nature Trail

CHARLOTTE SINDT, Afton — 1st place MARTHA BEAL, Mansfield — 2nd place

Class F: Sculpture in the Gardens

MARTHA BEAL — 1st place & grand champion

Class G: Memorial Fountain

CHARLOTTE SINDT — 1st place and reserve champ.

#### **AWARDS BANQUET — 1975**

Charlotte E. Sindt, Afton, Minnesota

The Downtowner Motor Lodge in Mansfield was the scene Saturday night, June 21, of the annual awards banquet and meeting of the American Peony Society, concluding with the root auction. About seventy-five members and guests, decked in their finest—or coolest—gathered from the eastern U.S., the southern plains, midwest, Canada, and central U.S. to share in fun and fellowship and to partake of a spread of prime ribs, with all the accompanying delicacies. This event is always a time of relaxation, of uninhibited pleasure, an aftermath of a concerted effort in the staging of the annual exhibit, an exertion of mental and physical prowess to make of the show a thing of beauty.

The president, John Simkins, called the meeting to order and announced that the Directors, class of 1975, would succeed themselves. Those directors are: Irvin Ewing, John Simkins, W. G. Sindt, Allen J. Wild, Frank Howell, and Peter C. Laning. The president announced a moment of silence for two members, deceased during the past year, Pharon Denlinger and Leo Armatys.

President Simkins presented Fred Roberts, Director of Kingwood Center, who welcomed the American Peony Society to Kingwood Center and the city of Mansfield. He expressed gratitude for the contributions members have made to the peony gardens and explained that the design and structure of the gardens have been re-worked. Approving smiles seemed to indicate that the members were again glad to revisit the Center.

The presentation of the awards of the Society is for many the climax of the evening. Greta Kessenich, Secretary, was introduced

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and explained that through much diligence and persistent effort the medal of the American Peony Society is once again available, as well as the Farr memorial medal. The Farr medal is won each year by the exhibitor of the grand champion of the show. This year it was presented to Marvin Karrels of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The Silver Medal in the Amateur Division for the ten varieties of herbaceous peonies, was won by the Garrisons, also of Milwaukee. The champion artistic award was won by Martha Beal of Mansfield.

A new award was added this year, the Denlinger award, offered by Clara Denlinger in memory of Pharon Denlinger, a loved member of the Board of Directors. Charlotte Sindt had the privilege of presenting this award to the winner of the top 25, Clarence Lienau of Detroit, Michigan. The award was a lovely silver plate, a fitting tribute to a respected peony man, and a suitable reminder of the showy 25. It was a delight to see Clara Denlinger earlier in the day at Kingwood, although she could not remain for the banquet.

The excitement of the awards no doubt culminated with the presentation of the beautiful new A.P.S. medal to four distinguished members of the American Peony Society. Each medal with its exquisite antique finish bore an inscription describing the reasons for the selection of that particular gentleman. The 1st of the A.P.S. medals was presented by Bob Rose to Wm. Krekler of Somerville, O.

"Hybridizer Supreme—Generous— Talented and Kind—Mr. Peony"

The second was presented by W. G. Sindt to Clarence Lienau of Detroit, Michigan:

"Master Showman—Supreme Grower True Friend of All—Mr. Peony"

The third was presented by Joe Glocka to Marvin Karrels of Milwaukee, Wisconsin:

"Master Showman—Enthusiastic

Connoisseur-Gentleman Deluxe-Mr. Peony

The fourth and final A.P.S. medal was presented by John Simkins to Louis Smirnow of Long Island, New York:

"World Wide Collector—Challenging New Frontiers—Mr. Tree Peony"

The last event of the evening was the annual auction of roots, always an exciting and sometimes surprising happening. Auctioneer for the evening was the old pro, Clarence Lienau, and it was difficult to discern who enjoyed it more, the bidders or the auctioneer. Runner for the auction was the lithesome and efficient Jennifer Simkins, the charming young daughter of our president. Varieties old and new, of all types, were on the market, and members vied with each other for the privilege of adding them to their collections. Fun and funds were the result of the barking of the auctioneer, and when it was all over, faces were happy and members were satisfied with this, another venture at Kingwood Center.



#### **PEONIES ANYONE?**

Jennifer Simkins (Age 14)

The trip was a long one from Oakville, Canada to Mansfield, U.S.A., but we made it. The peonies in our trunk had a bit of trouble on the way, because of our refrigerator. A week before the show, it defrosted and our peonies that we had put away for the show were left to lie in a pool of water for some time before the problem was discovered. Therefore our peonies for the show left much to be desired. The hot weather on the way up didn't help much, either. However, some bags of flowers were alright.

Once we arrived at Kingwood Center we put our peonies in the bottles of water and left them on the table until morning.

As Saturday came, we went to help the other people with their flowers putting them on the tables ready for the judging at 11 a.m.

The showroom had been transformed over night from an empty room to a water garden setting by the students that work at Kingwood Center all summer. One large pool ran into a lower pool all of which were surrounded with all kinds of greenery and plants. Lights overhead on tracks lit up the decorative entries with the right colour.

Air conditioning made everything perfect.

