

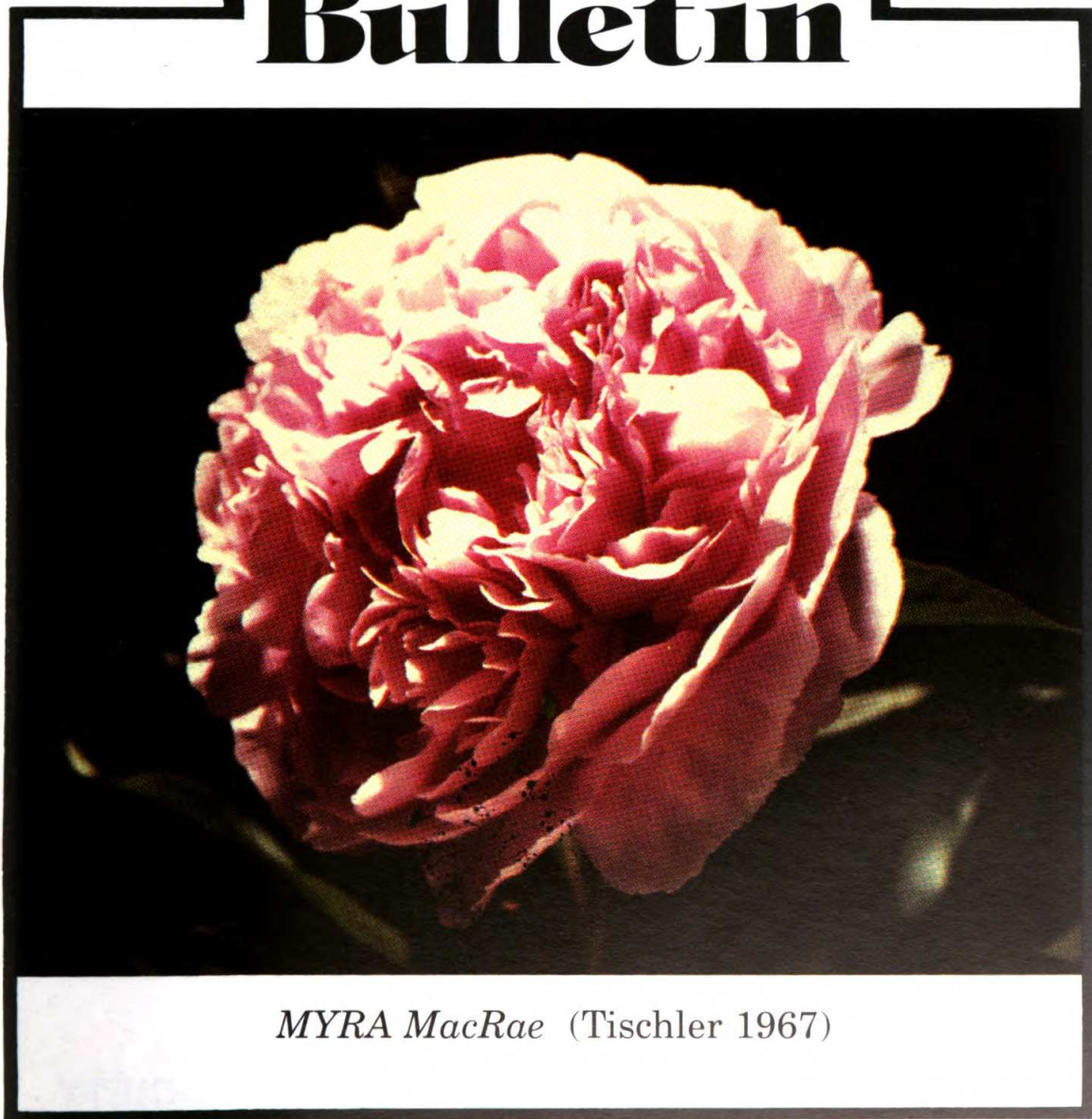
life sci

SEPTEMBER 1996

NO. 299



# The American Peony Society Bulletin



*MYRA MacRae* (Tischler 1967)

*Announcing*

The limited  
publication of  
a "TABLE TOP"  
edition devoted  
exclusively to

**AMERICAN**

**TREE  
PEONIES**



**Appended cultural notes cover:**

- *Tree Peony history*
- *Planting and general culture*
- *Propagation by root grafting of scions*
- *Pruning, fertilization, winter protection, etc.*

Compiled and edited by  
Greta M. Kessenich;  
photos by Roy Klehm  
and David Reath



## **63 BRILLIANT FULL COLOR PHOTOS**

True, tree peonies with their 1400 year history are not native to America. But a class of exceptional HYBRID tree peonies are. Efforts by seven world renowned American hybridizers\* who successfully cross-pollinated *P. Lutea* with *P. Suffructicosa* are covered in this limited edition. Photos are razor sharp in detail and reflect all the brilliance and subtle hues of these native Americans, including the new generation of ITOH's.

\* *A.P. Saunders, William Gratwick, Nassos Daphnis,  
David Reath, Toichi Domoto,  
Don Hollingsworth and Roger Anderson*

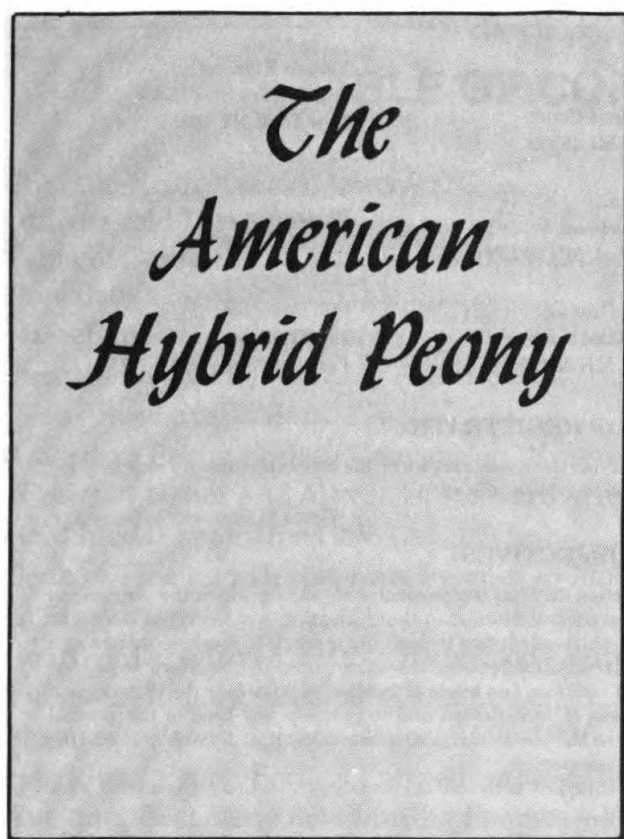
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**AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY**  
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REFERENCE VOLUME HIGHLIGHTING**

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## **Herbaceous Peonies in FULL COLOR!**

- **Photos—  
130 Herbaceous  
Hybrids  
32 Species**
- **All Named**
- **Biographical Data**
- **208 Pages**
- **6 5/8" x 9 1/4"**
- **Hard Cover —  
Embossed in Gold**

*Devised and  
Compiled by  
Greta M. Kessenich,  
Don Hollingsworth  
Hybridizing and  
Bibliography*

Ever since contemporary hybridizers unraveled the mysteries of cross pollinating peony species, hybrid crosses have received spellbound attention. This long-awaited effort adds to the excitement of growing peonies. Photos permit comparing your hybrids with those authenticated by the hybrid committee plus scores of sideline notes and general information. Be one of the first **\$25.00** to own this premiere edition, just . . . . . Postpaid

**Send check or money order to—**

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250 Interlachen Road, Hopkins, MN 55343

## AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

250 Interlachen Road (612) 938-4706 Hopkins, MN 55343

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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 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 post-paid 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
Family Annual .....10.00	Commercial membership .....25.00
Family Triennial .....27.50	

Family membership, any two related members in same household .....One Bulletin  
 Junior membership, any age through completion of high school .....Separate Bulletin

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

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





# AMERICAN Peony Society Bulletin



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September 1996 — NO. 299

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Society Members,

I am honored to be the APS President and would like to thank my fellow APS Board members for their support.

Also, I thank everyone for their kind and sympathetic writings about my father's passing. He is greatly missed here, and has touched all of his children and grandchildren with his interests in horticulture. He has left behind a treasure of peony seedlings to be evaluated—a joyful job for Liz and I. Finding the seedling deserving of the name "**Dr. David Reath**" will take some time. He has also left behind many advanced generation fertile hybrids of both tree and herbaceous peonies, therefore, the hybridizing continues here. With such good parents, the hybridizer's job is much easier and productive.

We should all be thankful for the "work" that peony hybridizers the world over have done. My hats off to them all. What a spectacular flower!

It was enjoyable to see old friends and meet other peony connoisseurs at the national show in Mansfield, Ohio. Many exhibitors were not able to bring as many blooms as they would have liked because of the late Midwest Spring, but the blooms shown were beautiful. Congratulations to the winners!

What an unusually late bloom season here in Vulcan, Michigan. At least two weeks later than average with lots of rain and cool temperatures. Growing conditions are excellent but flowering delayed. It is July 24th and some of the late blooming lutea hybrids are still giving an occasional bloom. I have been waiting for one of Dad's new tree peony seedlings to open, and today L-16-96 finally opened. A yellow double with red edging. Late because of its young age and the weather, but still a nice treat for the end of the bloom season.

May we all acknowledge appreciation to Greta for the tremendous amount of work she does for the good of the Society. Wonderful *Bulletins*, books, and responses to the endless questions. Thank you, Greta, for all you do.

Sincerely,  
R. Scott Reath

### Bulletin Cover:

**MYRA MacRae** is a very beautiful peony named for a great lady that is now living in retirement. The flower is a medium pink, the buds opening to a very large soft mellow ball, 8-9 inches in diameter. The plant has very strong stems, 36 inches in height, which adequately hold this large flower. It is floriferous, standing tall as it beckons all to stop and enjoy its magnificent bloom, that radiates the glamour of the full double peonies. This year at Kingwood Center in Mansfield, Ohio, **Myra MacRae** was one of the peonies nominated to be considered for the Gold Medal.

# MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION ON PEONY CULTURE

*by William H. Krekler*

In Ohio, after the frost kills the top of the peony in September, we think this is the best time to transplant herbaceous peonies. We have always planted from August first until the soil froze hard, about Thanksgiving time, but the September plantings were always the best. Their buds were fully developed then and they still had time to make roots before the ground froze.

In California, there is no frost to kill the tops, so they should be cut to the ground in Autumn to force a rest period. It is advisable to plant peonies on the north side of buildings in that area. It is not so hot and the soil will not dry out so quickly. Water frequently.

\* \* \* \* \*

In new plantings, a mulch will help avoid heaving. A mulch is not to keep a new plant warm but only to keep the soil frozen. It keeps the sunshine from contacting the soil and thus thawing it.

