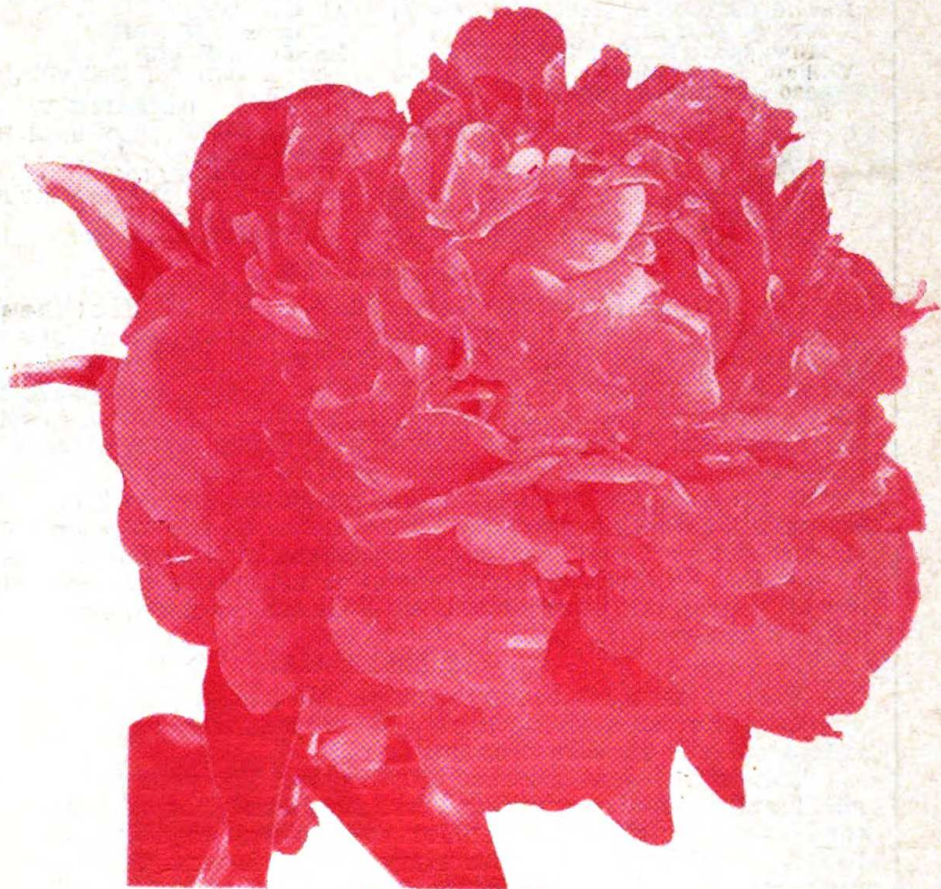


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American Peony Society Bulletin



DECEMBER, 1965 — NO. 179



Paul M. Wild



AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

OFFICERS

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DIRECTORS

W. A. Alexander (1966) 145 Eberly Ave., Bowling Green, O. 43402 Myron D. Bigger (1967) 201 N. Rice Rd., Topeka, Kan. 66616 Oklahoma City 11, Okla. 73121 Frank L. Howell (1968) Rt. 1, Box 485, Newton, N. J. 07860 Marvin C. Karrels (1968) 3272 S. 46th St. Milwaukee 19, Wis. 53219 William H. Krekler (1966) 4030 W. Elkton Rd. Somerville, O. 45064 Clarence O. Lienau (1968) 9135 Beech Daly Detroit 39, Mich. 48239 Frank E. Moots (1967) 1127 W. Br'dw'y, Newton, Kan. 67114	Dr. J. Franklin Styer (1966) Concordville, Pa. 19331 Dr. Harold E. Tinnappel (1967) Rt. a, State Route 105 Pemberville, Ohio 43450 Lloyd C. Thompson (1967) 923 Reeves Dr. Grand Forks, N. D. 58201 Allen J. Wild (1966) Sarcoxie, Mo. 64862 Harold E. Wolfe (1967) 24 S. 86th St., Belleville, Ill. 62223
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DISTRICT V

President _____ Samuel E. Wissing
 93 S. Lombard Ave.
 Lombard, Ill. 60148
 Sec'y-Treas. .. Mrs. Samuel E. Wissing
 93 S. Lombard Ave.
 Lombard, Ill. 60148

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 standard of excellence of the flower; to improve the methods of its cultivation and methods of placing it upon the market; to increase its use as a decorative flower; to bring about a more thorough understanding between those interested in its culture; to properly supervise the nomenclature of the different varieties and kinds of peonies; to stimulate the growing and introduction of improved seedlings and crosses of such flower; and to promote any of the general objects herein specified by holding or causing to be held examinations, and awarding or causing or procuring to be awarded, prizes therefor, or in any other manner.

