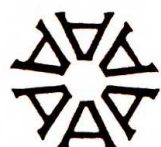
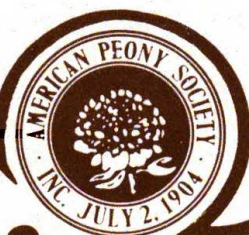


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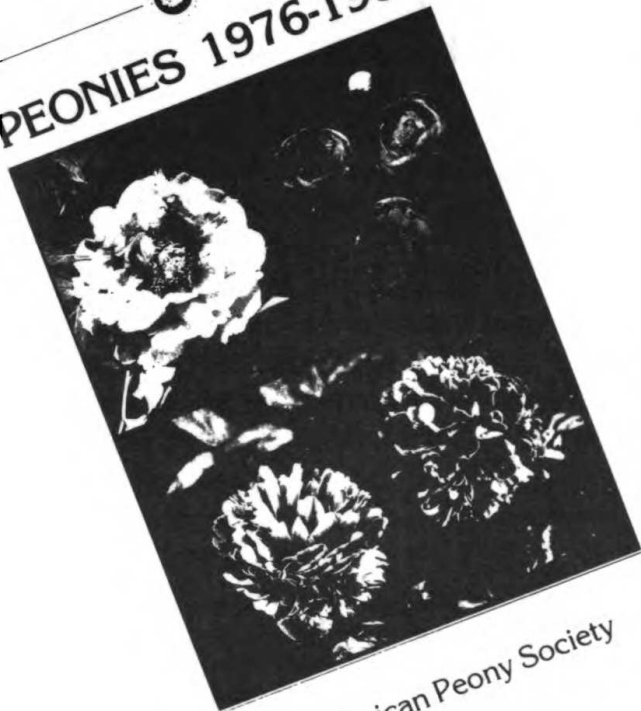
PEONIES

1976 - 1986

Compiled and edited by Greta M. Kessenich in cooperation with the nomenclature committee of the American Peony Society.

Serious peony growers now have access to another monumental work designed to identify historic peony varieties and their originations as well as exciting new varieties registered with the American Peony Society in the last decade. Handy new 6x9-inch spiral-bound book with full color front and back covers is printed on heavy stock for heavy field use. Nomenclature committee: Roy G. Klehm, Marvin C. Karrels and Don Hollingsworth, past presidents of the American Peony Society.

PEONIES 1976-1986



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

Greta M. Kessenich, Secretary

OBJECTIVES

The Articles of Incorporation state: Section (2) That the particular objects for which the corporation is to be formed are as follows: To increase the general interest in the cultivation and use of the Peony; to improve the methods of its cultivation and methods of placing it upon the market; to increase its use as a decorative flower; to bring about a more thorough understanding between those interested in its culture; to properly supervise the nomenclature of the different varieties and kinds of peonies; to stimulate the growing and introduction of improved seedlings and crosses of such flower; and to promote any kind of the general objects herein specified by holding or causing to be held exhibitions, and awarding or causing or procuring to be awarded, prizes therefor or in any other manner.

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

MEMBERSHIP

The By-Laws state: All reputable persons, professional or amateur, who are interested in the Peony; its propagation, culture, sale and development are eligible for membership. Dues are as follows:

Single Annual	\$ 7.50	Junior or member family	\$ 2.50
Single Triennial	20.00	Life	150.00
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Contributing	\$25.00	Supporting	\$100.00
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AMERICAN Peony Society Bulletin



March 1986 — No. 257

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BULLETIN COVER — Convention site, Apache Plaza 1986



FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

CHRIS LANING

MARVELS AND MARVELOUS

There isn't a year of transition for peonies, since the evolving from lovely wildlings to the imposing grandeur of today's named varieties is a process extending over many hundreds of years. There is, however, a new approach, or at least an added opportunity for enhancing our chosen race of beautiful flowers, through hybridizing. Until the present, almost all hybrids made use of lactiflora as one parent. This was indeed proper and fortuitous since it was fertile, of good constitution, and flowers of great beauty. Lactiflora has performed well for the hybridist! Lactifloras are diploid while most species are tetraploids. Crosses between the two (lacti. x tetraploid) generally produce sterile triploids. Thus further development of the cross is severely limited. Over the years sterility is being somewhat overcome until, at present, we have fertile hybrids.

New to the hybridist is the availability of hybrids that have full double flowers, along with the singles, Japs, and semi-doubles with a new depth, and range of colors not previously known. This is great, but one more great factor is here: these are tetraploids which frees us from the limiting element of the diploid lactiflora. It is now, as never before, that we can proceed in developing new fertile hybrid clones by the simple process of planting seeds of the advanced tetraploid hybrids.

The genetic code for plant and animal reproduction and maintenance offers potentials that flabbergast (overwhelm) the mind. The almost infinite factors that obtain (prevail) in maintaining the integrity of the species while offering variety at the same time, boggles the mind. Who but the "Omniscient One" could call into being such a marvelous process? And who but the "Omnipotent One" (Almighty) could, or can, maintain the sequence of events, thereby holding everything in check?

Each and every seedling is unique. The mechanics of this phenomenon are beginning to unfold. The discovery of the workings of heredity are left to man — and woman. Carry on, hybridists!

A TREE PEONY JUBILEE

1935 to 1985

EDITOR'S NOTE: *William Gratwick has just completed a half century of work, achievement, and enjoyment with Tree Peonies. The following excerpt is taken from his autobiography The Truth, Tall Tales, and Blatant Lies, Visual Studies, Workshop Press, Rochester, New York, 1981.*

TREE peonies have been a very important part of my life; working with them has been one of the happiest and most rewarding experiences I can imagine—and I have Mrs. Winty Chanler of Geneseo to thank for it, for it all came about through her—plus a little serendipity.

In the summer of 1935, Mrs. Chanler invited us to dinner to meet the Saunders. She said it was very important that we know each other—something about growing plants, I gathered. So we went.

Now, Professor A. P. Saunders was a gentleman, distinguished in many other fields other than horticulture. Since it was a large party discussion it ranged all over the place. Finally, the party was almost over, and not a word about plants. I was somewhat miffed, having donned a dinner coat for this!

Rather than giving up without a try, I began quite boldly by saying, "Professor Saunders, I think you may be interested in some hybridizing work I am doing, crossing the Korean with colonial boxwood to produce hardiness."

"Good," he said. (Ha! I had captured his attention.)

"What does the hybrid look like? How far have you gone?" he asked with penetrating interest. His look turned to sadness and scorn when I admitted I really hadn't gotten started at all and that it was only a plan.

"You'd better get started right away. It may take years, but it sounds like an important cross. Will you really do it?" he asked.

I said I would. And I did. It took several years, but finally I was able to send off a letter, "... you may not remember me, but I am the young fellow who promised to make the boxwood hybrid, which I have done - 80 little seedlings, thrifty and promising."

He answered almost immediately, "Of course, I remember you. Congratulations! And now how about getting started with tree peonies?"

To make a long story short, I learned about tree peonies from Professor Saunders and worked with him as an informal partner for the better part of 20 years. He finally turned over to me the responsibility of carrying on his hybridizing work, and extending it into the second and third generations. "By the time it's accomplished," he said, "I'll be a hundred. You had better take over." And again I did.

UPDATE ON PEONIES MALICIOUSLY DAMAGED BY WEED KILLER IN 1985

By Olin Frazier, Warrensburg, Missouri

Perhaps you will recall my writing about the damage that my garden in Cowgill, Missouri suffered in 1985 when someone went down two sides of my property with some type of weed killer which we were not able to identify. A can (which probably had contained the poison) was found by a neighbor, but we could not be certain the two were connected, as the can was rusty on the outside but still wet on the inside. I am optimistic that eventually most of the plants will recover completely.

Established plants (some 15 years old) of the following varieties were damaged: **NICK SHAYLOR**, **ANGELA COBB FREEBORN**, **RED CHARM**, **CELEBRATION** and **CLEOPATRA**. This year **NICK SHAYLOR** grew to a height of about 18" and had a few blooms, most undersized. The huge plant of **ANGELA COBB FREEBORN** that normally had 30- to 40 blooms did not bloom at all and had only two stems. Neither grew to more than a foot high, but the leaves looked healthy. The leaves of **NICK SHAYLOR** were still somewhat distorted. **RED CHARM** recovered rather well and had two blooms. Most leaves looked normal, but the plant was not its usual height, and the stems were somewhat weak. Even during the year of the damage, both sides of the plant of **CELEBRATION** looked undamaged, but a segment a foot wide, out of the center, was black and distorted. This year, both sides of the plant looked good, and both sides bloomed reasonably well. However, the center seemed to be pretty much dead, and the clump gave the appearance of being two plants set about a foot apart.

Since I had written about **CLEOPATRA** some years in the Bulletin, someone had written wanting a division of it for its late-blooming tendency. I had promised it for the fall of 1985. After the damage, I didn't know what to do, but decided to gamble and dig the whole plant. I made several divisions and mailed two to the peony friend. Mine survived the summer quite well with foliage about two-thirds the normal height, but none showed distorted leaves; none bloomed.

Plants only four or five years old of **OKLAHOMA**, **MONS. JULES ELIE**, and **PILLOW TALK** were extensively damaged. All survived; however, they grew to only 5 or 6" tall and generally looked sad.

Another group of plants received lesser damage—**RUTH CLAY**, **MARCELLA**, **PAUL BUNYAN** and **PRINCESS MARGARET**. Most of these flowered somewhat normally, but the stems tended to be rather weak and somewhat distorted.

One plant, **CORAL FAY**, acted differently from any of the rest.

Last year, the leaves and stems became as hard as rocks even though the leaves remained green all summer. The stems turned black but were greatly distorted by curling up until they touched the base of the plant. This plant, as well as most of the others, lost their flexibility. This year, CORAL FAY had weak stems which tended to fall over, look distorted, and the plant failed to bloom. However, the stems were flexible once again.

All plants without exception still showed effects of the damage the first season after the damage. Therefore, I am optimistic that, given several years, most of the plants will return to normal.

The plants were given no special treatment after the damage was discovered. I consulted with the County Conservation agent, but he made few suggestions except perhaps giving a good application of fertilizer. Perhaps this is what I should have done, but I was reluctant to do this, as I feared additional damage from the fertilizer.

Without exception, irises touched by the chemical all died. Hemerocallis that received different treatment, reacted differently. When I discovered the damage on the hems, I cut all the foliage off even with the top of the ground on those which looked the worst. Without exception, these hems all recovered before the season was over. They had just been planted the fall before. Those plants that I didn't think were badly damaged by the looks of the foliage, I left alone. Without exception, these all died. Most of the hems where I removed all foliage were sending up new leaves within a couple of weeks.

Since so many uncertainties existed in this situation, I am reluctant to make suggestions should you suspect damage from weed killer. However, to date, no peony has given up completely even though no treatment was given. Irises, without exception, did not survive. Daylilies survived where all the foliage was removed even with the ground as soon as the damage was discovered. A gooseberry bush which received damage had very few berries this season. Perhaps, had I known the chemical used, the County Conservation agent could have recommended something; however, he didn't sound too optimistic.

* * * *

A soft rope around your peony bush and anchored to a stake on one side will hold the plant intact during the rainy season.