Every time the soil thaws and then freezes, that night it pulls up the plant, little by little. Do not let it thaw.

Grass clippings, leaves, and fine mulches pack down and cut off air, which may cause mold, rot, and hold too much moisture.

Coarse mulches such as corn stalks, evergreen boughs, excelsior, a thin layer of straw, will shade the soil yet will permit air to the surface.

Never use hay, as the seed will grow and you will have a meadow to hoe out later.

\* \* \* \* \*

After a peony clump has been washed clean and diseased parts (if any) cut out, cut roots back to about six inches in length.

When digging, why try to get long roots, as they will be cut off later! Most generally, you can cut at least one division off the side of the clump. The remainder of the clump can usually be cut in two or perhaps three nearly equal parts. Use a short sharp butcher or small hunting knife, but do not cut until you have carefully figured where to cut, so you will have an equal number of buds on each part. Now with a good sharp peeling or pocket knife make remaining divisions, providing any can be made with buds on each one. Always cut away from your holding hand. Should your knife hit an unseen soft rotten place and suddenly zip through, your hand would not be in its path. My hand has many scars attesting to my being in too much of a hurry. Always cover the thumb of your hand that holds the knife with a thumb guard—easily obtained from cutting a finger or thumb out of a tough old leather glove. Always use, as you cut toward it, in trimming a division.

\* \* \* \* \*

**LABEL YOUR PLANTS.** Every variety is marked with a one by four-inch heavy plastic vinyl label, on which the name is written with a common soft lead pencil. It is then varnished (not shellaced) over the pencil marks, so later the soil can be rubbed off the label, with thumb without smudging the pencil marks. These tags are pinned to the ground, in the row with a galvanized nine-inch long gutter nail that has a rather big head. My Gravely mower can cut off peony tops in Autumn and pass above these labels without harming them. These labels last for many years. Always keep a record book in case some mischievous youngster pulls up your nail stake.

\* \* \* \* \*

Peony divisions may be kept in bushel baskets containing barely moist old sawdust until ready to ship or plant. Fresh new sawdust will heat and be too hot. Sawdust too wet, will rot roots. Never put sawdust in a trench or hole with peony roots as this may cause them to dry. It may be put on top of the soil as a light mulch. I use sawdust an inch or so deep on seeds that I have sprinkled on top of a bed. Place seeds about one-inch apart. This sawdust helps prevent soil drying, and weed seeds from sprouting. (Keep seedlings weeded and transplant in two years, in rows.)

★ ★ ★ ★

## PEONIES FOR THE MARKET

*by Harry F. Little, Past Master in the connoisseur of the peony*

Ever since old *Paeonia officinalis rubra* first found place in our grandmothers' gardens, the peony has been highly esteemed as the Decoration Day flower. Its easy culture, its early blooming-time, and its large and showy blossoms have made it the most dependable and the most appreciated of all outdoor plants for this purpose. On this account, more than any other, peonies were first widely planted, and even now the first peonies in many gardens are planted to furnish Decoration Day flowers. Much of the present-day popularity of the peony must be credited to this appreciation of its cut blooms.

As cut-flowers, peonies have long enjoyed a ready market whenever they were available for Decoration Day sale and other seasonable events, but until recent years their sale was limited to the more or less local demand and was restricted to a short season. They were a comparatively unimportant item on the wholesale markets and were seldom seen in the florists' shops.

With the advent of cold storage, the peony, as a market flower, quickly came into its own, and today it holds a commercial place along with the gladiolus and the rose. Peonies have proved so adaptable to cold-storage handling that their normal season of less than



three crowded weeks is now extended over as many months. When cut in the bud and properly handled, peonies can be held in storage for many weeks and opened at will in perfect form. On the wholesale market, peonies are now available from the time the first flowers from the South arrive, in early May, until the storage blooms from the North are exhausted in late August.

While the peony is still most appreciated as a Decoration Day flower, and its sale is greatest for that occasion, its market has broadened with its possibilities. Peonies are now an important item in the floral shops throughout their season and are widely sold for all occasions. They are particularly appreciated for wedding and church decoration and for all events where a mass display of gorgeous bloom is desired. Peonies from storage are shipped to southern markets where the plants themselves will not grow, and experimental shipments have proved that their transportation to foreign markets is entirely practicable.

With the increasing demand for peony blooms, almost every available variety is being tested for storage qualities, and much information is now being obtained. Some of the choicest garden peonies do not behave well under cold-storage handling, while certain varieties with mediocre ratings hold long and, when removed from storage, open into finer flowers than when developed on the plant. Storage qualities have become an important consideration in determining the ultimate appraisal of new peonies. While newer and finer varieties will undoubtedly replace the old ones as the profitable commercial kinds of the future, certain old peonies have played such an important part in the development of the cut-flower market and have such remarkable storage qualities that they will long retain their place on the desirable cut-flower list and deserve special mention.

Under these broadened market possibilities, the culture of peonies for cut-flowers has made rapid progress. Commercial plantings have been made in all parts of the country where peonies thrive. Quantities of blooms are now shipped in season from Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, southern Indiana, Virginia, and Maryland for storage and sale in the cities of the North; and there is hardly a market of importance in the country that does not have some local cut-flower planting to help supply the growing demand for peonies. Smaller plantings for the roadside sale of flowers are rapidly being developed along the highways, which will play no small part in the peony sales of the future.

Certain important features are essential to a good commercial peony. First, it must be a flower of good form and color that is beautiful in bud and at all stages of its development to a full open flower. Varieties with streaked or so-called "candy" buds are objectionable to the florists. A fully double flower is preferable to one that shows sta-

mens, as these sometimes discolor in storage. Then, it must be a free and reliable bloomer and of strong, vigorous growth that will withstand the shock of continued cutting each season. It should have stems of good length with low-set foliage so that, after cutting the flowers with sufficient stems, at least two leaves will remain on the plant. A variety with a single bud, or with few laterals, is preferable to one that blooms in clusters, as it saves labor of disbudding. Last but not least, a good commercial variety must hold up well in cold storage and open in good form. In general, double flowers with globular centers like **Edulis Superba**, **Monsieur Jules Elie** and **Felix Crousse**, have proven best.

Careful consideration should be given to the establishment of a new commercial peony planting. Such a planting becomes a permanent investment, and while it is slow to become established and cannot be counted on for a profitable return until its third or fourth year, it should increase in value and return larger dividends each year thereafter. With proper care and cultivation, it should thrive for many years and yield a bigger and better crop after twenty or twenty-five years, than before. With this in mind, its location should be chosen with care, so that it will not have to be disturbed when once established. It should be near to market or handy to transportation facilities, so that the crop can be quickly and cheaply handled. And what is of even greater importance, it should be planted in soil that has the best possible drainage. Peonies will not do well where under-drainage is poor or where water stands about their roots during any portion of the year. In wet locations, the roots will become affected with destructive rots, or they may suffer from heaving by the frost that will prove much more costly to an old planting than an initial cost of drainage.

The ground should be well prepared in advance and built up to a high state of fertility. This is best done by plowing under vegetation and then sowing a green cover-crop of soybeans or buckwheat, to be plowed under in midsummer. Only good healthy roots of the best recommended commercial varieties should be planted. Plant in rows 3 1/2 to 4 feet apart each way, to permit convenient cross cultivation. A handful of bone-meal, thoroughly mixed with the loose soil in the bottom of each hole when planting, will pay. With frequent and thorough cultivation, no further fertilization will be needed for four or five years. Thereafter, a feeding of bone-meal or balanced commercial fertilizer, scattered between the rows and worked in with the cultivation in the Spring, each two years, will help keep the soil up to normal fertility. Beware of force-feeding and over-fertilization. Frequent cultivation is the best fertilizer for healthy peonies.

No attempt should be made to cut market flowers until the planting is at least three years old. The foliage is of far greater value to the young plants than any cash return from the flowers. In cutting

blooms, even from established plants, it must be remembered that ample foliage is necessary to the vitality of the plants. Experienced growers find it advisable always to leave at least three stems uncut on each plant to support the roots.

For the wholesale market, peonies are cut in the bud with stems at least 15 inches long, and as much longer as the variety will permit. The foliage is stripped off, from the lower half of the stem and the buds are tied in bundles of one dozen or thirteen each for convenient handling, being careful that the stems of each bundle are of uniform length. The exact stage at which the buds are best cut varies with the different varieties and depends somewhat on how the flowers are to be marketed. This is a matter that must be learned from experience.

There are many varieties of peonies used for cut flowers. For the commercial grower selling to the florist, the colors most generally asked for are the white, pink and red.

Some varieties that have been proven to be good storage flowers are: white—Mme De Vernville, Charlies White, Elsa Sass and Florence Nicholls; pink—Mons Jules Elie, Sarah Bernhardt; red—Big Ben, David Harum, Karl Rosenfield, Felix Supreme, and Kansas.

Information from 'Cut Peonies,' by the late Clarence Lienau

★ ★ ★ ★

## PEONY SEED

*Peony seed available from our seed bank. The seed is free for the asking—\$2.00 is asked for postage and packaging, address below.*

1. Lactiflora — mixed colors
2. Advanced generation tetraploid — mix
3. Tetraploid seed from red clones
4. Macrophylla — white and some pink
5. Tetraploid from yellow flowered plants
6. Roy Pehrson's Best yellow F2
7. A few suffruticosa — T.P.'s

### **Please send to:**

Dr. Kent Crossley, 4245 Delaware, St. Paul, MN 55118,

OR Chris Laning, 553 West F Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49004

As you read this *Bulletin*, with so many of the registrations of herbaceous peonies and tree peonies, every one was grown from a seed, and now the results.

# AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY CONVENTION THE 93RD ANNUAL MEETING AND THE 91ST ANNUAL EXHIBITION KINGWOOD CENTER, MANSFIELD, OHIO JUNE 7, 8, 9, 1996 COURT OF HONOR

Grand Champion—**Nancy Nichols**—Don Hollingsworth  
 Best Double Lactiflora, White—**Mother's Choice**—Don Hollingsworth  
 Best Double Lactiflora, Blush—**Nancy Nichols**—Don Hollingsworth  
 Best Double Lactiflora, Lt. Pink—**James Pillow**—Don Hollingsworth  
 Best Double Lactiflora, Dk. Pink—**Vivid Rose**—Don Hollingsworth  
 Best Double Lactiflora, Red—**Paul M. Wild**—Don Hollingsworth  
 Best Bomb Lactiflora, Any Color—**Raspberry Sundae**—Calvin Helsley  
 Best Semi-Double Lactiflora, Any Color—**Minnie Shaylor**—Don Hollingsworth  
 Best Single Lactiflora, Any Color—**Seashell**—Calvin Helsley  
 Best Hybrid or Species, Double, Any Color—**Summer Glow**—Don Hollingsworth  
 Best Hybrid or Species, Semi-Double, Any Color—**Cytharea**—Calvin Helsley  
 Best Hybrid or Species, Single, Any Color—**Golden Glow**—Joe Glocka  
 Best Hybrid or Species, Japanese, Any Color—**Show Girl**—Don Hollingsworth  
 Best Tree Peony, Lutea, Any Type or Color—**Tria**—Floyd Kimball  
 Best Tree Peony, Japanese, Any Type or Color—**Kamada Nishiki**—Joe Glocka  
 Best Itoh Hybrid, Any Color—**Garden Treasure**—Don Hollingsworth  
 Best Collection of Twenty-five Peonies—American Peony Society Award—Don Hollingsworth  
 Best Collection of Fifteen Herbaceous Peonies—American Peony Society Award—Robert G. Wise  
 Best Collection of Ten Herbaceous Hybrid Peonies—American Peony Society Award—Joe Glocka  
 Best Collection of Ten Tree Peonies—American Peony Society Award—John Simkins  
 Best Collection of Five Japanese Type Peonies, Lactiflora Only—Don Hollingsworth

## DIVISION I. OPEN TO ALL EXHIBITORS

Class 101—Twenty-five varieties any color or type. One bloom in separate container.