When the time came for judging, I was asked to help. I had an easier job last year of ribbon carrier. Now I got promoted to clerk. Boy! Did I get confused about it. But thanks to Mrs. Kessenich, I made it through alright.

After the judging there was our lunch, buffet style. It was simply beautiful with delicious food.

The afternoon went so quickly; in no time at all we had to get changed for the cocktail party that was given by Mr. Roberts at the lovely old house in Kingwood Center. And I had just enough time to have a quick swim in the pool, at our motel. My mother threw a fit when she saw how I had grown out of my last year's swim suit and said I could only swim after dark.

At 8 p.m. or so, the banquet began with steak, potatoes and vegetable. After that, medals were given to people who had worked on peonies for many years. Then came the Auction, everything for sale from roots to grafts and plants. I was asked to be a runner, which I did with great difficulty, for my long dress frequently got in my way.

Sunday, my father was at the meeting for about four hours discussing such things as where the show would be held next year and things like that. After that my father and I started to take pictures of everything in sight including walls and doors. Soon after that we were on our journey home.

Although the show was a working one, I think most people there enjoyed it thoroughly, including me!





Mr. William Krekler receiving the American Peony Society edal from Mr. Bob Rose.



Mr. Marvin Karrels receiving the American Peony Society Medal from Mr. Joseph Glocka.



Mr. Clarence Lienau receiving The Pharon Denlinger rard from Charlotte Sindt.



Mr. Frank Moots, Newton, Kansas. Head Judge of the Exhibition.



Sitting, Mr. Frank Howell, Newton, New Jersey, a director of the American Peony Society.

Mr. Louis Smirnow receiving American Peony Society Medal from President John Simkins.



Mr. Irvin Ewing, Detroit, Mia Director of the American Pe Society.



Mr. & Mrs. Warren Shwayder, Birmin ham, Michigan.

Mr. Lienau in the serious role of auctioneer. /iolet Simkins.



Mr. Dee Garrison, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, has just received the Silver Medal of the American Peony Society for the ten varieties of prize winning



Mr. Marvin Karrels has just received the Bertrand H. Farr Medal for the Grand Champion peony of the show.

#### FINANCIAL STATEMENT, JUNE 1, 1974 - JUNE 1, 1975

Balance on hand 6-1-74 \$ 6890.85

Receipts:	Disbursements:
Membership Dues - \$2,799.00	Publications:
<b>Advertising</b> 167.50	Four Bulletins - \$ 2114.75
Rent: color slides - 37.70	March Supplement 80.00
A.P.S. Auction—Ont. 658.10	A.P.S., postage - 405.17
Reg., Nomenclature 70.00	Office supplies - 52.16
Publications:	Printing 34.00
Bulletins - \$ 24.50	Miscellaneous items - 28.10
Handbooks - 49.25	Books: "The Peonies" 139.00
"The Peonies" 123.55	Show Expense - 247.49
"Peonies Outdoor	
and In" - 54.45	Total Disbursements \$ 3100.67
Total 251.75	Balance 6-1-75 - 8175.29
Interest on Savings - 401.06	
Total Receipts - 4385.11	\$11275.96
<b>\$11275.96</b>	Excess receipts over
	disbursements - \$1284.44
	Savings Account - \$7273.48
Greta M. Kessenich	Checking Accounts 901.81
Secretary/Treasurer	\$8175.29

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#### TOPEKA GARNET. (14-59) Parentage unknown.

Dark shiney red single. Light green seed pods with red tips. The wirey 36 inch stems are very adequate, with dark green clean foliage. It has a very small tuft of stamen. The flower fades very little.

3 to 5 eye division \$15.00 each

TOPEKA CORAL. (2-67) Parentage unknown.

A hybrid Coral pink full double bomb type flower on 24 to 30 inch stem. There is no pollen, but it has seed pods. I have never set seed on it, but with the right pollen it might set seed. The flower is all one color.

3 to 5 eye division \$25.00 each

EASTERN STAR. (26-55) (Snow Mountain x?)

Pure white bomb type with very clean bright green foliage on a good 30 to 36 inch stem. The flower is very much like Snow Mountain except it is pure white. It stands cold storage very well.

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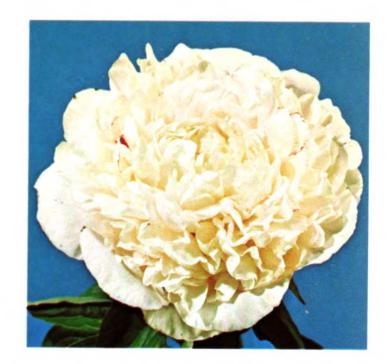
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#### **CK SHAYLOR**

ison, 1931) (Late-Double)
large cream flower sparkwith dabs of red remindful
a candy cane.

#### **URA MAGNUSON**

unders - 1941) - semible glowing red with a strasting touch of yellow. ort growing excellent garvariety.



Cover and picture courtesy Chas. Klehm & Son Nursery





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#### **ROBERT W. AUTEN**

(Auten, 1948) - a semi-double hybrid of striking deep red. A worthy champion.