* * * *

Begin your spray season early, when the eyes begin to show and continue for at least three weeks. Bordeaux has been used over the years, now new fungicides as Captain, Benlate and many others are on the shelves of your dealers.

* * * *

Never cut down the foliage of the herbaceous peonies after blooming. Wait until after a hard freeze, often in November or December.

HOLDING PEONY PLANTS FOR SPRING PLANTING

By Don Hollingsworth

It is sometimes impossible or impractical to get a peony plant into the ground in the fall, especially in areas where winter comes early. At other times, one may choose spring planting because it facilitates propagation, as when tree peonies are grafted late in the season. Last fall I received a plant after Thanksgiving when the soil was already frozen, which would not usually be the case here, although common farther north.

While it is generally known that peony divisions and other perennials are routinely over-wintered in the nursery trade for spring sale, knowing that this is possible, doesn't particularly suggest to one how the same things might be done at home. However, with a little information about what the peony needs in order to grow next spring, and some ingenuity, one can usually bring them through the winter in good shape, using what is available around the house.

Reduced to its simplest statement, the problem is how to give the plant the chilling necessary for the dormancy of the buds to be reduced, while keeping it from making undesirable growth before being planted in the spring. Without dormancy reduction, the buds will not grow. On the other hand, if growth is made in the dark or in low light levels, the plant may be seriously disadvantaged when planted out.

One approach is to use refrigeration (using an ordinary household unit, such as might be used to hold flowers, etc.) for the chilling. For this purpose it is handiest to simply hold the division in temporary packing with a granular medium such as old sawdust, peat, or vermiculite to maintain moisture in the plant. A planting container presents the disadvantage of taking up a lot of space in the refrig.

Another approach is to plant in a suitable container and locate the plant somewhere that the temperature will stay around 40°F average. There are several locations around most homes which afford this level at times—attic, garage, window wells, or a cold frame, of course. Why not just outdoors? Outdoors will usually be risky in the colder climates where the need for overwintering is most likely to come about.

Outdoors in the open you can expect the soil and roots in a container to reach the same temperature as the air. On cold nights, this is often low enough to kill the roots. The year we moved to our present home, I potted some small tree peonies and lily bulbs and held them in a crawl space until we moved in late January. From then until spring, they sat at the south side of a wall in the open. When growing weather arrived all were dead, except for one small bulblet of a lily. On the other hand, containers sunk in the soil or in a closed cold frame will benefit from the resistance of the soil to temperature change.

Just how cold the roots of a peony can get without being damaged,

I cannot say. However, knowing that they can be killed by cold is enough to dictate the use of precautions. I like to use a deep box cold frame setting on top of the ground for containers which I know will be out over winter (in the Kansas City area). The frame sets against the south side of a wall which gives additional protection. Sawdust is packed around the containers with about 5-7 inches of it between the outside pots and the frame sides. I have usually wrapped the whole box with Micro-Foam blanket and plastic. However, I suspect plastic alone would give adequate protection as long as the sawdust is generously applied. With the blanket, I obtained a temperature reading of 17°F when the outside air temperature was well below zero, using a probe thermometer to measure the air inside. The temperature in the sawdust may have been higher. (There was snow cover on the surrounding surface, too).

Peony buds will grow at quite low temperatures, once the dormancy has been reduced—in the range of 40°F and upward. This is the same temperature that will reduce dormancy. Thus, it is desirable to watch the plants when kept in the dark, as in a refrigerator. When they want to grow, either make it colder to hold them back or get them out into containers where they can be handled in strong light. A window well or cold frame will stand one in good stead at this stage. However, my preference is to try to keep them from growing until they are in the place where they are to grow, so that the energy which goes into leaf and stem production produces strong-light foliage that will hold up out of doors.

There is another way to handle the problem of peony plants which won't be planted out in autumn, and probably with good success. Simply winter them warm in moist packing at room temperature, but not cold enough to reduce bud dormancy, then plant them next spring where they are to grow. They will likely lay over summer with no sign of growth, receive the necessary chilling the following autumn and winter, and send up leafy shoots the second spring. This sometimes happens with fall planted divisions, apparently because the large buds are killed in handling and the replacement buds don't get far enough advanced before the weather gets too cold for their continued development. (It seems that these little replacement buds have to reach some minimum advancement before the chilling is effective in releasing the ability to grow.) Because of shallow dormancy of their buds, summering over may be a poorer bet with some tree peonies.

When it becomes necessary to carry peony plants over the winter under home conditions, an attentive handler may expect to bring most of them to readiness to grow using contrivances that are usually achievable around a gardener's home. Remember that the peony's growth processes are controlled by temperature to a considerable extent. By using some guidelines and testing temperatures as one experiments, it should be possible to become adequately skilled to control the outcomes.

IRIS COUNTRY vs. PEONY COUNTRY

(Peonies in Northeast Nebraska)

Roger R. Nelson

The landscaped garden consisting of four lots (ranging from 55' x 150' to 150' x 150') located on the southern perimeter of Wayne, Nebraska, bears the name IRIS COUNTRY. Irises, of course, are the featured plants; the title of the garden could very well be changed to PEONY COUNTRY, as I now grow, in select display positions, over 30 of the better herbaceous hybrid peonies, over 60 tree peony hybrids, plus a few Itoh varieties and a half-dozen separate plantings of *P. Tenuifolia Rubra Plena*.

IRIS COUNTRY originated in a rural setting on my father's farm site and moved into the city limits in the mid 1960's. Each year since the move, I have worked relentlessly to add better perennials, shrubs, and trees, as well as the very best of the newer irises, hybrid, and tree peonies (not to mention the dwarf spruce and pines of distinct merit). I seemingly have had much success in growing and blooming well most of the peonies that I have tried. (Wayne is located in the northeast part of Nebraska near Sioux City, Iowa, where winters range from snow clad and -10°, to very open with temperatures as low as -25°. The desiccating winds prevail most all seasons). Some varieties have been so spectacular in the last three years that visitors have literally trampled the bluegrass paths down to the brown earth as they are drawn to certain varieties.

The following comments on the appearance and performance of specific varieties is based on my observations over a period ranging up to ten years. Generally speaking, the lutea hybrids have grown and multiplied faster than the Japanese tree peonies and appear a bit tougher (cannot make too much comment on Japanese to date, as I have only one- and two year experiences with Japanese tree peonies). Some luteas have a greater tendency to winter over their wood easier and start more rapidly in the spring. The four best performers in these areas are AGE OF GOLD, CHINESE DRAGON, HIGH NOON, and VESUVIAN. AGE OF GOLD is located in two places—one quite protected, and the other quite open. Retention of old wood has been significant on AGE OF GOLD but probably the best on VESUVIAN (which, by the way, is located in a fairly exposed area). VESUVIAN, along with MARCHINONESS and AGE OF GOLD, makes one of the nicest rounded, dense plants in the border with little help in the way of manicuring. VESUVIAN, AGE OF GOLD, CHINESE DRAGON, MARCHINONESS, ROMAN GOLD, THUNDERBOLT, BLACK PANTHER, HIGH NOON, HARVEST, PRINCESS, and CANARY all bloom profusely regardless of the winter conditions. (All have been grown 4 to 10 years in the same location). CORONAL (a personal favorite) has been a steady enough grower and increaser, but the winter of 1984-85 (one of very mild conditions with one harsh 5-day

cold snap) killed the plant back to the ground. It came up late this spring and bloomed shorter, and definitely lacking the charisma and dynamics of the previous two years.

Of the *Daphnis* hybrids, GAUGUIN, (another personal favorite) has been spectacular and dependable from the time it was planted. TRIA was a very reluctant variety to get established the first time around; a replacement plant in a different location seems to be performing well in its second year. THEMIS, in its third year, grew into a nice rounded plant with moderate to heavy bloom and appears to be getting stronger and healthier every year. COMPANION OF SERENITY, BOREAS, and GUARDIAN OF THE MONASTERY were one-year plants in the spring of 1985 (one year's time in my garden; actually 2-year grafts); thus, I cannot comment much on their adaptation and merit. LEDA was my first experience with a pot plant planted in late April of 1984. It bloomed in early June of 1984, and again, this year looking stronger and fully established. Based on this performance trial, I will be an exponent of potted tree peonies planted in the spring—the plant was a Klehm Nursery one.

I rate the herbaceous hybrids very highly as a group. Most of this group have performed well and have been outstanding for color, stature and form. I was fortunate enough to secure such plants as OLD FAITHFUL, SALMON DREAM, and AMERICA in the last two to three years from David Reath and Roy Klehm. The first two have established as three-year plants this past season, and AMERICA will be a three-year plant in my garden this spring. All three are superior in all ways. Other hybrids that truly please me, and also are growing well include: BURMA MIDNIGHT, LUDOVICA, BURMA RUBY, CORAL FAY, WHITE CHARM, CYTHEREA, CORAL SUNSET, RED CHARM, LOVELY ROSE, PAULA FAY, CAMELIA, ROSE HEART, and PRAIRIE MOON. I am anticipating the 1986 season for the second-year bloom on WIND CHIMES, KING'S RANSOM, PINK FROST, CRUSADER, QUEEN ROSE, and DELAWARE CHIEF.

Looking to the future, much of my expanding interest in peonies will center on learning to hybridize them. However, trying to stay alive in the business world currently demands much of my time. My long-range goals call for devoting more of my energies and time to growing, evaluating, and promoting (as well as originating where appropriate) the best of the hardy irises, peonies, dwarf conifers, little-known perennials, and unique trees and shrubs. Hardiness in all these plants, and vigor, will remain paramount in importance. The cold and wind-swept plains (literally) of Nebraska, still provide the weather conditions that separate "the men from the boys" among all plants.

I am not the veteran grower of peonies that I want to be, but I have learned much in the last five years, and will continue to "feed my head" with knowledge and experience by viewing and growing the

peonies. The American Society people have been exceptional in their encouragement and willingness to help me locate everything from specific plants to books, and information on the performance of various varieties. I owe much to these people especially Greta Kessenich, Roy Klehm, and David Reath. IRIS COUNTRY or PEONY COUNTRY—the name is not important—for both irises and peonies will be an integral part of my life for many more years.

PEONIES, THE ANCHOR OF THE PERENNIAL BORDER

Leila Bradfield, Kalamazoo, Michigan

All peonies play a regal role in the perennial border. Their durability and consistency in performance makes them a must. In a sense, they are able to tie together other perennials, and, because of their height, they enhance the border or island bed very much like the ALPINE DWARF CONIFERS that are freely used in Great Britain.

The perennials that complement the peonies in the border are innumerable. However, great care must be exercised lest the competition of size and texture result in an eyesore. One such planting I saw recently was of peonies surrounded by KNIFORIA (*Tritoma* or the poker plant).

The shady border at our garden has thrived for years with the early, mid-season and late ASTILBES, but New Year's Day of 1985, an ice storm demolished a majestic oak of at least 150 years, leaving the border to bake with midwest sun. The solution? Interplant with tree peonies and tall herbaceous ones. A note of caution for this border is to relegate the tall ASTILBES like the Taguetii 'Superba' to other areas of the garden away from the peonies.

Recently I heard Alan Bloom, the noted British Nurseryman speak of compatible combinations in the perennial kingdom. One breath-taking slide he showed was of the early red peony shoots emerging from the earth in the spring, surrounded by yellow ground-hugging RANUNCULUS (buttercup). It was a captivating sight, though short lived. If you are like me, you would take out all RANUNCULUS due to its invasive character.