First Award—Don Hollingsworth

**Paul M. Wild, Jubilation, James Pillow, Florence Nicholls, LaLorraine, Alice Harding, My Love, Mme de Verniville, President Taft, Nancy Nicholls, Amalia Olson, Garden Treasure, Sweet Melody, Show Girl, Color Magnet, Cytherea, Prairie Charm, Mahogany, Flame, Red Red Rose, Karen Gray, Cherry Ruffles, Red Grace, Command Performance, Florence Nicholls** (2 entered in this Class)

Class 102—Fifteen varieties, herbaceous only, any color or type

First Award—Robert G. Wise

**Clear Call, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Nippon Chief, Raspberry Sundae, Alstead, Top Brass, Orange Glory, Helen, Mighty Mo, Paula Fay, Peppermint, Detroit, Early Scout, Mons Jules Elie, Nippon Parade**

Class 103—Ten Varieties herbaceous hybrids only, any type or color

First Award—Joe Glocka

**Seraphim, Athena, Rosalette, Laddie, Claire deLune, Illini Belle, Golden Glow, Edward Steichen, Fantasia, Tenuifolia, Ruba Plena**

Class 104—Ten varieties Tree Peonies only, any type or color

First Award—John Simkins

**Bugakoden, Rocks Variety, Hana Asobi, Nishiki Jishu, Akebono, Nishi No ume, Shintowen, Shushi no Teragama, Horen, Anya no Hikari**

Class 105—Five varieties Japanese lactiflora only, any color

First Award—Don Hollingsworth

**Garden Lace, Nippon Gold, Polor Star, Nippon Brilliant, Le Charm**

No entries in Classes 106, 201, 301, 501, 502, 503, 504

**THREE BLOOMS—ONE VARIETY LACTIFLORA ONLY, IN ONE CONTAINER**

Class 110—Double White

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Mother's Choice**
2. Charlotte Wilhelm—**Mrs. J. H. Neeley**
3. Don Hollingsworth—**Amalia Olson**

Class 111—Double Blush

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Frances Mains**
2. Don Hollingsworth—**My Love**

3. Don Hollingsworth—**LaLorraine**
4. Don Hollingsworth—**My Love**

Class 112—Double Light Pink

1. Don Hollingsworth—**James H. Pillow**
2. Don Hollingsworth—**Florence Nichols**
3. Don Hollingsworth—**Florence Nichols**
4. Don Hollingsworth—**James H. Pillow**

Class 113—Double Dark Pink

1. Charlotte Wilhelm—**The Fawn**
2. Don Hollingsworth—**Vivid Rose**
3. Don Hollingsworth—**Princess Margaret**
4. Charlotte Wilhelm—**Blanche King**

Class 114—Double Red

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Paul M. Wild**
2. Don Hollingsworth—**Jubilation**
3. Don Hollingsworth—**Matilda Lewis**
4. Don Hollingsworth—**Paul M. Wild**

Class 115—Semi-Double White or Blush

1. Robert G. Wise—**Minnie Shaylor**
2. Don Hollingsworth—**Minnie Shaylor**
3. Don Hollingsworth—**Miss America**

Class 116—Semi-Double Pink

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Sweet Melody**

Class 117—Semi-Double Red

1. Robert G. Wise—**Mighty Mo**

Class 118—Bomb—Pink

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Angel Cheeks**
2. Robert G. Wise—**Mons Jules Elie**

Class 118C—Bomb—Red

1. Robert G. Wise—**Big Ben**

Class 119—Japanese White or Blush

1. Don Hollingsworth—**White Sands**
2. Don Hollingsworth—**Primevere**
3. Don Hollingsworth—**Gertrude Allen**

Class 120—Japanese Pink

1. Robert G. Wise—**Alstead**

## 2. Robert G. Wise—**Golden Dawn**

### Class 121—Japanese Red

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Charm**
2. Hollingsworth—**Karen Gray**

### Class 122—Single White or Blush

3. Don Hollingsworth—**Spellbinder**

### Class 123—Single Pink

No Entries

### Class 124—Single Red

No Entries

## **ONE BLOOM, LACTIFLORA ONLY**

### Class 130—Double White

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Amalia Olson**
2. Don Hollingsworth—**Mother's Choice**
3. Don Hollingsworth—**Mother's Choice**
4. Don Hollingsworth—**Amalia Olson**

### Class 131—Double Blush

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Frances Mains**
2. Don Hollingsworth—**Frances Mains**
3. Don Hollingsworth—**Nancy Nichols**
4. Don Hollingsworth—**Nancy Nichols**

### Class 132—Double Light Pink

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Hargrove Hudson**
2. Charlotte Wilhelm—**Nancy Dolman**
3. Don Hollingsworth—**Florence Nichols**
4. Don Hollingsworth—**Pillow Talk**

### Class 133—Double Dark Pink

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Vivid Rose**
2. Charlotte Wilhelm—**The Fawn**
3. Charlotte Wilhelm—**Blanche King**
4. Don Hollingsworth—**Vivid Rose**

### Class 134—Double Red

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Matilda Lewis**
2. Don Hollingsworth—**Paul M. Wild**
3. Don Hollingsworth—**Matilda Lewis**

Class 135—Semi-Double White or Blush

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Minnie Shaylor**
2. Don Hollingsworth—**Miss America**

Class 136—Semi-Double Pink

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Sweet Melody**
2. Don Hollingsworth—**Sweet Melody**

Class 137—Semi-Double Red

No Entries

Class 138—Bomb White or Blush

1. Robert G. Wise—**Eastern Star**
2. Robert G. Wise—**Raspberry Sundae**

Class 139—Bomb Pink

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Angel Cheeks**

Class 140—Bomb Red

No Entries

Class 141—Japanese White or Blush

1. Robert G. Wise—**Clear Call**
2. Don Hollingsworth—**Moon of Nippon**
3. Don Hollingsworth—**Jan Van Leeuwen**

Class 142—Japanese Pink

2. Don Hollingsworth—**Garden Lace**

Class 143—Japanese Red

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Charm**
2. Calvin Helsley—**Ray Payton**
3. Don Hollingsworth—**Karen Gray**
4. Robert G. Wise—**Nippon Parade**

Class 144—Single White or Blush

No Entries

Class 145—Single Pink

No Entries

Class 146—Single Red

No Entries

**THREE BLOOMS, ONE VARIETY HERBACEOUS HYBRIDS  
OR SPECIES, IN ONE CONTAINER**



Class 150—Double or Semi-Double White, Blush or Yellow

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Summer Glow**
2. Chris Laning—**Sunny Boy**
3. Chris Laning—**Sunny Girl**

Class 151—Double or Semi-Double Coral

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Lovely Rose**

Class 152—Double or Semi-Double Pink

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Cytharea**
2. Chris Laning—**Lois' Choice**

Class 153—Double or Semi-Double Red

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Many Happy Returns**
2. Don Hollingsworth—**Red Red Rose**
3. Don Hollingsworth—**Command Performance**

Class 154—Japanese, Any Color

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Show Girl**

Class 155—Single Yellow

1. Floyd Kimball—**Claire de Lune**
2. Joe Glocka—**Athena**
4. Joe Glocka—**Rushlite**

Class 156—Single White or Blush

1. Chris Laning—**Garden Peace**

Class 157—Single Coral

No Entries

Class 158—Single Pink

1. John Simkins—**Roselette**
3. Joe Glocka—**Roselette**

Class 159—Single Red

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Burma Ruby**
2. Don Hollingsworth—**Burma Ruby**
3. Joe Glocka—**Laddie**
4. Joe Glocka—**Tenuifolia Rubra Simplex**

Class 159A—Itoh Hybrid, Any Color

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Garden Treasure**
2. Don Hollingsworth—**Garden Treasure**
3. Chris Laning—**Yellow Heaven**

## ONE BLOOM, HERBACEOUS HYBRID OR SPECIES

### Class 160—Double or Semi-Double Yellow

1. Chris Laning—**Sunny Boy**
2. Charles Kroell—**Prairie Moon**
3. Don Hollingsworth—**Prairie Moon**

### Class 161—Double or Semi-Double White or Blush

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Summer Glow**

### Class 162—Double or Semi-Double Coral

No Entries

### Class 163—Double or Semi-Double Pink

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Cytharea**
2. Don Hollingsworth—**Cytharea**
3. Charles Kroell—**Paula Fay**
3. Chris Laning—**Lois' Choice**
4. Robert G. Wise—**Paula Fay**

### Class 164—Single or Semi-Double Red

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Red Red Rose**
2. Charles Kroell—**Illini Belle**
3. Robert G. Wise—**Red Glory**

### Class 164—Double or Bomb Red

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Command Performance**
2. Don Hollingsworth—**Red Grace**
3. Robert G. Wise—**Diana Parks**

### Class 165—Japanese, Any Color

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Show Girl**

### Class 166—Single Yellow

1. Floyd Kimball—**Claire de Lune**
2. Charles Kroell—**Moonrise**
3. Charles Kroell—**Pehrson's Best Yellow**

### Class 167—Single White or Blush

1. Charles Kroell—**Garden Peace**

### Class 168—Single Coral

1. Robert G. Wise—**Cytharea**

### Class 169—Single Pink

1. Joe Glocka—**Roselette**

## 2. Floyd Kimball—**Firelight**

### Class 169A—Single Red

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Mahogany**
2. Don Hollingsworth—**Mahogany**
3. Joe Glocka—**Tenuifolia Rubra Simplex**