What are the compatible perennials then? Where peonies are the vocal point in the border, let us study them as the season progresses.

EARLY SPRING. The harbinger of spring has traditionally been the winter ACONITE and Species CROCUS, but ADONIS AMURENSIS, the splendid Japanese Woodlander with its ferny green foliage and large yellow buttercup flowers, wins first choice easily. Like the early bulbs, ADONIS dies down as the early peonies begin to unfurl. I also like to surround the peonies with early NARCISSUS to mark them as they do not get stepped on by mistake while weeding and cleaning up the perennial beds. My favorites and terrific performers are the early miniature CYCLAMINCUS NARCISSUS, and

TETE-A-TETE which is about 5" tall and sends out two flowers to a stem. The latter and taller **ICE FOLLIES** has a soft yellow cup when it opens which becomes ivory white as it ages, matching the circular perianth. Both are very good multipliers.

For variety, I surround other midseason peonies with **Anemone BLANDA WHITE** splendor which is a hardy exquisite performer with its glistening white daisies that open during the day and close at sundown. With their finely dissected foliage, it makes quite a show in the early spring. These, too, die down as the peonies establish their lush spring growth.

Most of the spring bulbs can be used although one needs to be careful of the wood hyacinth, **SCILLA COMPANULATION**, that multiplies as fast as rabbits or muskrats. Some may add the **MUSCARIS** to this list also. The choice of early spring bulbs is so great that experimenting with **FRITILLARIA MAELAGRIS** (the guinea hen) or the **RETICULATA IRISES** becomes a challenge, geared to one's taste and inclination.

The list of early spring perennials is infinite but the dwarf ones would include: **ARABIS** or rock ores in its many forms of white and rose color, **AURINIA** (allysium saxatile), or **BASKET OF GOLD** that can edge the border, **EUPHORBIA POLYCHROMA** or cushion spurge with its yellow bracts and dark red foliage in the fall, which adds interest in the border either interplanted or as edging. No peony border is complete in my way of thinking without the benefit of the wide variety of creeping **PHLOXES** (phlox subulata) for the border. Particularly to my liking are the white ones that blend in well with spring bulbs, and lastly is the anemone **PULSATILLA**, a charmer of the first order. The low plants bear purple, red, white flowers that set fascinating seed pods over nicely dissected foliage while they re-seed themselves if the ground is gritty. They are well behaved plants that enhance the edging throughout the season.

LATE SPRING AND EARLY SUMMER. LADY'S MANTLE (alchemilla mollis) is a fascinating palmately foliated plant that has ridges to catch the dew. The flowers of yellow greenish in racemes has been used widely in arrangements. Interplanted with peonies, it can withstand the partial shade and is excellent ground cover.

The larger family of **COLUMBINES** (aquilegia), the shorter **Flabelatta Series** is the best as they are not prone to the mites that attract their cousins. They have blue and white flowers and are blue-green foliated stocky plants that really thrive in all weather.

The **ACHILLEAS** are another group but the **Alpoine** or dwarf kinds are particularly compatible with peonies. The **TOMENTOSA** cultivars are especially nice intermingled or as an edging of groupings. **ARTEMESIA SILVER MOUND** is another plant that can be repeated in the border with any of the preceding as well as the fall blooming **ASTER, MOONCH** or violet carpet aster that only stands

10" tall. SILVER MOUND is the finest grey foliage, excellent for an accent or edging in a sunny spot, and it complements everything except a giant SEQUOIA. The list is endless but to briefly mention some of the outstanding plants and varieties is to do injustice to the plant world. However, the following is merely a suggestive listing: DIANTHUS, ground-hugging varieties of tiny rubies and red; DICENTRA, the bleeding hearts; the variety 'LUXURIANT' is a sun grower and can take the shade cast on them by the peony.

GERANIUMS, the old stand-bys, never fail. Try some with the scented foliage. GUEM, the small candy tuft of G. BORISSI with its sturdy stalks of orange flowers; HEUCHEREA (coral bells) in their wide variety; IBERIS (candytuft), an oldie, but goody! Try the variety SEMPERVIRENS ALEXANDER WHITE, compact brilliant white flowers; LAVENDULA (lavender) variety; JEAN DAVIS pink flowers on low compact bushes; LINUM (flax), heavenly blue flowers; PAPAVER ALPINUS (Alpine poppies) in a variety of colors and reseed themselves freely; the SHIRLEY POPPIES offer a wide range of choice; POTENTILLA (five fingers) is a large group. I like Pot. VERONA NANA especially among the Itoh Hybrids and the dwarf peonies. Flowers May and June.

SUMMER. Now the border is readying itself for summer. Again the choice is enormous. CAMPANULAS (bell flowers), magnificent and will reward you with many forms from trailing to 3 ft. tall bushes. Available are: CARPATICAS in blue and white and lavender, about 8" tall; the PERSIECIFOLIAS are taller—30"—that come in white and blue; again like IBERIS, the CAMPANULAS love to be sheared after bloom thus maintaining their compactness. FILIPENDULA (meadow sweet) contains a dwarf by the name of DIGITATA NANA, 8-10" height, smothered by pink-rose bloom most of the summer. When we had APS Convention at Klehms last year, I acquired one of them from their extensive listing of perennials. It has been a delight and I plan to propagate it to the "enth" degree. VERONICAS (speedwell) has a wide range of height. V. MINUET blooms with rose-pink spires from June-July. BLUE CHARM is a little taller and long lasting.

FALL. The offering for fall is not as extensive as spring and summer. ANEMONE JAPONICA (Japanese anemones) come in both single and double, white and various shades of pink. SEDUM (autumn joy) puts on a display and only 15" tall, perfect to the border grouping. SALVIA (meadow sage) is generally tall to intermingle but S. ARGENTEA is a must in the edge or near the peonia tenuifolia—should be cut off to insure longevity to the plant. It is not a common plant but easily raised from seed. The majestic foliage of the peony combined with the above mentioned plants throughout the season maintains interest, provides color, cuts down on weeding, conserves moisture by providing a ground cover and renders the peony patch a living persian carpet throughout the season.

WHAT'S NEW IN ITOH HYBRIDS?

Roger Anderson, Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin

Here it is only the second week of November and our first snow has already fallen with 11 inches recorded in Madison, Wisc. which is just thirty miles from here. Last year, we were well into December before the first snow fell—this could be the start of a long winter.

The early part of winter doesn't seem too bad, as there are still fairly fresh memories of the just-past bloom season, then the gathering of seeds in September, and finally the digging of roots. Peony people are still pretty active in writing back and forth requesting and wanting to trade a division of this plant for a division of that. As for me, this is the time of year I receive the Robin, so all in all, early winter or late fall isn't really that bad.

As winter drags on and spring approaches, the tension begins to build and days start to seem like years until those first seedlings begin to bloom—I say seedlings, as my interest in raising peonies is as a hybridizer. As a hybridizer, my interest is in the Itoh cross.

In 1980, by the grace of God, I discovered that the Itoh cross wasn't as difficult to achieve as was thought in earlier years. Two compatible parents were found and the seed started coming like field corn. These two parents were: **GOLDEN ERA**, (a Reath tree peony hybrid used for pollen), and **MARTHA W.**, (the lactiflora seed parent).

Last year, two of the 1980 crosses bloomed, all others were lost to mishandling of seed. The two that bloomed were 80-1, a semi-double lavender with ragged petals, and 80-2, a large white semi-double with lavender flares. In the fall these two plants were divided and replanted. This spring 80-1 bloomed as a two-year-old and all ragged petals had disappeared and a perfect shaped bloom had taken its place. The lavender color had also gone and was replaced with a light to dark pink. 80-2 did not bloom in its second season. However, I am anxiously awaiting its third as 80-2 was a far better bloom in its first season than 80-1. This proves one thing—Itohs are like good cheese, they get better with age.

This year there were 21 Itohs of blooming age. Out of this number, 13 of them bloomed. The color variation was fantastic almost to the point of being unbelievable. From a yellow daddy and a pink mommy came reds, yellows, yellow with red flicks, lavender, lavenders with white streaks and the reverse, whites with lavender flares, reds fading to orange and then to yellow and dark pink. The blooms were single, semi-double and full double. Out of the 13 that bloomed, there were 3 that had incomplete blooms, but as I said before, Itohs get better with age, so we'll have to see what next year brings.

In 1986, there will be only about a dozen more to bloom as I made no Itoh crosses in 1982. In 1987, I'll have 42 of blooming age, and 1988 there will be around 150 or so of blooming age. These are all of many

different crosses and will be interesting to see.

At present, all Itohs are being propagated and as soon as stock is built up enough it will be named and released.

Come spring, about the first of June, if any of you are interested and in the Fort Atkinson area, stop by and see the Itohs in bloom. You'll really get a pleasant surprise!



OBITUARIES

LOREN FRANKLIN 1893 - 1985

By W. G. Sindt

Minnesota lost one of its premier peony growers when Loren Franklin passed away on Friday, November 29, 1985. Franklin Peonies was located on the edge of Minneapolis, and as the city grew, the peony farm moved farther out. The last move was made in the early '50's to 104th Street, which is now all-city. This business was started by Loren's father, A. B. Franklin, and was located at 61st Street. Many varieties of good peonies were introduced by Franklin Nurseries, among them the APS Gold Medal varieties A. B. FRANKLIN at Chicago in 1933, and MRS. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT at Guelph, Ontario, in 1948. Most of the Franklin varieties were introduced in the 1920's and 1930's. In the 1940's, Loren did bring out two that have been on the Court of Honor at national shows many times. They are BONANZA, a double dark red, and FORENCE BRUSS, a red single.

Loren and his wife, Lydia, were exhibitors at Minnesota and national shows for many years. In the 1950's, they were showing top exhibits such as best 25, best in show, etc. Loren served as president of the Minnesota Peony Society and was always generous with his extensive knowledge for beginners, or anyone interested in peonies. He was a life member of APS.

During the last fifteen years, Loren and Lydia spent their winters in Arizona, and their summers in Minnesota. Loren had an extensive and well-cataloged rock collection. He cut and polished many which became pieces of jewelry and were given to friends.

Loren had a zest for life and didn't look back, but always ahead. He had plans and drawings for a house he was going to build, but time ran out.

To all of us who knew Loren Franklin, there will be a tremendous void. To those of you who didn't know him, it is your loss. The peony world is the richer for his having passed this way.

IN MEMORIAM

Memorials to the American Peony Society have been received from the Fifth District in memory of:

Dr. Peter Hughes, died August 14, 1985

Carmen Garcia, died October 30, 1985

MEMBERS DECEASED:

Charles J. Betch, Dec. 8, 1984, Chillicothe, Ohio

John Mayer, Greenwich, Connecticut

FRED HELMLING, Ravenna, Ohio

FREEDOM—Well-known area flower grower, Frederick C. Helmling, 76, of 8050 Ohio 88, died Wednesday at Robinson Memorial Hospital following a lengthy illness.

He was born in Suffield on Sept. 30, 1909, the son of George and Barbara (Byers) Helmling. He had lived in Freedom since 1940 and was a former dairy farmer. He had also been employed by Universal Concrete in Diamond and the Davey Compressor Co. in Kent.

In later years, he developed an avid interest in raising oriental poppies, irises and peonies, eventually specializing in peonies, his favorite. He grew more than 1,500 peonies at his nursery on Ohio 88 and was known throughout northern Ohio as an entrepreneur in the growing of beautiful flowers.

Mr. Helmling was very active in the Society for many years. His first peony roots were given him as a wedding present from Mr. Christman.

This was the start of his commercial garden. His list of peony varieties increased and soon he was growing a field of peonies, species, herbaceous and hybrids.

His field was located on Ohio 88. At blooming time, cars were lined on both sides of the road to see this spectacle of colorful peonies.

He was continually experimenting with new material that came on the market that would benefit the peony. He wrote articles for the Bulletin and some were selected for the book, *The Best of 75 Years*.

* * * *

PEONY ROOT DISEASES

Fred C. Helmling, Ravenna, Ohio

Plant enough peonies and dig enough clumps of four- and five-year-old peonies and a few of the several root diseases will be found. In 1976, we found 3 clumps that had root disease out of 160 hybrid plants. These diseased roots were planted in pots and treated with different fungicides for experimental results.

One of them is fungicidal and not just fungistatic. It killed the organism, not simply suppressing it like the fungistatic compounds. The manufacturer has not had the experience or knowledge of it being

used on peonies. Results may not be known before the fall of 1978. The manufacturer will be informed of the results.

Another treatment we used has been successful with gladiolus growers, of which bulbs are dipped before storing for winter. Results of this were much better than using the present fungicide, which is popular with peony growers.

It is discouraging to dig a scarce or high priced peony and find it unfit to propagate. It is odd in finding diseased roots, perhaps three feet away from that plant will be a peony free of disease.

Since 1973, we have experimented with several fungicides that are commonly sold, but they are not effective. I believe a half dozen or more organisms that cause peony diseases are always in the soil. This should not stop us from removing the tops and other debris in the fall.

While an application of half a handful of hydrated lime to each clump may be of little benefit, treatment with a soil fungicide may be more advantageous to eliminate or control root diseases.

An article by Don Hollingsworth in March '75 Bulletin gives information on peony diseases. Wm. Krekler writes on peony diseases in March '73 Bulletin. I've never found more information anywhere.

Four or five-year-old clumps of peonies have feeder roots extending 18 inches and as much as eighteen inches deep. This means that the average peony root is growing in a bushel or more of soil. It is calculated that the top 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches of soil on an acre of dry ground weighs 2,000,000 pounds. Most formulas for drenching plants are figured on only a few inches of soil, in which annuals or bedding plants are grown. Merely drenching the ground where the stems protrude is not going to do much good. For spraying stems and foliage, directions on the label should be followed. Only treat a few plants to make sure that the chemicals do not harm them. All uses of chemicals other than those on the label are strictly up to the person using them.

A PROBLEM YEAR FOR PEONY GROWING

1985 was a year of many peony problems:

- *Too much rain, botrytis and/or phytophthra blight;**
- *Foliage turning brown and crisp, some peonies dying, and heaving of established plants because of weather fluctation;**
- *In the north, the deep freeze came, then later the heavy snow—this in reverse of conditions for peony growing;**
- *In some areas, an open winter—no snow cover to any degree;**
- *In the east and south, rain caused problems where drainage was not sufficient and with hot weather, the foliage became brittle.**

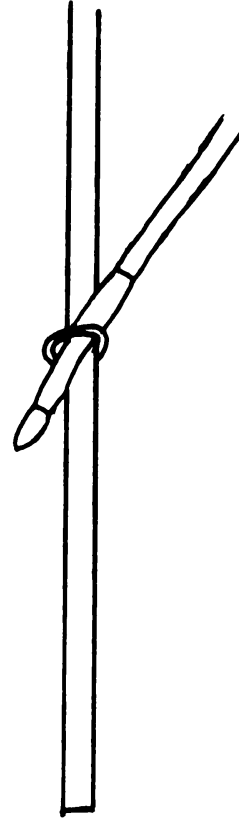
Now is the time to care for all peonies this early spring. The above article was selected for this Bulletin long before the death of Mr. Helmling. He believed in the treatment of the soil with a good soil fungicide and early spraying. Reference to article on peony diseases by Don Hollingsworth is published in the book, *The Best of 75 Years*.

STAKING TREE PEONIES

by Anthony De Blasi

Designed to support a lush growth of leaves and flowers, the stems of tree peonies are remarkably sturdy, but they are not indestructible. They will snap under a heavy load of snow or in a whipping gust of wind, particularly when the tops are weighted with rain. A good security against these, and similar disasters, is staking.

Choose a strong stake for each stem to be supported, long enough—after it is sunk in the ground—to stand a foot above the top of last year's wood. In early spring this is where the terminal bud is. Insert the stake vertically—not too close to the base of the plant—so that it crosses the stem at the point where it is to be tied: about an inch below the previous season's wood. Never tie a tender stem, since it may be chafed or strangled as it grows. If you choose early spring to do your staking, be extra careful not to damage any shoot that may be emerging from the ground.



Use any soft but strong medium for tying, in loops that are neither very loose nor very tight. A good choice is extra thick yarn, in camouflaging colors such as brown, dull green, gray, or black.

It is not necessary to tie up each and every limb. Staking the several main ones is sufficient and will indirectly support the rest of the plant.

The esthetics of this procedure may be stated in one sentence. When the plants are in leaf the stakes will be hidden, and the bushes will hold their shape without straining.

* * * *

Please send *PEONIES 1976-1986*. I am looking forward to reading it and enjoying the checklist. Speaking of enjoyment, your compilation of "APS 75 Years" has been a source of much pleasure. You have done an outstanding job in this effort. It is such a treat to have some of the best thoughts about peonies placed into one volume.

—Judy Weir, Kingston, Tennessee

* * * *

There are so many peonies that would rate second, but in my estimation **RED CHARM** is definitely Number One. When its in bloom, I find myself walking by it every day and inviting friends to admire it also. It's like the old song "Stardust"—it's loved by many and will always be a favorite.

—Eileen Wright, Machipongo, Virginia

— 18 —

"Isaac Williams, Deacon, and Master Carpenter of Clinton, New York" is a marvelous historical book of the life of Isaac Williams written by Silvia Saunders.

She writes of his work in carpentry of which four of his houses are still in use on Cottage Hill at Hamilton College—all are over 160 years, historically important and very pretty. She not only makes the past come alive, but you live in the time and enjoy the surroundings and homes built in the 1800's. It takes you back to the pioneer days in this beautiful country.

She tells about her father and mother, their home which is one of the four, and long-known as the Saunders House, where she has always lived. It is interesting to read just how the music room came about as her "father was a very devoted and musical first violinist of a string quartet." It is a delightful book with the history of Silvia and her work over the years on the back of the cover.

This book can be purchased through the Clinton Historical Society, P.O. Box 42, Clinton, New York 13323. The book is paperbound and costs \$8.50.

GREETINGS FROM THE OLD COUNTRY

By Hermann Krupke, Ljung, Sweden

The winter of '84-'85 was troublesome with severe cold. We had reasonable snow covering in the central area, but along the coast it was much worse as the precipitation came as rain.

The ground was wet, without covering, when the severe cold came. Many peony buds were harmed which caused much damage, and in the spring there was a poor bloom. In the spring, inland was normal with good growth and budding.

One day in mid-June there was a terrible thunder and hail storm which caused so much damage. Foliage and buds were shredded and soon infected by fungus from the spattering soil. Humid and chilly weather, which remained all summer, was favorable to the development of grey mold and other diseases.

Species and hybrids came through the season much better, and had a reasonable bloom. Unfortunately very few seeds matured.

Our cultivated plants are best developed in open soil where there are no weeds and competition of nourishment, but with heavy rain showers these plants are more vulnerable to infection. I prefer a short, mowed lawn under old peonies which saves me from spraying.

A new exciting spring is on the doorstep arousing our expectations, like the budding life. We will see what it brings.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Krupke is noted for his beautiful peonies. Several newspapers and magazine writers visit his nursery, and articles with colored peonies appear in the garden magazines. The interest in peonies increases every year.

5TH DISTRICT MEETING, NOVEMBER 4, 1985

Peggy Carlson, Secretary, South Barrington, Ill.

The 40th Annual Meeting of the Fifth District of the American Peony Society was called to order at approximately 1:30 p.m. at the Abbey on Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, by Carrol Spangler, our President.

After the usual period of greetings, our president, Mr. C. Spangler, called everyone to brunch which seems to be a favorite of everybody. It is surely one of the most pleasant restaurants with amiable service, and always good food. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves and did not mind the change in room arrangements for our meeting. As you could see, our usual room was occupied. I think, however, the Bimini Room proved to be just perfect for our group, and maybe the walk did us all some good.

Our meeting was called to order and the Invocation was given by Mrs. Lois Klehm.

After each individual introduction, Marvin Karrels was asked to give his rendition of the National Show held in Mahomet, Illinois. Mr. Karrels gave us highlights of the Show and his personal favorites selected by the judges, and also highlights of the Fifth District Show held at the Domes in Milwaukee. He also announced the impending National Show to be held June 13-14-15, 1986, in Minneapolis.

Nominations for officers for next year were made with Carrol Spangler and Peggy Carlson being renominated for President and Secretary/Treasurer respectively. Said nominations were approved and seconded by Marvin Karrels, and a unanimous vote was cast.

Roger Anderson of Ft. Atkinson, Wisconsin, spoke of his interest in Itoh Hybrids and planting them from seed. This talk was most interesting and informative to all. He pointed out that anyone would be welcome to view his garden and see what his work has produced to date.

Roy Klehm asked for a moment of silence to remember two departed friends of the Society, namely Carmen Garcia, who had worked so hard at many of the Society's conventions and shows, and Dr. Peter Hughes, an Australian, who was a new member. They will both be greatly missed.

Our president passed a motion for the meeting to be adjourned at 2:00 p.m. followed by a most successful peony root auction run by our most competent and enthusiastic auctioneer, Roy Klehm. All members and friends participated most joyfully to the success of this auction. All the roots having been auctioned, the meeting for 1985 was brought to a close.

* * * *

We had the most beautiful peonies this year! People were continually coming to see them. Will add more reds to our planting this fall.

—Pearl Jones, Ohio

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THE 83rd ANNUAL MEETING 81st ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY June 13-14-15, 1986

The 1986 National Convention and Exhibition of peonies will be at Apache Plaza, 3800 Silver Lake Road (see map). This beautiful center was made available to us by the Apache Merchants Association under the direction of Peggy Norton, Promotional Director, and Messrs. Liptak and Liptak, Sr. and Jr.

In the recent past, the center was completely demolished by a devastating tornado. It has been completely rebuilt with the latest in modern architecture and design—beautiful stores, fashionable shops, a large restaurant noted for its specialties, sidewalk cafe, and business offices, as well as a recreational center on the lower level enjoy this temperature-controlled building. Even though modern in scope, it still maintains the friendly old-fashioned atmosphere where the customer is given personal service and words almost forgotten, "Thank you; come again."