### Class 169B—Itoh Hybrid, Any Color

1. Don Hollingsworth—**Garden Treasure**
2. Chris Laning—**Yellow Heaven**
3. Don Hollingsworth—**Garden Treasure**

## **THREE BLOOMS, ONE VARIETY, TREE PEONIES ONLY, IN ONE CONTAINER**

### Class 170B—Japanese (Moutan) White, Semi-Double

2. John Simkins—**Rock's Variety**

### Class 171B—Japanese (Moutan) Pink, Semi-Double

2. C. F. Spangler—**Shintenchi**

### Class 176A—Lutea Hybrid, Yellow, Single

1. Floyd Kimball—**Tria**

### Class 185A—Japanese (Moutan) White, Single

1. John Simkins—**Rock's II**
2. John Simkins—**Rock's II**

### Class 185B—Japanese (Moutan) White, Semi-Double

1. Charles Kroell—**Gabisan**
2. John Simkins—**Haku Gam**

### Class 186A—Japanese (Moutan) Pink, Single

1. Pam Dewey—**Lilith**

### Class 186B—Japanese (Moutan) Pink, Semi-Double

1. Charles Kroell—**Shintenchi**
2. John Simkins—**Ko Sakura**
3. C. F. Spangler—**Shintenchi**

### Class 186C—Japanese (Moutan) Pink, Double

2. John Simkins—**Nishiki No Umi**

### Class 188B—Japanese (Moutan) Violet, Semi-Double

1. John Simkins—**Haru No Akasuki**

Class 189A—Japanese (Moutan) Maroon, Single

1. John Simkins—**Sumi Zome Nishiki**
2. John Simkins—**Shigyoko Den**

Class 189B—Japanese (Moutan) Maroon, Semi-Double

1. John Simkins—**Tashow No Hikari**

Class 195B—Lutea Hybrid, Dark Red, Semi-Double

1. Pam Dewey—**Hephestos**

**SEEDLINGS AND NEW VARIETIES**

Class 401—Three Blooms in One Container, Not Currently Introduced (7 Entries)

**H.M.** John Simkins—Seedling 92-4

**H.M.** Chris Laning

Class 403—One Bloom—Display Only (10 Entries)

**ARTISTIC DESIGN (1 Entry)**

Class 6—Japan

1. Gladys Garvey



## Gold Medal 1996

**GARDEN TREASURE**—(Hollingsworth). Here it is, a beautiful yellow herbaceous peony awarded the Gold Medal in 1996. **Garden Treasure** is as the name implies, a treasure in the garden. It illuminates and radiates in sending out a warmth with its rich golden color. The flower is a semi-double with over 40 or more ruffled and fluted petals. Each petal looks as if it had been carved and carefully placed so as to form a perfect flower. There is a small red flare at the base of the bloom. The plant is strong, growing to about 28" in height, with good stem strength that holds this large flower above the foliage. It will endure the extreme cold in Winter, also other temperature variations, as this peony is a cross between a herbaceous and a tree peony. It has the beautiful foliage of the tree peony, but it is herbaceous. Cut the foliage off in the Fall. **Garden Treasure** first bloomed in 1972 and was registered in 1984. This Gold Medal peony takes its place of honor on the pedestal with all its charm, grace, and the color of gold.



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# IN MEMORIAM

## BROTHER CHARLES RECKAMP 1905-1996

A short time ago, a genuinely good person and fine horticulturist went to heaven. Brother Charles Reckamp passed away on May 6, 1996. He was 91 years of age.

He was born and raised on a small farm in Missouri into a large family. He had 10 or so brothers and sisters, and 10 or so half-brothers and sisters. He told me that his mother and step-mother both were angels. In those days, there were few options for young farm people without a high school education so he opted to join the missionary order of The Society of Divine Word in Techny, Illinois. He took his vows in 1926 but never did leave to serve as a missionary. Instead, he was chosen to initiate and operate the order's nursery and flower operation. This he managed as Mission Gardens until it closed in 1974.

Through his love of flowers, Brother Charles, however, did become an international missionary by creating his beautiful iris and hemerocallis hybrids. Gardens everywhere are blessed by his excellent creations, many of which have religious names. In his later years, Brother Charles worked extensively with tetraploid daylilies and is credited with bringing extensive ruffling into the hemerocallis palette.

His love for herbaceous and woody peonies was evident as he always kept a few rows of peonies to enjoy and divide, and replant some each Fall. He had rare stocks of Saunders tree peonies which he gave to David Reath and Roy Klehm for propagation. He was always cheerful and generous with his knowledge, advice, and plant stocks.

Brother Charles found and introduced three evergreen clones into the nursery trade. 'Mission' Arborvitae was found by him as a chance seedling in 1944 and introduced about 1950 to Northern Illinois nurseries. This variety has since spread worldwide and is a major, useful plant for landscapes and gardens. 'Mission' Blue Spruce and 'Missionspire' Upright Juniper are also his selections.

In talking to him his last few weeks he was here, he felt totally fulfilled to have spent his life combining his two burning quests...his religion and his love of plants. He also told me that he was always so busy that his years went fast. He told me he was looking forward to being reunited with all of his brothers and sisters from both his family and the order. He assured me that he "would put in a good word for me."

On his last day I happened to visit him and while I was talking and praying with him, I was struck with the simple little picture above his bed. It read "Nothing shall separate me from the love of God." Nothing ever did.

With humility and a quiet feeling of honor and privilege, I will continue to introduce his fine hybrids and work with his breeding lines to continue his legacy.

Submitted by Roy Klehm

★ ★ ★ ★

## J. FRANKLIN STYER

BEND, ORE.—J. Franklin Styer, a longtime nurseryman who developed peony farms in the Town of Geneva and in Seneca County, died Monday (Jan. 1996) at his home in Bend, Ore.

Memorial contributions may be sent to the Central Oregon Community College Foundation, 2600 NW College Way, Bend, OR 97701.

Mr. Styer was born Nov. 27, 1900, in Concordville, PA. He attended Swarthmore College and graduated from Penn State University in 1922 with a bachelor's degree. In 1930, he received his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. He spent his working career as the owner of Styer's Nurseries in Concordville, a retail nursery. Mr. Styer grew peonies on farms in North Carolina, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. His New York farms were located in Seneca County, on Prospect Hill Road in Geneva, and in Oswego County from 1941-1978. All of Mr. Styer's farms were named after Native American tribes. Mr. Styer developed many varieties of cut-flower peonies, several of which are named after his family members. His Geneva farm remains in operation on Sutton Road. A nationally known grower, Mr. Styer was extremely active in several service organizations and in higher education, establishing a professorship and scholarships at Penn State. He was a regular contributor of scholarships to Central Oregon Community College. He was also active in several national nurserymen organizations, as well as numerous cooperative grower associations, several soil and water conservation boards, and the Concordville and Bend Rotary Clubs. Mr. Styer received many awards for his distinguished service in nursery associations.

Mr. Styer is survived by his son, John Franklin Styer, Jr., of Cochranville, PA; his daughter, Ann S. Aines of Bend, OR; two grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

*Mansfield, Ohio — June 9, 1996*

The Board of Directors of the American Peony Society met at the Kingwood Center gate house on Sunday morning at 8:30 a.m.

The roll call showed the following directors present: **John Simpkins**, Oakville, Ontario; **Chris Laning**, Kalamazoo, Michigan; **Scott Reath**, Vulcan, Michigan; **Joe Glocka**, West Allis, Wisconsin; **Don Hollingsworth**, Maryville, Missouri; **Vernon Kidd**, New York City; **Gus Sindt**, Afton, Minnesota; **Irvin Ewing**, Redford, Michigan; **Floyd Kimball**, Stillwater, Minnesota; **Robert Wise**, Sidney, Ohio; **Carroll Spangler**, Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin; and **Leila Bradfield**, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

President Leila Bradfield called the meeting to order and asked for nominations for next years' officers. Don Hollingsworth nominated Scott Reath for president, seconded by Floyd Kimball. Irvin Ewing nominated Carroll Spangler for vice president, seconded by Floyd Kimball. No other names were nominated so Scott Reath and Carroll

Spangler were declared the president and vice president for the coming year. Greta Kessenich will continue as Secretary/Treasurer and *Bulletin* Editor.

**Old Business:** Discussion was held about the merits of producing a quality video about growing and showing peonies. The video could be rented or purchased at a reasonable cost from the Society. This topic has surfaced in previous years but nothing has been produced as of this date.

Ways of getting recent Gold Medal Peony Winners publicized nationally was also discussed, but nothing was decided. One option was to put the new Gold Medal winner on the cover of the *Bulletin*.

**New Business:** Discussions were held on the criteria for awarding the Gold Medal. Several suggestions were offered, but the Board elected to table discussion for another time. After nominating **Red Grace, Nancy Nichols, White Charm, Etched Salmon, Annisquam, Myra MacRae, Yellow Dream** and **Garden Treasure**, the Board voted the 1996 Gold Medal to **Garden Treasure**.

A change in the classification of Division I of the National Exhibition was noted. Gus Sindt moved that Class 102 be changed to 15 varieties any color lactiflora doubles, bombs and semi-doubles only. Irvin Ewing seconded the motion and the motion carried, and Class 102 will be changed for the next National Show.

Joe Glocka brought up the idea of setting up a special table at the next show honoring great peony hybridizers. Exhibitors would bring a variety or two of the particular hybridizer chosen for that year's show. The idea received favorable merit but nothing was decided.

Joe brought forth another idea which also was well accepted. He suggested a special table showing the casual observer at a National Show the differences in the classes of peonies. You could begin with the Herbaceous Singles, Japanese, Doubles, Semi-Doubles and Hybrids, along with the Tree Peonies. Various colors of each would add to the exhibit. You could end with a pictorial of how peonies are hybridized. This would help educate the general public.

Registration of duplicate varieties was discussed but was quietly referred to the nomenclature committee for possible solutions.

As the clock approached 11:00 a.m., Chris Laning moved we adjourn, someone seconded, and out-going President, Leila Bradfield, declared the meeting adjourned.

Secretary Pro-tem,  
Robert Wise

## TO KINGWOOD CENTER, MANSFIELD, OHIO.

Thank you for the hospitality and all services so freely given to the American Peony Society at the time of our convention and exhibition. Special acknowledgement to Bill Collins for his assistance when arrangements were made for this event and also for directing the physical work necessary for the peony exhibition.

# AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### June 1, 1995 - June 1, 1996

Balance on Hand, June 1, 1995.....\$71,129.15

**Receipts:**

Membership Dues .....	\$	9,945.17
Advertising .....		387.50
A.P.S. Auction .....		1,341.00
Nomenclature Registration .....		251.00
Contributions .....		<u>5,000.00</u>
.....	\$	16,924.67

**Publications:**

Handbooks .....	\$	2,659.33
"The Peonies" .....		872.00
History of Peonies and Their Originations.		460.00
Book, A.P.S. "75 Years" .....		510.00
Book, Peonies 1976-1986 .....		190.00
American Tree Peony Book.....		1,062.00
American Hybrid Peony Book .....		<u>1,275.00</u>
.....	\$	7,028.33

**Interest on Savings** ..... \$ 2,432.96

**Total Receipts.** .....\$26,385.96

**Disbursements:**

<b>Publications — Four Bulletins</b>		
(June, September, December, March) .....	\$	7,945.97
American Peony Postage .....		3,328.71
Office Supplies.....		638.14
Exhibitions .....		317.22
Printing.....		3,619.89
Miscellaneous .....		155.61

**Total Disbursements** .....\$16,005.54

**Balance on Hand, June 1, 1996**.....\$81,509.57

Greta M. Kessenich,  
Secretary/Treasurer

# AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY REPORT

## 1995-1996

This has been an exceptionally busy year. Membership changes from year to year and many new gardeners are enrolled. Some of the main questions are: How to start a peony garden? How to start a commercial peony garden? How to grow peonies, in general?