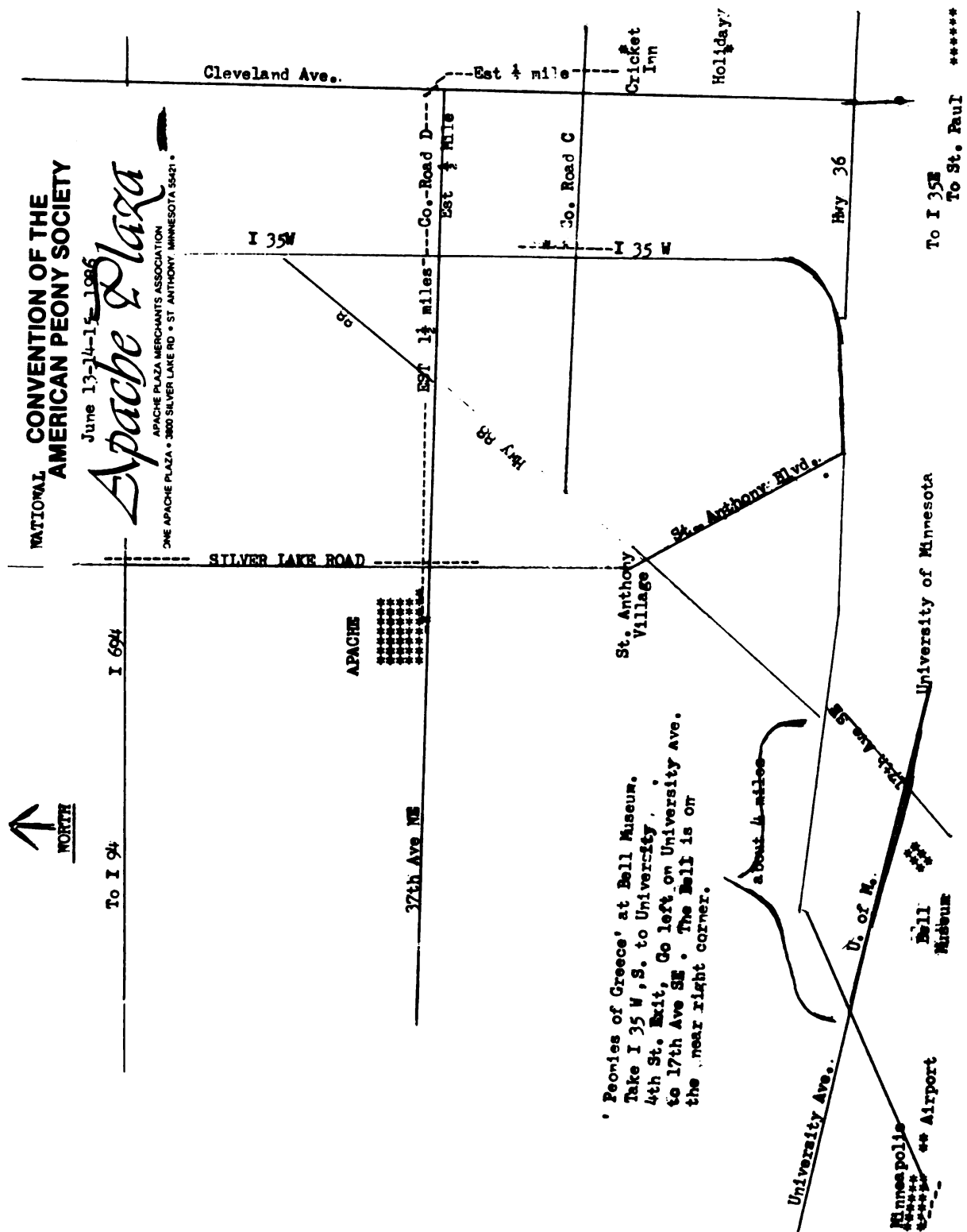
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PEONIES OF GREECE: Myth, Science and Art

This past year, extensive coverage of this exhibition has been given in the Bulletins. For our National Convention, this exhibition, from the Smithsonian Institute illustrating the evolution of scientific documentation through the ages, will be housed at the Bell Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota.

Twenty-one informative and entertaining panels provide the framework of this exhibition. The text highlights the peony in Greek mythology—the cultivation and distribution of the peony within Greece and around the world.

In addition to this great exhibit, another magnificent exhibit will be at the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum during the month of June. Sir Peter Smithers' collection of photographs of the Japanese Tree peony that was on display at the Cernuschi Art Museum in Paris, Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, and other museums in the United States. Sir Peter has received many awards for his photography including gold medals from the Royal Horticultural Society in London. He grows more than 10,000 species and varieties of plants in his garden at Vico Morcote on Lake Lugana, Switzerland, at the southern foot of the Alps. Two hundred of these plants are tree peonies, mainly the Japanese.



THE AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY NATIONAL CONVENTION

June 13-14-15, 1986

APACHE PLAZA—3800 Silver Lake Road, St. Anthony, MN 55421
(The Village of St. Anthony is about on the dividing line between Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota).

Information — Greta M. Kessenich, Chairman
(612) 938-4706

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, June 13

Preparation room opens at 8 a.m.

Prepare show entries—work area open as needed on Friday evening

8:00 p.m.—Board of Directors meeting

Saturday, June 14

6:00 a.m.—set up and enter exhibits until 11:30 a.m.

(Exhibit area is open to the public at all times)

Registration and information tables near the stairway.

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.—Judging.

Note to all members: Restaurant and short orders in the Mall

2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.—Seminar conducted by Don Hollingsworth
grafting Scott Reath

7:00 p.m.—Banquet at SCARPELLI'S, Apache Plaza, in the Mall.

Welcome Address, Dr. Kent Crossley.

Annual Business Meeting, conducted by Chris Laning.

Root Auction

Sunday, June 15—All shopping centers are closed until noon.

A chartered bus at the Cricket Inn for transportation to the following:
(Potential timing, but 8:30 a.m. time for the beginning tour.)

8:30 a.m. —Leave Cricket Inn by bus for the University of
Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

9:15 a.m. —Continental breakfast at the Arboretum.

10:00 a.m. —Tour of Sir Peter Smithers' Collection of
photographs of the Japanese Tree Peony (Comments by Roy Klehm)

11:15 a.m. —Depart the Arboretum

11:45 a.m. —Arrive at the Bell Museum of Natural History,
University of Minnesota

Tour of the Peonies of Greece (Comments by Don Hollingsworth); stop at an exhibit about the history of Peony growing in Minnesota (Comments by Kent Crossley).

1:00 p.m. Return to Cricket Inn

**REGISTRATION—\$12.00—Send registrations to Dee Ann Crossley,
1245 Delaware Ave., St. Paul, MN 55118**

CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

CRICKET INN

2550 Cleveland Ave. No.

Roseville, MN 55113

Toll free number 1-800-622-3999

Manager, Pam Stojevich

Rates: \$29.95 single; \$34.95 dou-

ble—6% state tax on all rooms

Check out time 11:00 a.m.—Cricket Inn less than 2½ miles from Apache

HOLIDAY INN

2540 Cleveland Ave. No.

Roseville, MN 55113

Toll free number 1-800-H-o-l-i-d-a-y

\$45.00 double; \$45.00 single

Check out 12:00 noon

6% sales tax

RULES FOR SPECIMEN EXHIBITS

1. All entries must be completed and in place by 11:30 a.m. on opening day.
2. All entries must have been grown by exhibitors.
3. Entry tags supplied by the Society must be filled out completely as to class, variety, and name and address of exhibitor. In addition, each variety must be identified with a small wood tag with the variety name legibly printed thereon. Entry tags may be obtained in advance from the secretary of the American Peony Society. The exhibitor or his agent shall be responsible for proper completion of the entry tags.
4. Stems should be approximately 12" long (tree peonies excepted.)
5. Exhibitors are limited to one entry each in classes 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 201, and 301. In all other classes up to two entries of each variety are permitted; however, any number of different varieties may be entered.
6. The show committee may combine or divide classes if the number of entries warrants it.
7. Correct varietal labeling is mandatory in the Open and the Amateur classes. It is recommended in the Novice classes, but no entry shall be disqualified for failure to identify.
8. Standard containers will be furnished by the show committee and must be in all classes.
9. The American Peony Society Handbook will govern bloom types and color.
10. Anemone types such as Gay Paree shall be shown as Japanese.
11. Awards need not be given to unworthy exhibits.
12. Flowers are to remain as placed on the show tables by the exhibitor, moved only when necessary, and then the exhibits must be kept in the same position.
13. The decision of the judges is final—NOTE: See Page 29, Division VI—
COURT OF HONOR CANDIDATE CLASS

DIVISION 1. Open to all Exhibitors.

- Class** 101 American Peony Society Award
Twenty-five varieties, any color or type.
One bloom each in separate containers.
- 102 American Peony Society Award
Fifteen varieties, herbaceous only, any type or color
One bloom each in separate containers.
- 103 American Peony Society Award
Ten varieties, herbaceous hybrid only, any type or color
One bloom each in separate containers.
- 104 American Peony Society Award
Ten varieties, Tree peonies only, any type or color
One bloom each in separate containers.
- 105 Five varieties, Japanese Type lactiflora only, any color
One bloom each in separate containers.
- 106 Five varieties, single type lactiflora only, any color
One bloom each in separate containers.

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

- | | | | |
|--------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Class | 117 | Semi-double red | |
| 110 | Double white | 118 | Bomb any color |
| 111 | Double blush | 119 | Japanese white or blush |
| 112 | Double light pink | 120 | Japanese pink |
| 113 | Double dark pink | 121 | Japanese red |
| 114 | Double red | 122 | Single white or blush |
| 115 | Semi-double white or blush | 123 | Single pink |
| 116 | Semi-double pink | 124 | Single red |

One Bloom Lactiflora Only

- | | | | | |
|--------------|----------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Class | 130 | Double white | 138 | Bomb white or blush |
| 131 | Double blush | 139 | Bomb pink | |
| 132 | Double light pink | 140 | Bomb red | |
| 133 | Double dark pink | 141 | Japanese white or blush | |
| 134 | Double red | 142 | Japanese pink | |
| 135 | Semi-double white or blush | 143 | Japanese red | |
| 136 | Semi-double pink | 144 | Single white or blush | |
| 137 | Semi-double red | 145 | Single pink | |
| | | 146 | Single red | |

Three blooms, one variety Herbaceous Hybrids or Species in one container.

Class

- | | | | |
|-----|--|------|------------------------|
| 150 | Double or semi-double white, blush or yellow | | |
| 151 | Double or semi-double coral | 155 | Single yellow |
| 152 | Double or semi-double pink | 156 | Single white or blush |
| 153 | Double or semi-double red | 157 | Single coral |
| | | 158 | Single pink |
| | | 159 | Single red |
| 154 | Japanese, any color | 159A | Itoh, hybrid any color |

One bloom Herbaceous Hybrid or Species

Class

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------------|-------|------------------------|
| 160 | Double or semi-double yellow | | |
| 161 | Double or semi-double white or blush | | |
| 162 | Double or semi-double coral | | |
| 163 | Double or semi-double pink | | |
| 164 | Double or semi-double red | | |
| 165 | Japanese, any color | | |
| 166 | Single yellow | 169 | Single pink |
| 167 | Single white or blush | 169A. | Single red |
| 168 | Single coral | 169B. | Itoh hybrid, any color |

Three blooms, one variety, tree peonies only, in one container.

Class

- | | | | | | |
|------|--|------|-------------|------|--------|
| 170a | Japanese (Moutan) White, Single | 170b | semi-double | 170c | double |
| 171a | Japanese (Moutan) Pink, Single | 171b | semi-double | 171c | double |
| 172a | Japanese (Moutan) Red, single | 172b | semi-double | 172c | double |
| 173a | Japanese (Moutan) Violet single
(Really purple lavenders) | 173b | semi-double | 173c | double |
| 174a | Japanese (Moutan) Maroon single | 174b | semi-double | 174c | double |
| 175a | Lutea Hybrid, white to cream, single | 175b | semi-double | 175c | double |
| 176a | Lutea Hybrid, yellow, single | 176b | semi-double | 176c | double |
| 177a | Lutea Hybrid, blend, single | 177b | semi-double | 177c | double |
| 178a | Lutea Hybrid, pink, single | 178b | semi-double | 178c | double |
| 179a | Lutea Hybrid, red, single | 179b | semi-double | 179c | double |
| 180a | Lutea Hybrid, dark red, single | 180b | semi-double | 180c | double |

One bloom tree peony only.

Class

185a	Japanese (Moutan) white, single	185b	semi-double	185c	double
186a	Japanese (Moutan) pink, single	186b	semi-double	186c	double
187a	Japanese (Moutan) red, single	187b	semi-double	187c	double
188a	Japanese (Moutan) violet, single	188b	semi-double	188c	double
189a	Japanese (Moutan) maroon, single	189b	semi-double	189c	double
190a	Lutea Hybrid, white to cream, single	190b	semi-double	190c	double
191a	Lutea Hybrid, yellow, single	191b	semi-double	191c	double
192a	Lutea Hybrid, blend, single	192b	semi-double	192c	double
193a	Lutea Hybrid, pink, single	193b	semi-double	193c	double
194a	Lutea Hybrid, red, single	194b	semi-double	194c	double
195a	Lutea Hybrid, dark red, single	195b	semi-double	195c	double
196c	European tree peony				

DIVISION II AMATEUR: Open to exhibitors who raise peonies chiefly for pleasure; sell plants or cut flowers only casually, and do not grow more than 200 plants.

Class 201 American Peony Society Award
Ten varieties, any type or color
One bloom each in separate containers.

Three blooms, one variety lactiflora only, unless otherwise stated, in one container.

Class	205	Double white or blush	
206	Double pink	210	Japanese any color
207	Double red	211	Single any color
208	Semi-double any color	212	Hybrid any color
209	Bomb any color	213	Tree any type or color

One bloom lactiflora unless stated otherwise.

Class	220	Double white	225	Semi-double any color
	221	Double blush	226	Bomb any color
	222	Double light pink	227	Japanese any color
	223	Double dark pink	228	Single any color
	224	Double red	229	Hybrid any type or color
			230	Tree, any type or color

DIVISION III NOVICE: Open to all amateur gardeners who exhibit peonies only at local shows.

Class 301 American Peony Society Award
Five varieties any type or color in separate containers.

Three blooms one variety lactiflora, unless otherwise stated, in one container.

Class 305 Double any color

306 Semi-double, any color

308 Single, any color

307 Japanese, any color

309 Hybrid, any color

One bloom lactiflora, unless otherwise stated, in one container.

Class 315 Double white or blush

316 Double pink

320 Japanese any color

317 Double red

321 Single any color

318 Semi-double any color

322 Hybrid any color

319 Bomb any color

323 Tree any color

DIVISION IV: Seedlings and New Varieties.

Class 401 Seedlings.

Three blooms, one variety in one container, not currently introduced.

Variety must have been divided at least once.

Must be shown under name or seedling number.

402 New Varieties:

Three blooms, one variety in one container. Limited to varieties named and registered with the American Peony Society and introduced no earlier than five years prior to show date.

Awards given in the two preceding classes may be Certificates of Merit or Honorable Mention at the discretion of the judges, but no ribbon awards. Varieties having won either award in previous competition may not be shown again in that class, except that varieties shown in class 401 may be shown again in class 402 regardless of awards.

403 Seedlings:

One bloom. This class is for display only.

No awards will be given and any seedling entered in class 401 is ineligible.

DIVISION V: Special Entries.

Class 501 Commercial Exhibit.

Collection by commercial grower of 25 to 50 varieties in separate containers. A placard approximately 9" x 14" may be furnished by the exhibitor to identify his display.

502 Visitor from greatest distance.

Five different varieties any type. Mileage verified on entry tag.

503 Multiple bloom.

Single stalk not disbudded. Must show at least three open blooms.

Class 504—505 North Dakota Memorial Award

One bloom each separate container, any color, only named varieties. One entry per individual family.

Class 504—Tree peonies, Lutea and Japanese. Herbaceous hybrid, double and single.

Class 505—Lactiflora, Double, semi-double, single, Japanese.

These two classes are not considered for Class VI.

DIVISION VI: Court of Honor Candidate Class

Court of Honor blooms will be selected from this Division.

Exhibitors are urged to enter their best bloom and are limited to two in each class.

Judges may select two blooms from the floor in addition to placements, for consideration of Grand Champion on the Court of Honor.

One bloom Lactiflora

Class 601 Double white

602 Double blush

603 Double light pink

604 Double dark pink

605 Double red

606 Bomb any color

607 Semi-double any color

608 Japanese any color

609 Single any color

One bloom Hybrid or Species

Class 610 Double any color

611 Semi-double any color

612 Single any color

613 Japanese any color

One bloom Tree

Class 614 Lutea any type or color

615 European any type or color

616 Japanese any type or color

Class 617 One bloom Itoh Hybrid any color.

Grand Champion

The best flower in the show will be selected from all named entries in the show.

ARTISTIC DIVISION

THEME: A DAY IN JUNE

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Early Dawn | 6. Sudden Shower |
| 2. Spacious Skies | 7. Over the Rainbow |
| 3. Dappled Sunlight | 8. Sunset Blaze |
| 4. Whipping Winds | 9. Moonlight Moods |
| 5. Storm Clouds | 10. Dreamland |

Artistic Consultant: Virginia Borg (612) 545-8304

ARTISTIC DIVISION RULES

1. The American Peony Society invites all amateur flower arrangers, members and non-members alike, to enter.
2. An exhibitor may make only one entry per class. All artistic work must be the origination of the exhibitor.
3. Peonies must be the dominant flower. Peonies need not be grown by the exhibitor, and many will be available from the committee from 1:00 to 10:00 p.m., Friday, June 13, and from 6:00 to 10:00 a.m. Saturday, June 14. Work space will be available at the show.
4. Entry tags should include the names of peonies used, if known.
5. Entries may include any type of plant material, except artificial, and may not include plants on the Minnesota Conservation list.
6. Mats, bases, accessories and backgrounds may be used in all classes. If a background is used, the exhibitor must provide means of support. Tables will be standard exhibition tables covered with white paper.
7. There is no size limit to the designs. However, if an arrangement will occupy space more than 24-inches wide, please notify the committee when registration is made so that adequate space will be reserved for it.
8. Exhibitors are requested to register entries in advance. Please call or write before 1:00 p.m., Thursday, June 12, to:

Hideko Gowen	or Virginia Borg
6440 Hazeltine Blvd.	2625 N. Nathan Lane
Excelsior, MN 55331	Plymouth, MN 55441
Phone: (612) 474-3536	Phone: (612) 545-8304
9. Entries may be placed beginning Friday, June 13, at 1:00 p.m., and must be in place by 10:30 a.m., Saturday, June 14. Late entries will not be judged.
10. Judging by qualified artistic judges will be done from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Saturday, June 14.

11. An inconspicuous mark of identification should be placed on any property used in the Artistic Division. All care will be taken to protect exhibits, but the American Peony Society and the Management of Apache Plaza cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage to the exhibits.

12. Arrangements must be sufficiently stable to permit moving if necessary. The Committee reserves the right to have an arrangement moved by the exhibitor, if possible, or by the Chairman of the Arrangements Section.

13. Exhibitors are requested to claim their own exhibits and ribbons at the close of the Show, Sunday, June 15, at 5:00 p.m.

ARTISTIC DIVISION AWARDS

1. First, second, and third place ribbons will be given in all classes as awarded by the judges.

2. A Grand Champion rosette will be awarded to the best in the show.

3. A Reserve Champion rosette will be awarded to the second best.

4. A Sweepstakes rosette will be awarded to the exhibitor with the most blue ribbons; red and white ribbons will be counted to break a tie.

5. Additional special award will be presented the Champion winner at the annual banquet.

* * * *

I am growing fifty varieties of peonies plus six tree peonies at present. Among these I have some real favorites such as **CLAIRE DE LUNE**, **ALEXANDER WOLLCOTT**, **LAURA MAGNUSON**, **ANGELO COBB FREEBORN**, and **RED CHARM**— tree peony, **HANA KISOI**. I could name many that I would like to grow but my garden is landscaped with daylilies, iris, evergreens and perennials to be a showplace all seasons. Please send the book *Peonies 1976-1986*.

* * * *

—Viola Griffin, Missouri

My dream peony would be so disease-resistant that the foliage would never get black spotted and it would truly look lovely the entire growing season. The flower would last more than three days, even in warm weather; the rain would not beat down the plant, nor mar the sturdy flower; of course, the flower would make an excellent cut flower lasting a week in water; dependable annual bloom, vigorous, healthy plant habit, and it does not matter if the flower is small. Have I found a peony like this?—well, **MISS AMERICA** comes close!

—Kay Kauffman, Baltimore, Maryland

* * * *

We are 72 years old now and our collection of peonies is a combined gathering of 50 years, almost all herbaceous doubles. We never did have the names but we have some beauties in our garden. This year there was a red variety that brought us much joy. We enjoy reading the Bulletin.

—Mr. and Mrs. A. Heubner, Indiana

Letters

Peonies have such individual qualities and beauty, returning more glorious each spring. The persistent favorite from my first season of blossoms is **RED GRACE**. It has a breath-taking ruby red color, a satiny sheen (which color photos don't capture accurately) and a bomb-type form of tremendous size. I keep photographing it in different lights (as do my neighbors), and one day hope to get the color right.

Hurricane Gloria paid us a devastating call at the end of September, leaving our dwarf-fruit orchard/garden much the worse for wear, so we anxiously await the spring to see just what survives. Luckily, the garden was entering its dormant stage when the storm hit, but the sustained force of the salt-bearing wind made everything look as if it had been baked in the oven.

My eight-foot wind and deer fence had been knocked down by part of a house which disintegrated when the wind reached 150 mph. A large chunk came to rest on top of **Vivid Rose**, **Red Grace** and **Myra MacRae**, and that was the first thing I removed when we could get back onto Fire Island the morning following the storm.

Enormous trees, hundreds of years old, were lying across roads on the mainland, electricity was out (for three weeks), and we had a large hole in the attic, with part of the eave torn away. A favorite pear tree is now espaliered, my grapes all had to be re-wired with new posts, and the apples were harvested all over the yard. The eye of the hurricane passed directly over the barrier beach—luckily at low tide, or the damage would have been much greater.

Spring will offer a chance to compare my lovely **RED GRACE** with a newly-planted **RED CHARM**, and the first glimpse of **BRIDAL CHARM**, another newcomer to the garden, joining **PINK JAZZ**, **DOUGLAS BRAND**, **CHEDDAR CHEESE**, **WHOPPER**, **ELSA SASS**, **MR. ED**, **PINK PARFAIT**, **CHORAL CHARM** and **MOON RIVER**. Enclosed check is for contributing membership renewal, and a warm thank you for the bulletin.