**The Handbook of the Peony** is most informative on all aspects of peony growing. It was necessary to reprint it, now the seventh edition. No changes were made in the book.

**The International Code of Nomenclature** for cultivated plants was published this year in England. We follow the code in registering peonies. The American Peony Society has been recognized for our Checklists.

The first Checklist, "*History of Peonies and their Origination*," dates from the beginning of the Society to 1975. Many French and English varieties are included, because they were planted in the gardens and sent here before the Americans started to hybridize, to any extent.

The book has been ordered and sent to people in all countries that grow peonies. We have had a second printing of this book.

The second Checklist was published for the ten years 1976-1986. Now ten years have elapsed and we must continue with the listing of peonies from 1986-1996. The book will be available later this year.

The financial status of the Society is good. We have no outstanding accounts. All bills are paid immediately. As with all business firms this year, our expenses have increased, as the Society has increased, which means more supplies, more printing, more *Bulletins*, and more postage. The financial report will tell you more than I can write. Regardless, we go forward with steady and controlled business methods.

We are grateful to you for your payment of dues, for your support, and the many notes and letters received. Your change of address is appreciated, as well as zip code, when one is assigned to your area.

We grow acres of peonies in the United States, but one would never realize it by reading the *Bulletin*. Why do we not tell the world about our wonderful varieties? We have magnificent new introductions, the peonies that grow in our gardens, a collection of most beautiful peonies that dates back many years, and the tree peony that has won the hearts of so many people—books and pages have been written about it, with pictures, culture, and how to propagate. Also, there is a good yellow herbaceous peony, the Itoh Hybrid. It is time we talk about these peonies, that grow in Arboretums, fields, and gardens. Every day a request is received for the list of Gold Medal peonies, only because they have been brought forward and talked about.

There are many Gold Medals in your garden! This is the time to select one to ten peonies and write a short description of each one, why you like them, the color, type and plant habitat. Now, let's tell the peony world about these great American varieties. It is time.

Have a successful peony year!

Greta M. Kessenich

## HEARTLAND PEONY SOCIETY FORMED

A group of very enthusiastic peony growers met on Sat., May 11, 1996, to form the "Heartland Peony Society." The group first toured the famous Tree Peony collection on the grounds of the Linda Hall Library in Kansas City, Missouri. Mr. Scott Reiter, groundsman for the library, showed us more than 90 different varieties of tree peonies including named cultivars and selected seedlings from hybridizer Don Hollingsworth, who was also present.

We saw the results of a dry cold Winter with a range of up and down temperatures. Even the varieties that have had reliable bloom every year had fewer or no flower buds. Only the later blooming 'lutea hybrids' were least bothered by Winter's stresses. We also saw some hybrid herbaceous peonies in bloom on the grounds.

After our tour, the group gathered in the library. Interim officers were elected including James W. Waddick as President, William Desmone as Treasurer, and Donna Aldridge as Recorder. The name "Heartland Peony Society" was voted on, and dues were proposed to cover the cost of mailings and becoming an affiliate organization of the Greater Kansas City Garden Center Association.

We decided to hold the next meeting during the first or second week of October—to be determined. This meeting will be a plant sale and a time to encourage new members to join. We will try to encourage donations of plants from hybridizers, growers, and members to help raise a club treasury. Eventually, we hope to bring in speakers on peonies, and to tour such nearby peony growers as Hollingsworth Peonies (Maryville, MO), Bigger Peonies (Topeka, KS), and Wilds (Sarcoxie, MO).

Charter members attending this first meeting were: Donna Aldridge, Bill Desmone, Nancy Greer, Allan & Lyn Holiday, Don & Lavon Hollingsworth, Dan & Irene Isbell, Betty Mordy, Tony Ryan, Joe & Claudia Schroer, Jackie Stoaks and Jim Waddick. All were enthusiastic and excited about the prospects of this new peony group.

For more information contact Jim Waddick at 8871 NW Brostrom Rd., Kansas City, MO 64152; (816) 746-1949.

—Submitted by James W. Waddick, May 13, 1996

★ ★ ★ ★



# AUTUMN —

## THE BEST PLANTING SEASON FOR PEONIES

*by Wu Jingxu, General Manager & Senior Agronomist Working in  
Luoyang Huafeng Ltd. Co. for Peony & Horticulture*

*Address: No. 3 Daonan Rd., Luoyang, China)*

*(Tel. & Fax: 0379-3200201)*

As is known to all, in general, the majority of plants in a bare-rooted (truncated plant) state are suitable to transplanted in both of two seasons (i.e.) Spring and Autumn. However, peonies are different from these plants. They are suitable to be grown only in the one season of Autumn especially September to October, except if they are a balled plant holding much soil at the roots. Then what is the reason? This is because peonies sprout earlier than other plants. They commonly begin to germinate and grow in the early part of February or so when the air temperature is steadily above 4° C. Therefore, they would not grow well if they were transplanted without soil in Spring as the original fibrous beard roots are destroyed (broken) and the new ones are not growing yet, and the capability of absorbing water and nutrition from soil is not in favorable condition, and can't meet the great need for the rapid growth.

For this reason, the ancients always said that "the peonies cannot bloom normally till their dying day when transplanted (with truncated plant) in Spring" in China. Of course, the meaning is mainly that these peonies are impossible to flower as well as ones planted in Autumn. They cannot completely flower at any time. Usually they can only bloom normally once in this year, but hereafter cannot do so; they even may die. As a result, strictly speaking, Autumn is the most unique and suitable planting period in the whole year.

So the reason why it is best to plant peonies in Autumn is because at this period the soil (ground) temperature is still higher (18° C or so) and just right for new root production, as the air temperature becomes lower and lower, and results in the upper part of the plant gradually stopping growth, although not the ball-plant. The plant can grow well when it has more new roots which are the foundation of growth normally in advance. Fall planting saves trouble, and also the effect is very good.

Consequently, I suggest that the manager or consumer should sell or buy peonies in Autumn, especially September to October, if possible. Also, it should have better covering on the ground when planted [e.g. in Winter, or grow the ball-plant [e.g.] in Spring, etc. Your peonies can bloom better and better with the age increasing within 20 years old or so.

★ ★ ★ ★

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## REGISTRATIONS

**LOVE 357**—(Zlatana Jennie Draskovich), Gary, Indiana, June 26, 1996.

Seedling # "Honorary number ZJD 357." Parentage Zlata's Jennie x Zlata's Jennie. First bloomed 1995 Golden yellow tree peony. This golden yellow flower with mauve-rose edges has a deeper gold, inner bloom with short rose center flares. Some blossoms have a pronounced center tuft, others none. It has pollen, seeds, and fragrant. One to three buds per stem. 36 inches in height, midseason bloom. Blooms held up extremely well in snow, ice, and weeks of rain. Medium green foliage. Named in honor of my family members who died in the Civil War in Yugoslavia. Before the Civil War I had three hundred fifty-seven relatives in Yugoslavia; today I have none. Flower photo on file.

**ZOE ION VANHOUTEN** (Zlatana Jennie Draskovich), Gary, Indiana, June 26, 1996.

Seedling #ZL 456. Parentage, Colchicine treated Dayton x Colchicine treated **Mons Jules Elie**. Red-violet double lactiflora, ball form, good substance, stamens, pollen, seeds, reliable. Height 42 inches, strong stems, holds up well after twelve days of rain. Very vigorous, medium green foliage. This delicately fragrant large 6-7 inch bloom reminds me of my grandmother, Zoe Ion VanHouten. Her rosy cheeks are reminiscent in the red violet blooms. I learned how to pollinate peonies from her. It is in memory of this noble lady that I name my best lactiflora **Zoe Ion VanHouten**. Photo on file.

**LITTLE ONE PATIENCE** (Zlatana Jennie Draskovich), Gary, Indiana, June 6, 1996.

Seedling #Z2400. Parentage, Colchicine treated **Mons Jules Elie** x Colchicine treated **Elsa Sass**. White single lactiflora, stamens, pollen, seeds. Excellent stem strength, 38-inch blooms in late midseason, medium green foliage. The center stamen give the bloom a yellow glow in strong sunlight. A few carpels are tipped pink. Until I was four, I thought the name of a pretty white peony was little one patience. It was my grandmother Zoe Ion VanHouten admonishing me. Photo on file.

**LITTLE DARLINGS** (Zlatana Jennie Draskovich), Gary, Indiana, June 26, 1996.

Seedling #Z2337, parentage Colchicine treatment **Mons Jules Elie** x Colchicine treated **Elsa Sass**. Pink double lactiflora, ball form, stamen and pollen, no seeds. 38 inches in height, good stem strength. Divided in 1994 and 1995. Vigorous, and has a mind of its own, just like my students at Morton Senior High School. This is an excellent cut-flower. I call my students "Little Darlings." This plant is named after them. Photo on file.

**HARRY KING** (Zlatana Jennie Draskovich), Gary, Indiana, June 26, 1996.

Seedling #Z1523. Parentage Colchicine treated **Gauguin** x Colchicine treated **Hephestos**. First year bloomed 1993. This shrimp-colored single tree peony blooms have notched petals and deeper peach center flares. Good substance, stamen, pollen and seeds. 20-30 inches in height, vigorous, medium green foliage, blooms midseason to late. Named in honor of and with permission of retired rocket scientist, Harry Alden King. His book, 'The Pure Golden Light of Love' has persuaded me to strive to develop the elusive colors of peonies, even blues. With God's love, anything is possible. Photo on file.

**ANGA KING** (Zlatana Jennie Draskovich), June 26, 1996, Gary Indiana.

Seedling #Z1725, parentage Colchicine treated **Kamada Fuji** x Colchicine treated **Redon**. First bloomed 1995. This Acra-violet tree peony bloom fades blush. It has a mild rose fragrance which complements the elegant deep acra blooms. The 4-1/2 to 5 inch blooms have golden stamens. The carpels are green tipped rose. It has good substance, pollen and seeds. Height 20-30 inches, bloom mid-season to late. Purple edges on medium green young foliage. Named in honor of the elegant lady, Anga Burt King, whom I have the pleasure of calling Aunt. Named with her permission. Photo on file.

**GYLORGYI** (Zlatana Jennie Draskovich), Gary, Indiana 46408, June 26, 1996

Seedling #Z3337, parentage Colchicine treated **Dayton** x Colchicine 22337. Cherry red, ball form lactiflora. Stamens and pollen, reliable, fragrant, good stem strength holding 3-1/2-6 inch bloom, even after 12 days of rain. Height 40 inches. Named after my lovable Saint Bernard, Gylorgyi. Photo on file.