—Vernon Kidd, New York

* * * *

My peony patch was beautiful this year. I do not have any new ones, but the older peonies reward me for my efforts. **ROSEDALE** continues to rate high with me; it is so beautiful, and it is always at its best on Memorial Day.

I appreciated your 1985 review of peonies in your December letter.

—Agnes Cooper Miller, Friend, Nebraska

1985 was a good peony year in Connecticut. I would have had more blossoms in the garden if it had not been for the Newtown Garden Club this past June.

I returned from a business trip to find out that I had donated lactifloras in a desperate need for peonies to fill out several floral arrangements. It was all in a good cause, however, since the arrangements containing peonies won the first prize and the tri-color award. I entered some pre-refrigerated hybrids in the horticultural class. Visitors to the show were enchanted with the color of **CORAL CHARM** even though it did not open. The question so often asked is "Where can I buy Coral Charm?" The horticultural award for the best perennial flower was **WALTER MAINS**, a beautiful specimen no rose could touch. In the peony category, **BURMA RUBY** took second place with its pure color and goblet form.

In the garden **BRIGHT KNIGHT**, received from Ed Michau the fall before, had four stems, all with flowers and even produced a viable seed. No wonder Ed likes it so much. Best wishes for a good growing year.

—Bill Uhde, Connecticut

* * * *

Were I to choose one favorite peony, it would have to be **CYTHEREA**; however, **RED CHARM** and **DIANA PARKS** would be my second choice.

Why should I make such a choice? The reasons are simple; the plant is graceful, the blooms are very long-lasting and the color appealing from the first blush of color until the color goes through its peak and fades to almost white.

The shape of the blooms is another plus. The blooms close at the end of the day and are especially lovely when about half open the next morning. Even the huge seed pods are attractive.

—Olin Frazier, Warrensburg, Missouri

* * * *

I've written about my favorite peony many times. It was, and is, **DOLORODELL**. Everything about this peony is from very good to super.

It was a mammoth plant of **MONS JULES ELIE** in full bloom that got me going with peonies, twenty-eight years ago. Growing in the garden of a friend, upon whom I called, there it was, fully opened and covering the ground around it, with its flowers, too heavy, of course, for its large, but lax, stems. Interestingly, the first three plants of it that I put in never came near the duplication of the "inspirational Jules Elie." The first was not true to name; the next two were never happily located. Now though, I have it—the right variety in the right place, and it's still a favorite with me.

—Leslie J. Wiley, Cobleskill, New York

To summarize 1985, I would say that it was not a typical year. We started out with a very early spring and continued throughout the summer. We usually have a few plants blooming for Memorial Day but over half were blooming this year.

After a rather dry July and August, the skies finally opened with too-frequent rain which lasted until late frost. As a result, there are weeds carrying over to add to our work in the spring. I do not believe the rain has hurt our plants as we do have good drainage. Several of the plants I dug this fall seemed to have larger buds in comparison to other years.

Three years ago, a sister had to move suddenly because of a change in her husband's employment. She was unable to take any of her plants with her. I told her that I would send her a new start of peonies that fall so she could get started again. It was difficult to select various plants that would fit in the space she had available. Each plant has its own personality and blooming time, and since I have over 150 different varieties, it was necessary to select some favorites that give her maximum results.

Red: Tenuifolia Ruba Plena, Postilion, Ruth Elizabeth

Coral: Coral Charm

Japanese: Lotus Queen, Charm

White: Festiva Maxima, Mothers Choice, Cheddar Cheese

Pink: Mons Jules Elie, Jaycee, Pillow Talk

These are always consistent in bloom.

Many years ago, following the death of an uncle, I did inherit many of the peonies that had originally been my grandfather's. My grandfather was an old-time one-room school teacher who retired in the early 1920's and had a one-acre garden where he grew and sold peonies as an added income. After his death, my uncle continued until his death. Not any of the peonies had their names, and were marked only as to color. My father knew some of the varieties but there were many left unnamed, so this has been my challenge for the last ten years. To date, I have found the correct names except for six or seven. I searched through catalogs and purchased plants that had descriptions like those I have, and then compared them for several years as to plant habit, color, size of blossom, blooming date, and also fragrance. If all matched, I would purchase that variety from another source, and if it compared, it was easy to come to the conclusion that the name was the same for all.

One very illusive plant here is a late dark pink double with a strong fragrance that has 6-8" bloom. Some years it blooms almost a watermelon pink, clear, and some years it has more blue but always blooms good. I have never been able to get a good photograph of it. The color is just not the same. I have tried to take a picture indoors and out, in shade and in sun, also on overcast days. While I get good pictures, it is not the same. (This is about as hard as trying to capture

the true essence of Salmon Glory, the inner glow).

When I meet my grandfather again, I will get the chance to ask him; in the meantime I will just enjoy.

—Marion DeReamer, Merrillville, Indiana

* * * *

My dream peony is one of reality. I saw it at a nursery about half-hour drive from here, at Bucksport, Maine. The owner, Max, is in his late seventies and still going strong with several hundred peonies of many kinds. I suspect they represent plants which he had ordered during the years. Anyway, he grows these peonies with much pride and I make at least one pilgrimage each spring just to walk through them. They are absolutely beautiful in all their form and colors. It is perhaps the closest I'll ever come to seeing a mass planting of them, being so far away from commercial growers. The one drawback to me is that Max does not know one peony from another by specific name, since years ago a boy who worked for him pulled up all the wooden name stakes and disposed of them, making it easier to mow the grass.

The peony that has especially captivated me is a very large deep red one with flattened red staminodes edged in yellow, looking like a flame burning in the center of the flower. I find this flower beautiful. Thanks to Klehm's new catalog in color as I think WALTER MAINS is one similar. Since Max will not part with a piece of his, I'm ordering two or three similar peonies from Klehms to see if I can find my favorite, or one of them. Thank goodness for the colored pictures in the catalog. Words cannot paint the full picture. In several years, I may know if I have found the right one, and if not, I'll keep looking. Keep up the good work.

—Kenneth E. Liberty, Bangor, Maine

* * * *

Time passes so quickly it is hard to believe that a year has gone by. Your quarterly Bulletins are so very welcome here, not only for the abundance of technical information, but also for the descriptions of the people who have given so much to keep this plant and the A.P.S. improving and growing.

I had my first blooms (2) from the APS seed program last spring. Since I have a dozen or so other seedlings the same size, my anticipation is high for next spring.

My thanks to Chris Laning, coordinator of the seed program, and to all the generous donors of peony seed.

I really do not have any special peony or favorite. While I appreciate the herbaceous peonies, I prefer the delicacy, almost fragility of form of the tree peony. I am far from an expert, however, as I only have seven varieties. I hope to expand my collection if a few of the seedlings from the seed program justify a permanent place in the garden.

—Frank Fassl, Naperville, Illinois

I'm trying to make the most of an average city lot, 80 x 128, and have something blooming from crocus through chrysanthemums—also, to have some unusual items along with the usual. This means some regular peonies, and try for some tree peonies. I visited Chris Laning a year ago, and Klehms in Barrington last blooming season. I picked up a few boxed tree peonies at a local garden center a few years ago and they have been struggling along—only one has bloomed to date. Hope to get two or three nice multi-colored varieties of blooming size this year. I've dug around almost every wall, fence, tree, or border line from three to five feet for flowers.

—Oscar P. Anderson, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Enclosed please find check for my dues renewal and for *PEONIES 1976-1986*. This book has come out in the nick of time; I have almost memorized your other books. You do a great service with these publications.

Where could one find a plant of *AVIATOR LINDBERG*? It was spectacular at Whitnall Park (Milwaukee) last spring, but one never sees it on any commercial lists.

—William Adee,
112 West Clayton St., Waukegan, IL 60085

* * * *

This year, our peony inventory reached eighty-seven, about sixty of which bloomed. There were a few duplicates: (3) *RED CHARM*, (2) *BOWL OF CREAM*, and (2) *PILLOW TALK*. Probably the most exciting bloom for us in 1985 was *YELLOW EMPEROR*—lovely, large, first-year bloom, exquisite. Second-year bloom on *RED CHARM* was eight huge red blooms. *PILLOW TALK* was great, but *DOUGLAS BRAND*, second-year with ten or eleven huge delightful blooms, is very high on our list of favorites.

MARY BRAND, *FELIX CROUSSE*, *PAUL M. WILD*, *DORIS COOPER*, *ELSA SASS*, *CAROL*, *DIANA PARKS*, *MISS AMERICA*, *OLD FAITHFUL*, *ELLEN CROWLEY*, *CYTHEREA*, *LUDOVICA*, *KINGS RANSOM*, *PRAIRIE MOON*, *PAULA FAY* and *TENUIFOLIA RUBA FLORA* were high in our ratings.

This year we are adding: *FIRELIGHT*, *SHOW GIRL*, *ELIZABETH FOSTER*, *RED RED ROSE*, *CARENA*, *PEACH FROST*, *ALEXANDER WOOLCOTT*, *HANSINA BRAND*, *LEGION OF HONOR*, *VIVID ROSE*, *CORA STUBBS*, *FIRE OPAL*, *LOVELY ROSE* and *ROSELETTE*.

God is a lover of the beautiful, and we thank Him for the lovely things He has created for our happiness.

—Harold A. Toms, Tazewell, Virginia

Happy Holidays! Please send me the book, *Peonies 1976-1986*. I am very much interested in the new dwarfs, as I do have a rock garden.

In June, 1984, I moved 56 herbaceous and 27 trees. The very worst time to move peonies but I had no choice due to the later settlement of my home in Maryland. I lost five herbaceous.

I had potted so many in large black pots and they were growing. This enabled me to move so many. My nephew took them in an open trailer and covered them with tarpaulin to protect them from the wind and weather.

When they arrived at my new home in North Carolina, I gently transferred each into the hole I had prepared in advance.

Five of them put on a good show of bloom in the spring. **RED CHARM** was really great as it had five of the prettiest blooms. My neighbors came to see this vivid red flower in my yard. They said they had never seen a peony so beautiful; of course, I enjoyed telling them about the hybrids.

The tree peonies did not take kindly to this move as I lost two of my large plants that came down on the moving van. The two **azalias mollis** that were 3½ feet, did not mind the transplanting in their new home—they are heavily budded now.

I did replace the two tree peonies; they are now mulched and ready for winter. I think peonies are tougher than we think; otherwise, mine would have never survived such a long move in hot weather. They seem to like the cold mountain winters here. We had 22° below zero here, but, of course, it was an extremely cold winter over most of the nation. My favorite tree peony is **YACHIYO TSUBAKI**. It grows fast, beautiful and healthy. My favorite herbaceous hybrid is **RED CHARM**; it, too, grows well for me.

It was expensive moving peonies planted in pots, but the money was well spent to have my favorite flower and the varieties.

—Ada Young, North Carolina

* * * *

Please send a copy of *Peonies 1976-1986*, and thanks for your nice letter. The tree peonies are doing very well and look promising for southern Georgia.

I now have about 50 tree peonies including about a dozen planted this fall. A few have bloomed already including: **AGE OF GOLD**, **KRONOS**, **MARCHIONESS**, **CHINESE DRAGON**, **ROCKS**, **HESPERUS**, **BLACK PANTHER**, **BLACK PIRATE** and **STOLEN HEAVEN**.

This is my third year of planting. I am experimenting with a few herbaceous peonies that bloom early and a few of the early hybrids. The temperature reached -2°F. last winter, so perhaps we can have peonies this far south.

—Delano Deen, Alma, Georgia

My favorite peony! That's like asking a mother to name her favorite child; each is loved for its own peculiar characteristics or beauty.

Always—when asked to name a “special” peony—**WHITE CAP**, with its showy, dark rose and white coloring—comes to mind. That and its wonderful growth habits: vigorous and healthy, and generous with bloom.

But, there is also **PEPPERMINT**, with its huge, double pink tinted blooms, speckled and flecked with rose-red. It, too, is a generous bloomer, and lusty grower.

MOTHER'S CHOICE is such perfectly gorgeous double pure white—and four star performance in every way.

This year, **GRACE BATSON** stole the show (by surprise), every plant loaded with rich, vivid double pink blooms, with slightly spicy fragrance.

CAROL bowed everyone over this year. One row with over fifty plants was like a bright scarlet banner in the garden—just a vision to see!

One trait that all of these named have in common is their ability to perform well in anyone's garden. I think we, are too often swayed by beauty alone, but it is the performance of a plant that makes your garden come to life.

Our most popular peonies last year were **RED CHARM** (always #1), **RASPBERRY SUNDAE**, **WHITE CAP**, **TORO NO MAKI**, **MONS. JULES ELIE**, **GRACE BATSON**, **FANCY NANCY**, **CAROL**, **BIG BEN**, **HIGHLIGHT**, **SANTA FE**.

For the coming year, we have added some of the new “dwarfs”—also **PAULA FAY**, **CORAL FAY** and **DIANA PARKS**, as well as some older varieties. This brings our total varieties carried commercially to one-hundred- and twenty-five.

Makes it hard to wait for spring and bloomtime—but then, gardening is enriched by anticipation, is it not?

—Anna Walrad,
Edgewood Gardens, Warrenton, Virginia

* * * *

Generally speaking, the summer was a cool one and I think the peonies bloomed later because of it, in our area of Massachusetts. I made a point of checking for fragrance and found very little of it. **FESTIVA MAXIMA** usually is wonderfully fragrant but was without that quality this year. **RED CHARM** is always spectacular in our garden and much admired. **ELSA SASS** was so beautiful, and we enjoyed bouquets over several weeks.

—Wilma Zapka, Massachusetts

I took twelve varieties of peony roots to the Iowa Arboretum about a year ago. Many of them bloomed this past season. They were **HENRY BOCKSTOCK, DAWN PINK, JOHN HARVARD, MINUET, RED CHARM SEA SHELL.**

However, the Fern Leaf peony did not bloom, but neither did it bloom here at Elkhart. I attribute that to dry weather as it has always bloomed in past seasons. The buds swelled but did not quite open. We will observe that one at the arboretum. The buds are set right at the surface with an inch or so of pea gravel covering the area of this flower bed.

I'm planning to go to Minneapolis at Convention time and will know by then about the bloom of this peony.

—Ward Mally, Elkhart, Iowa

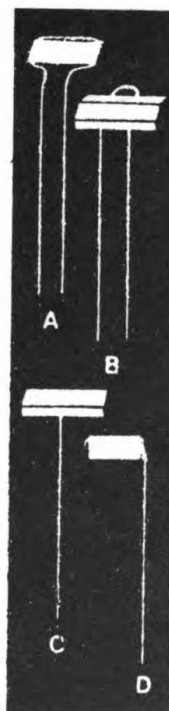


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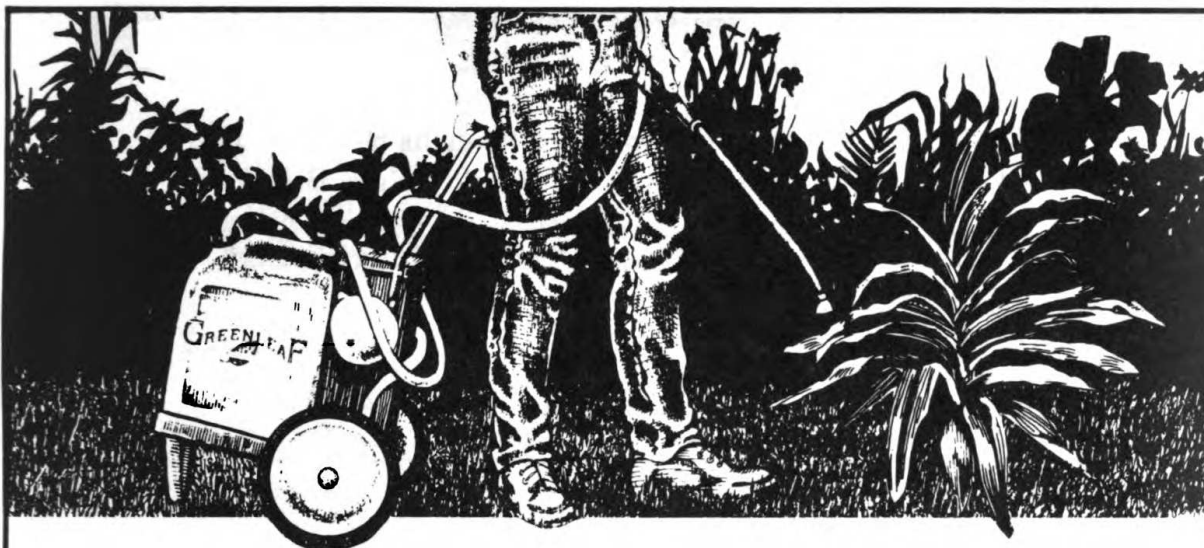
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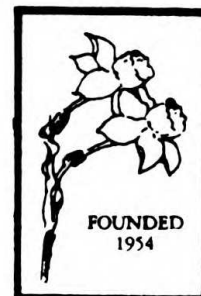
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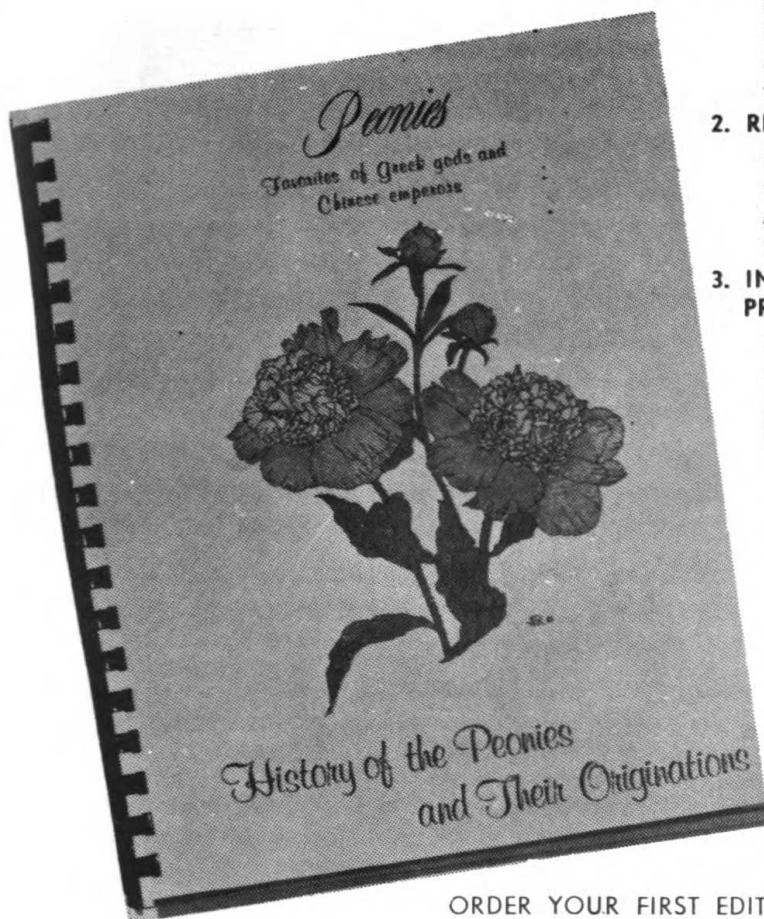
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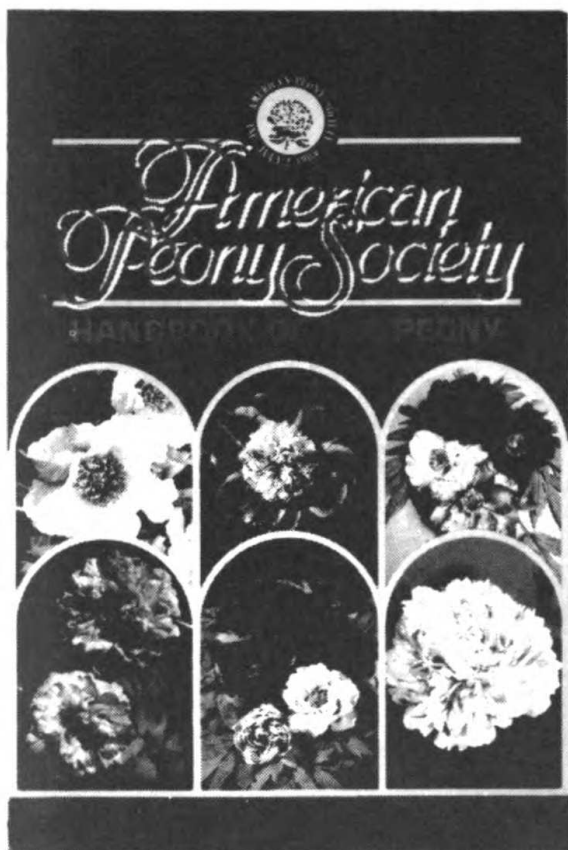


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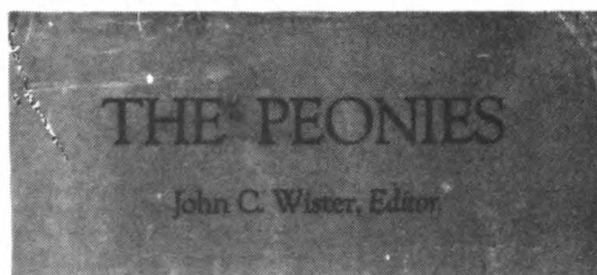
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DEPT. OF REGISTRATION

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

Greta M. Kessenich, Secretary

OBJECTIVES

The Articles of Incorporation state: Section (2) That the particular objects for which the corporation is to be formed are as follows: To increase the general interest in the cultivation and use of the Peony; to improve the methods of its cultivation and methods of placing it upon the market; to increase its use as a decorative flower; to bring about a more thorough understanding between those interested in its culture; to properly supervise the nomenclature of the different varieties and kinds of peonies; to stimulate the growing and introduction of improved seedlings and crosses of such flower; and to promote any kind of the general objects herein specified by holding or causing to be held exhibitions, and awarding or causing or procuring to be awarded, prizes therefor or in any other manner.

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

MEMBERSHIP

The By-Laws state: All reputable persons, professional or amateur, who are interested in the Peony; its propagation, culture, sale and development are eligible for membership. Dues are as follows:

Single Annual.....	\$ 7.50	Junior or member family.....	\$ 2.50
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