★ ★ ★ ★

The following hybrid peonies have been introduced by Louis Smirnow in his 1974 catalog. In color, Peachy Rose, full bloom on the plant; Heavenly Pink, bloom only. These plants were disseminated until this nursery was closed, death of Mr. Smirnow. They were sold in the U.S.A. and Canada. In our research, Cedar Creek Peony Gardens, (Rockwood, Ontario) listed both plants for sale in 1987-1988, with no information regarding the originator.

**PEACHY ROSE** (Origin unknown) double hybrid, bi-color peach-pink to white. Several flowers of different hue at one time on the plant. Midseason bloom, good foliage, 30" strong stems.

**HEAVENLY PINK** (Origin unknown) Enormous bowl shaped bright pink full double hybrid, completely covering the top of the plant. Low grower, 24" foliage down to the ground, late bloom.

Registered July 27, 1996

**EMILY-LOUISE** (D. and J. McFarlane), No 9, Waimate, New Zealand, May 27, 1996.

Seedling #McF11. Parentage, American Peony Society seed **Domoto**. First year bloomed 1992. This tree peony is a double lavender with pink deep purple flares. Good substance, with stamens, pollen and seeds. It has good stem strength, displaying its large blooms above the foliage. Flower size 23cm, mid-season bloom. Height of the plant 1-1/2 MTRS. Photo on file.

**EMMA-JAYNE** (D. and J. McFarlane), No 9, Waimate, New Zealand, May 27, 1996.

Seedling #McF 10. Parentage American Peony Society seed **Domoto**. First year bloomed 1992. This is a soft pink full double tree peony with very few stamens. It has pollen and seeds, fragrant. The flower is approximately 19cm and very ruffled. Good stem strength, holding this large flower above the foliage. Dark green foliage with long slim leaves. Blooms midseason. Photo on file.

**ANNA-JANE** (D. and J. McFarlane), No 9 R.D., Waimate, New Zealand, May 27, 1996.

Seedling #McF 38. Parentage American Peony Society seed from Seidl, parents unknown. First bloomed 1993. Apricot flushed pink tree peony, reliable, pollen, stamens and seeds. Two buds per stem. The stem strength is very strong. Height 1-1/4 meters. Blooms late in New Zealand. A very healthy plant, which holds its flower well above the foliage. Photo on file.

**GRAHAM ROSS** (D. and J. McFarlane), No 9 R.D., Waimate, New Zealand, May 27, 1996.

Seedling #McF 30. Parentage Seidl seed (SH11X SH33) Tree peony, first bloomed 1993. This strong tree peony, with cream flushed rose flowers has good substance, with stamens, pollen and seeds. It had 2 flowers in 1993, 5 blooms in 1995 and 8 in 1996. Late season bloom, 84cm in height, may grow taller, with firm mid-green foliage, brown tints. Photo on file.

**CAROLINE ROSE** (Anne Overson 1996), Wallowa, Oregon, June 26, 1996.

Seedling #530B2. Parentage **Salmon Dream** x **Good Cheer**. First bloomed 1993. Single hybrid of creamy white, petals slightly waved. Reliable, leathery substance, pollen fertile, nice fragrance, seeds. Stamens and anthers orange. Has been divided. Stands up in wind and rain with its strong stems, 24" in height, blooms early, good foliage. Seed was purchased from Bill Seidl.

**ARGONAUT** (Nassos Daphnis), 362 West Broadway, New York, NY 10013, June 25, 1996.

Seedling #D328. Parentage BC - SP (BC2). First bloomed 1974. Semi-double hybrid tree peony. The flower is pale pink, with stamens, no pollen or seeds. Fragrant, good substance, reliable, one bud per stem with 10-15 blooms. It grows to 3-4 feet with good stem strength, dark green foliage and vigorous. Blooms in late May. This flower suggests of the argonauts strength, power and willingness to overcome all dangers to go through the Symplegades to Colchis and bring back the Golden Fleece to Thessaly. Photo on file.

**MARIA TERESSA** (Dancer, adopted daughter of Isadora Duncan) (Nassos Daphnis), 362 West Broadway, New York, NY, June 25, 1996.

Seedling #404, double hybrid tree peony. Parentage unknown (BC2). First bloomed 1968. This dark pink double is a ball form with stamens, pollen and seeds, also fragrant. It is reliable, with 1-2 buds per stem, good substance with 20-30 blooms. It grows to 5-6 feet, vigorous with good stem strength, blooms in late May. Dark green foliage. This plant is the first to bloom of the hybrids, along with the hybrid "Tria." It is very floriferous with an abundance of flowers. Holds the flowers high and lasts for about two weeks. The color of this flower reminds me of the color of the tunic that Maria Teresa wore when she was dancing. Photo on file.

**OREAD** (Mountain Nymph) (Nassos Daphnis), 462 West Broadway, New York, NY, June 25, 1996.

Seedling #D-345. Parentage D-404 x J-31 (Gessekai) Generation-BC 2. First bloomed 1928, semi-double, pale pink hybrid tree peony with stamens and pollen. No seeds. Good substance, reliable, one bud per stem. Grows 4-5 feet, good stem strength, 10 to 20 blooms. Vigorous with light green foliage, blooms the end of May. We have been observing this plant for about 10-15 years. It is worthy of being introduced. The color is almost white with red overcast and red flares, in the center. Two rows of petals orderly arranged. One feels the mountain breeze and a warm feeling. Photo on file.

**SEA OF TRANQUILITY** (William Gratwick), registered by Lee Gratwick, Pavilion, NY, June 26, 1996.

Seedling # - Chugai seedling. Parentage unknown. First bloomed 1960. This Moutan is pure white, semi-double tree peony. It has stamens, pollen and seeds, most reliable, good substance, with one bud per stem. 10-15 blooms a plant, vigorous, with green foliage. Grows to 4-5 feet and blooms in late May. The flower is so pure and elegant that it seems to exist only in the fantasy world. The three rows of petals are arranged in perfect order which seems as the white waves are immersed from the center to the outer space. Photo on file.

**EVE OF RADIANCE** (William Gratwick), registered by Lee Gratwick, Pavilion, NY, June 28, 1996.

Seedling # Chugai seedling. Parentage unknown. First bloomed 1960. This Moutan is a semi-double pink tree peony. It has stamens, pollen and seeds, most reliable, good substance. Grows to 4-5 feet, fragrant, good stem strength, vigorous, green foliage. The glow of this flower is as some inner light radiates from the center to illuminate each petal. Photo on file.

**FAITH** (D. Steve Varner), Monticello, IL, July 5, 1996.

Seedling #8020. Parentage **Domoto** hybrid x self. This semi-double tree peony is deep light pink, the form of **Chalice**. Three buds per stem, reliable, stamens, pollen, seeds, slight fragrance and good substance. Excellent strong stems holding the flower above the foliage. Height 36 inches, blooms early-midseason. Vigorous and good foliage. This variety stays compact and rounded. Good color carrying power.

**ILLINOIS PSALM** (D. Steve Varner), Monticello, IL, July 2, 1996.

Seedling #7034. Parentage Hollingsworth #1416 Pehrsons seedling x **Sunny Boy**. First bloomed 1987. Semi-double hybrid, pastel cream, a combination of flat to ball form, large amount of bloom, four buds per stem, reliable, good substance, stamens, pollen, seeds with slight fragrance. Very good stem strength, 33 inches in height—7" diameter, blooms early, mid-season, vigorous, healthy big leaves. Grows fast, with big leaves, lightens in color before last life of each bloom.

**BRUCE VARNER** (D. Steve Varner), Monticello, IL, July 6, 1996.

Varner seedling 5029 pastel pink. Seed from **Chris Laning** x **Picotee**. Single hybrid with waved ruffled petals, dark bright red. Very prolific amount of bloom, stamens, pollen, seeds, slight fragrance, good substance, very strong stems which hold the six-inch bloom. 26 inches in height, blooms midseason, vigorous with good foliage. Named for my son, Bruce Varner.

**CONNIE VARNER** (D. Steve Varner), Monticello, IL, July 6, 1996.

Seedling #93050. Parentage, **Miss America** x **Good Cheer**. Single hybrid with three rows of petals, coral pink, much like **Cytharea**. It is reliable, stamens, pollen with good substance, floriferous, one bud per stem, 38 inches in height with excellent stem strength, long blooming, vigorous with good foliage. Garden description name is "hot pink." A large ring of pollen, excellent garden carrying power. Named for my daughter-in-law, Connie Varner.

**STREAKER** (D. Steve Varner), 1690 N. State St., Monticello, IL 61856, July 1, 1996.

Seedling #V1014, double lactiflora. Parentage **Rivida** x **Miss America**. First bloomed 1981. Novelty light pink with red stripes. Is ball form, some petals are longer. It is reliable, 4 buds per stem, has stamens and pollen. Fair substance. Height 30" with average stem strength. Vigorous, good foliage. Slight fragrance. One of several from this cross, white and pink with various amounts and depth of color variegations. Novelty, easily recognized.

**SONOMA SUN** (Irene Tolomeo), 585 Napa Road, Sonoma, California, June 24, 1996.

Itoh-type hybrid. Parentage **Minnie Shaylor** x either **Golden Era** or **High Noon**. First bloomed 1994. Seedling number row I-2. Bloom rosy yellow when first opening, taking on a clear yellow the second day. Small rosy flares, yellow sheath, anthers and filaments. Medium-sized flower with twenty-five plus petals, some pollen. Tall vigorous plant with excellent foliage. Long strong stems and laterals. Photo on file.

**CORALBA** (Maurice Menard), July 7, 1996, 1194 Montee Champagne, Laval Quebec, Canada H7W 386.

Parentage *Peregrina Lobata*. Early hybrid single. Two rows of light coral pink petals. Interior base tinted cream. Tulip type flower on a 30" plant with strong stems.

**SUBTLETY** (Maurice Menard), July 7, 1996, Laval Quebec, Canada.

Unknown parentage. Herbaceous hybrid. Single, 7" light yellow flower, shading to white. Semi-strong stems on 24-26" plant. Early.

**LOVELY ANDREA** (Maurice Menard), July 7, 1996.

Parentage unknown, Japanese, blushed white with perfect puff of yellow delicately fringed petaloids. 4-1/2 to 5-1/2 blooms. Color turns white on the plant. The color stays fast as cut-flower, and are long lasting. No fragrance. Side buds floriferous. Named in honor of my wife, Andrea Audette.

**Pietertje Vriend WAGENAAR** (Nicholas J. Friend), Sunnyside, Washington, May 30, 1996.

A chance seedling found near **Kansas** and **Sarah Bernhardt** in my commercial planting of peonies. Plant is identical to **Kansas**, red buds, heavy stems. The bloom has the color of **Sarah Bernhardt**, perhaps a little lighter. The flower is speckled. The foliage is dark green. Named for my Mother, Pietertje Vriend Wagenaar.



**PEHRSONS DOUBLE WHITE** (E. L. [Roy] Pehrson). Registered by Don Hollingsworth, 1996.

Seedling # — Pehrson's garden name **Super D**. Hollingsworth number became 1816. Plant received from Bill Seidl; also statement from Chris Laning that he, too, has the plant with statement from Pehrson that the name be **Pehrson's Double White**. Parentage **Sanctus x Saunders Silver Dawn F3**.

This plant is an early hybrid, white double, early midseason, light fragrance, more than 100 milk white petals. The 8" flower has a few pollen loaded anthers. Vigorous, very large leaflets on spreading stems. 28" tall, fertile both ways. There is a faint infusion of mallow purple at petals base, colored in the conspicuous staminodal disk, carpels and red purple stigmas. Most stamen segments transformed to medium narrow petals.

**PEHRSONS BIGLEAF VIOLET** (E. L. [Roy] Pehrson). Registered by Don Hollingsworth, 1996.

E. L. Pehrson sent plant to Laning before 1977, then sent on to Hollingsworth. Hollingsworth seedling #1337. Parentage given as **Lacti Vista x Archangel**. This plant is fertile. Light violet or lilac purple RHS, 74C cyclamen purple to 70, lilac purple. Early herbaceous hybrid, fragrant, big single. Early midseason, big leaflets, big petals, and stiff stems. 32 inches in height, vigorous. Bloomed before 1977. Reliable—season-long durability of bush.

**JUBILATION** (Hollingsworth 1996), Maryville, Missouri, June 5, 1996.

Seedling #397. Parentage **Pink Princess x Laura Magnuson—Ruby Red** (RHS 64A) hybrid. Large petals, large flower to 8" wide by 4" deep with mild fragrance with pollen, few stamens, small carpels. Ruby red at opening, passing lighter. A very vigorous plant, moderate increase. Bloomed before 1980. Tall 38". Blooms medium late. Foliage dusky deep green.

**GLENNY CARLENE** (Don Hollingsworth), Maryville, Missouri, June 30, 1996.

Seedling #1059, hybrid anemone. Parentage Harold Wolfe anemone *Lactiflora* seeding x **Cytherea**. First bloomed 1981 or before. Light pink, streaks of colored pink and yellow with infusion of buff petalodes, buff tone (RHS 73 C-D). Large bowl, 12-14 large petals, 8" with center ball to 4-1/2". Excellent amount of bloom, reliable, seeds, fragrant, 1-4 buds per stem. Height 36" erect, good stem strength, vigorous, medium green foliage. Honorable Mention 1992.

**LORELEI** (Don Hollingsworth), Maryville, Missouri, June 30, 1996.

Seedling #995. Parentage Harold Wolfe Lacti seeder x **Good Cheer**. First bloomed about 1980. Herbaceous hybrid, deep orange pink, color passes to apricot-orange (RHS 24-D). Medium-sized bomb, sweet spicy fragrance, good substance, most reliable. Excellent stem strength, 26" in height, mid-season bloom. Medium green, conspicuously veined foliage (RHS 146A). One bud per stem. Certificate of merit 1991.

**SOFT TOUCH** (Don Hollingsworth), Maryville, Missouri, June 30, 1996.

Seedling #1649. Parentage, #57 Paeonia **Peregrina** x **Miss America**. Semi-double hybrid. First bloomed 1982 or before. Deep coral pink, both guard and inner petals (RHS 47B-54A). Loosely formed, usually a few stamens, good substance, good amount of bloom, reliable, one bud per stem. Stems are strong, erect, medium height 34 inches, mid-season bloom, deep avocado green leaflets, long, narrow irregularly notched at the ends.

**SUNDAY CHIMES** (Don Hollingsworth), Maryville, Missouri, June 30, 1996.

Seedling #1668. Parentage **Shell Pink** (a *Macrophylla* hybrid), open pollinated. First bloomed about 1980. Single hybrid of light pink (RHS 65-D). This cupped flower has stamens, pollen and seeds with light sweet fragrance. An abundant amount of bloom, reliable, one bud per stem, occasionally side buds. Early bloom, flower is accented by ruby red stigmas with a circle of yellow anthers. 36 inches in height, strong stems, vigorous.

**AGE OF VICTORIA** (Don Hollingsworth 1996), Maryville, Missouri, June 30, 1996.

Seedling #963. Parentage Saunders Roselette's Grandchild x Cream Delight. First bloomed 1978 or before. Early herbaceous hybrid single, peachy buff veined and washed pink deep bowl, medium long stamens, red stigmas, red at base. Pollen, seeds and mild fragrance, strong stems holding a 7-inch bloom. Height 34" bush, 24-26 inches due to spreading in mature plant. 1-3 buds per stem, reliable, fertile.

**WHITE DOVES** (Don Hollingsworth), Maryville, Missouri, June 30, 1996.

Seedling #1649. Parentage **Archangel** x **Claire De Lune**. First bloomed before 1988. Opaque white single hybrid, cupped flower, light yellow stamens, with mild fragrance. Medium height, 30 inches tall, generally erect. Good stem strength, spreads some when mature. Vigorous, medium large foliage.

**COMMAND PERFORMANCE** (Hollingsworth 1996), Maryville, Missouri, June 5, 1996.

Seedling #994. Parentage **Lactiflora #139**. Unnamed anemone x **Good Cheer**. First bloomed about 1980. Cardinal red (RGS 53A). No pollen or stamens. Moderate increase, one bud per stem, blooms midseason. Flower grows to a 7-inch globe, carpels greenish yellow, tipped pale pink. Strong fragrance. Height 30-32 inches, medium green foliage, veined lighter.

**PEPPERMINT SWIRL** (Bill Seidl), 737 So. 19th St., Manitowoc, Wisconsin, July 9, 1996.

Seedling #CSRS-1. Parentage **Candy Stripe** x **Rose Shaylor**. First year bloomed 1991. Double blush, stamens, pollen, no seeds, fragrant, 3-4 buds per stem, reliable, abundant amount of bloom with flowers, 5-6 inches in diameter. Excellent stem strength, 36-40 inches tall, 36" wide, blooms in midseason, vigorous with good foliage. White stippled light pink, heavier on central petals giving an overall blush appearance, some red striping on outer petals, repeated on inner ones. Very double (no carpels) but has interspersed stamens. Excellent stem strength inherited from its pollen parent.

**CARNATION BOUQUET** (Bill Seidl), Manitowoc, Wisconsin, July 9, 1996.

Seedling #DPSW-1. Parentage, **Blushing Princess** x **Sparkling Windflower**. First bloomed about 1985. Pink hybrid, good substance, reliable, one bud per stem, seeds. This pink double flower has petals tending to be of uniform size, giving the flower a carnation-like appearance. Clove scent, but warm humid conditions are needed to release it. Small, 4-5" flowers are in scale with thin stems that bend but still provide adequate support. Vigorous, new division establishes quickly, producing 30+ stems per clump. Eventually measuring 30" high x 48" wide. Complete devoid of stamens but it has functional carpels that set seed by tetraploid pollens.

**STALWART ROSE** (Chris Laning), 553 West F. Ave., Kalamazoo, Michigan, July 9, 1996.

No seedling #. Parentage unknown. First bloomed about 1980. Bloom size, 7" in diameter. This Moutan tree peony is rose pink, with deeper flares, filaments, sheath and stigma. It is single to semi-double, flat form, good substance. Reliable. Stamen, pollen seeds, one-four buds per stem, good stem strength, 48" height, 42" wide, early bloom, vigorous, good foliage. This tree peony was grown by Chris Laning from **Domoto** seed. Selected by Bill Seidl in 1987 who saw it in the Laning garden, in two long rows of moutan seedlings. It was superior in size and uprightness.

Registered by Caprice Farm Nursery, Sherwood, Oregon 97140.

**MYSTIC MOOD** (Bill Seidl), Manitowoc, Wisconsin, July 9, 1996.

Seedling #SH-97. Parentage (SH-11: **Daphnis 223 x Chinese Dragon**) x **Golden Era**. First bloomed 1989 as a four-year-old seedling. Hybrid tree peony, with cream overlaid red violet single, with stamens, pollen and seeds. Also fragrant. 1-2 buds per stem, the petals are a pale cream base overlaid violet, darker at edge, dark flares and filaments, red violet sheath cream stigma. Single, 10-14 petals. Blossoms are carried well. Dependable, bloomed the best of any hybrid tree peony with 50% moutan ancestry after the 1996 Winter of -28° F. Clump size is 36" high x 40" wide. Fertile both ways.

**DOOR COUNTY SUNSET** (Bill Seidl), Manitowoc, Wisconsin, July 9, 1996.

Seedling #SH-106. Parentage (SH-11: **Daphnis 223 x Chinese Dragon**) x **Golden Era**. Hybrid tree peony. First bloomed 1989 as a four-year-old seedling. Cream base overlaid dusky rose, darker picotee and flares, single, up to 15 petals. Reliable, 1-3 buds per stem, stamen, pollen, seeds and fragrant. Good substance. Floriferous as lateral flowers are freely produced, up to 60 blossoms per plant. Good carriage, vigorous, very good stem strength, blooms midseason. Blooms well after the coldest Winters. Clump size is 36" high x 40" wide. Fertile both ways. Residents and tourists in Door County, Wisconsin see beautiful sunsets over the waters of Green Bay, hence the name.

**BRASSY LADY** (Bill Seidl), Manitowoc, Wisconsin, July 9, 1996.

Seedling #SH-127. Parentage **Golden Era X** (SH-39: **Golden Era x Chinese Dragon**). Hybrid tree peony, first bloomed 1990, as a four-year-old seedling. Amber tan petals with rose edging and shading, darker flares, purple sheath, cream stigma. Double, 35+ petals. Good substance, reliable, stamen, pollen, seeds and fragrant. Strong stems but flowers barely held above foliage. Clump measures 36" high x 40" wide. Vigorous, attractive bronzy foliage when young. Fertile both ways. Midseason bloom.

**LAVENDER HILL** (Bill Seidl), Manitowoc, Wisconsin, July 9, 1996.

Seedling #MRV-3. Parentage **Rock's Variety x Kamata Fuji**. First bloomed 1990. This Moutan tree peony is Double lavender with stamens, pollen and seeds. Reliable, good stem strength, height 36" high x 54" wide. Early bloom. Lavender petals and filaments, cream lavender sheath, reddish carpel tips, dark purple flares, 6-7 inch flowers are double (30+ petals) and fragrant. Borne on sturdy stems.

**ROSALIND ELSIE FRANKLIN** (Bill Seidl), Manitowoc, Wisconsin, July 9, 1996.

Seedling #SH-158. Parentage (SH-35: **Golden Era** x **Chinese Dragon**) x **Zephyrus**. Hybrid tree peony, first bloomed 1992. Light pink shading darker to rose burgundy flares, filaments, sheath and carpel tips. Similar to **Shintench**i but a shade lighter. 6" flowers are single, the 10-15 petals waved, ruffled and crimped; pleasantly fragrant. 10% of the pollen is well formed and potent on other t.p.'s. No seed as yet. Blossoms are held upright on stems, but barely above foliage. Compact plant habit: 32" high x 40" wide. Reliable, having bloomed after -23° and -28° F. Winter. Crafts easily: 100% takes (12/12) in 1996. Named in honor of the English researcher (1920-1958, London) whose work in molecular biology helped in the discovery of the double helical structure of the DNA molecule in 1953 for which three male peers received the Nobel Prize in 1962. (It is not awarded posthumously).

**FUCHSIA RUFFLES** (Bill Seidl), Manitowoc, Wisconsin, July 9, 1996.

Seedling #SH-173. Parentage **Anna Marie** x **Shintench**i. Hybrid tree peony, first bloomed 1993. Ruffled petals are fuchsia or vivid reddish purple, as is the sheath, darkening to burgundy flares and filaments; carpel tips are deep pink. Sparce vestigial stamens are naked, i.e. without pollen. No seeds as yet. 6-7" diameter flowers are double, 30 plus petals and carried well. Reliable, one to three buds per stem, 34 inches in height, 40 inches wide, blooms midseason. Vigorous, had enormous root system when transplanted from nursery bed in 1993. 75% moutan blood bestows greater hardiness than most other hybrid tree peonies. Fragrant.

**ICE AGE** (Bill Seidl), Manitowoc, Wisconsin, July 9, 1996.

No seedling number. Parentage Mutation of **Age of Gold**. First bloomed 1990. Hybrid tree peony is a double white with medium purple flares. Good substance, with an abundant amount of bloom, reliable. 1-3 buds per stem, stamens and fragrant. This white mutation of **Age of Gold** with medium purple flares has double flowers like **Age of Gold**. Grafts easily.

**PASTEL SPLENDOR** (Roger Anderson/Bill Seidl), Manitowoc, Wisconsin, July 9, 1996.

Seedling #SB-6. Parentage **Martha W.** x **Saunders F2 A**. First bloomed about 1988. This hybrid has pale lavender petals shading to cream toward center and dark purple flares. Two rows of five petals each reveal ten flares since there is, at most, only a thin stamen ring to obscure them. Multiple carpels, sometimes excessively so. Extremely vigorous. Original plant had 70 stems in a mounded plant 30" high x 56" wide in 1991, before division.

**BLACK FOREST** (Bill Seidl), Manitowoc, Wisconsin, July 9, 1996.

Seedling #SH-33. Parentage **Golden Era** x **Chinese Dragon**. Hybrid tree peony. First bloomed 1987. Flowers are old rose with yellow undertones, reliable, stamens, pollen and seeds, fragrant. This flower has dark flares, filaments, and sheath greenish carpel tips, semi-double, occasionally very double, not carried well above the foliage, sometimes nodding. Superb foliage, leathery and waved, dark green with short petioles and leaflet attachment. Dense clump. Named for its foliage, not the flower. Clump measures 30" x 40" wide.

(A black-red mutation occurred in 1995 which hopefully can be propagated—fertile both ways).

## JOE GLOCKA AND HIS PEONIES

This is the time to plant peonies. After a long hard Winter, we think of the peonies that will come into bloom very early. At Kalamazoo, Michigan, the peony exhibition was June 2-3-4, 1995. The show tables had hybrid blooms on display. The group of hybrids that won the blue ribbon and first prize for a collection of ten was exceptional. Here are the varieties: **ROSETTE, EDWARD STEICHEN, FIRE-LIGHT, LADDIE, GOLDEN GLOW, FRANCES MAINS, HERITAGE, RED CHARM, ILLINI BELLE, SALMON DREAM** and **YOUR MAJESTY**.

These peonies were exhibited by Joe Glocka of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Joe has been exhibiting peonies for years. I first met Joe in 1971 when he was practically hid behind his table of colorful big doubles and hybrids. Behind the buckets and his boxes that held far too many peonies, came a smiling face, saying "I'm Joe Glocka from Milwaukee, Wisconsin." Blue ribbons are always attached to his peonies, always on the Court of Honor, and also Grand Champion. He grows them big, colorful, rows and rows of them. He never misses an exhibition wherever it is held. Joe is there with his peonies, smiling, placing each variety in the container for display.

—Greta Kessenich



*Now is the time to gather your seed pods. Also, it is seed planting time. To answer the many letters about seed and when and how to plant them, Mr. Edward Auten, Jr., has answered the many questions in his article. Mr. Auten is one of the peony Greats, of the past. He gave to the peony world many beautiful peonies that you are growing in your garden, today.*

## RAISING PEONIES FROM SEED

*Edward Auten, Jr., Bulletin No. 114, Sept. 1949*

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 *lactiflora* species are dark brown and about the size of small buckshot; of the *officinalis* species, oval and shiny blue-black. 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 or 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 seedling 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 preventative, 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, someday, 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 seedling 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 as 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 percent singles might be called average. Many of them are lovely when they are 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 percent 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 percent of Japs, all inferior, but with some fine singles and semi-doubles. On the next attempt 25 percent 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 infact, have been complete flops, even though the results should have been outstanding.

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 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.

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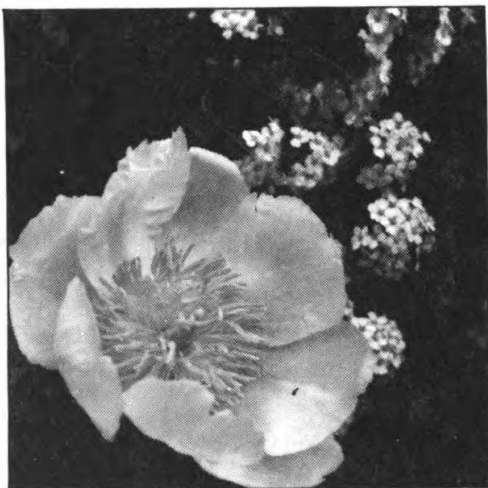
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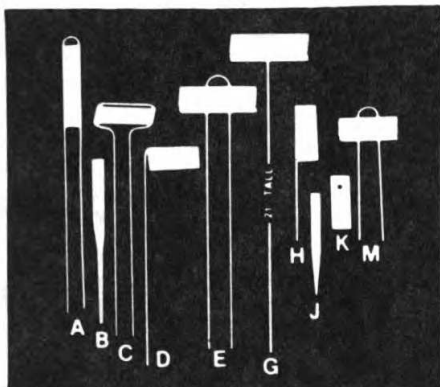
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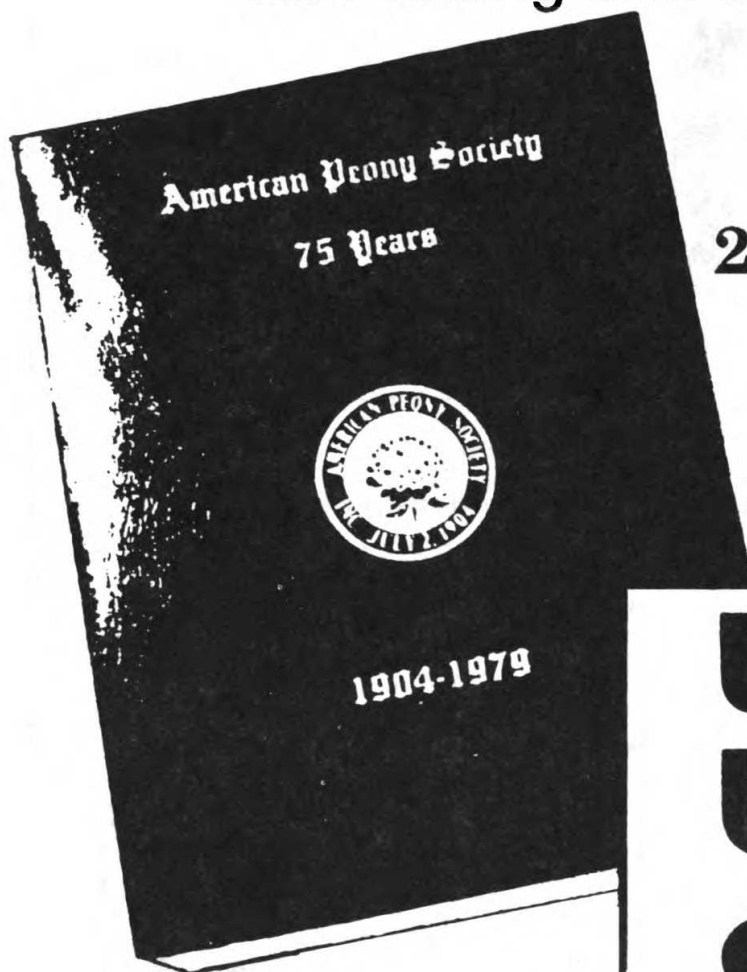
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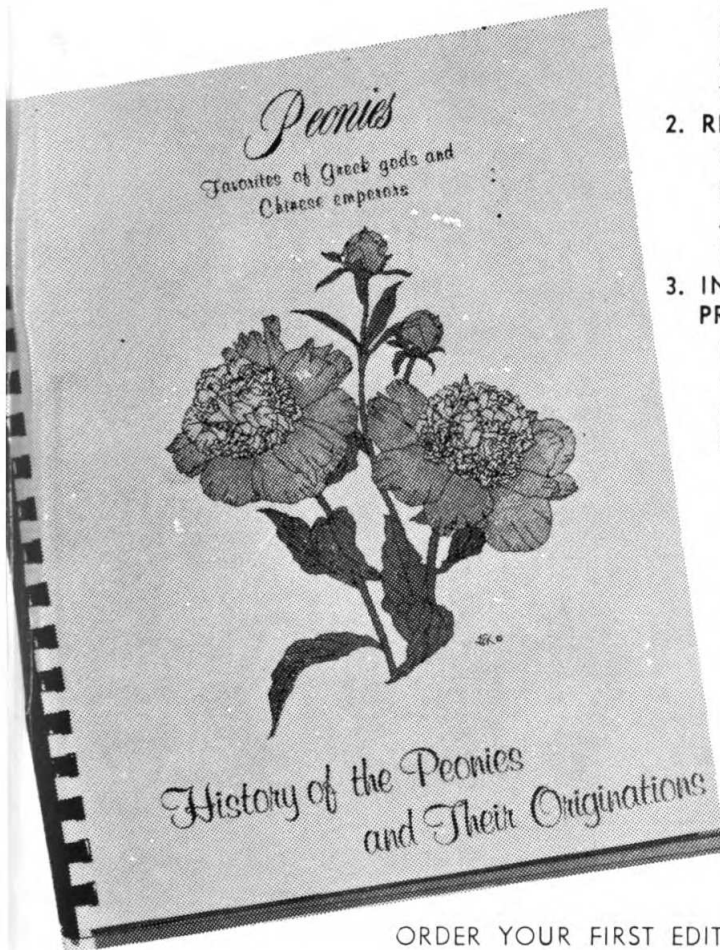
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