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 to membership.

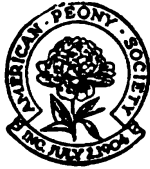
The annual dues are now \$5.00 a year. The year begins with January 1 and runs the calendar year. Applicants for membership should send check or money order for five dollars payable to AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY to the Secretary. If cash is sent, the letter should be registered. The Society will not be responsible for any cash remittances made otherwise. Membership fee is \$5.00, \$3.00 of which is for a subscription to the American Peony Society Bulletin for one year. Subscription to the Bulletin to non-members, \$5.00 for one year.

THE BULLETIN

The Bulletin is issued quarterly. Back numbers when available, will be charged at prices which will be furnished by the Editor. Current year back numbers will be fifty cents each to members.

DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRATION

This department was formed "to properly supervise the nomenclature of the different varieties and kinds of peonies". Those who desire to register a new variety, and all new varieties should be registered to avoid duplication of names, should apply to C. D. Pennell, Chairman, Nomenclature Committee. Registration fee is \$2.00 for each variety registered.



AMERICAN Peony Society Bulletin



DECEMBER, 1965 — NO. 179

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GREETINGS — 1966

Another blooming season is at hand! Attention, therefore, is focused on the SIXTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING AND SIXTY-FIRST ANNUAL PEONY SHOW.

Your Society is fortunate to return to Mansfield, Ohio, where we will meet at KINGWOOD CENTER. Dr. Raymond C. Allen, Director, has graciously made the facilities available to us and we hope to stage a fine Show as well as have a most productive meeting.

Kingwood Center is a beautiful place and Mansfield, Ohio, being in a central location as well as the dates set for June 18, 19th and 20th, many exhibitors and members should be able to attend.

The continued support of the membership will make this year an important one in the history of our Society which is now 62 years young.

FRANK L. HOWELL,
President

Our Cover

MARCELLA

We are indebted to E. H. Lins Cologne, Minnesota for the use of the above cut carried in his 1965 catalog. We noted also that Mr. Lins states this plant is hardy in every state in the Union and in all of Canada. His descriptive comment and picture would indicate a most desirable plant and flower.

—o—
Joseph Addison (1672-1719) is quoted as follows: "The grand essentials to happiness in this life are something to do, something to love, and something to hope for." Aren't all these ingredients embodied in good gardening?

DISTRICT V PEONY DISPLAY

The "Fifth" District of the American Peony Society will have a Peony Display and an Educational exhibit in conjunction with the Iris Show sponsored by the Northern Illinois Iris Society, Saturday, May 28th, and Sunday, May 29th, to be held at the Proviso West High School, Wolf Road and Harrison Streets, Hillside, Ill.

The exhibition will be open to the public from 3:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., on Sunday.

Sam Wissing, president of District V is working very hard to make the Peony Exhibition an outstanding one. Members of the American Peony Society, we hope, will make every effort to assist and attend the Show.

The 63rd Annual Meeting
and
The 61st Annual Exhibition
of the
AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY
June 17-18-19, 1966

Kingwood Center — 900 Park Avenue, West — Mansfield, Ohio 44903

**KINGWOOD CENTER
PERSONNEL**

Raymond C. Allen, Ph.D., Director
James M. Martin, B.S., Horticulturist.

Charlotte M. Devers, Activities

AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

Show Schedule Committee:

W. A. Alexander, 145 Eberly Avenue, Bowling Green, Ohio, Chairman 43402

Marvin C. Karrels, Milwaukee, Wis.
Dr. Harold E. Tinnappel, Pemberville, Ohio.

It is with a great deal of pleasure that we are able to announce that the above events will be held at Kingwood Center, beginning Friday evening June 17 and continuing until Sunday evening, June 19, 1966 under the sponsorship of the Center.

It is fortunate that we are able to hold this meeting at Kingwood Center. Due to its location, which is within a few hours journey from places where the earliest peonies should be in bloom and the latest not yet out of bloom, we are hoping that we shall have all classes well filled.

In addition to the peonies the Center has large collections of many other flowers and the native woods are filled with the flora and fauna indigent to this neighborhood.

It is urged that every member, who can possibly do so, attend.

General Information

Place: Kingwood Center, Mansfield, Ohio

Dates: June 17, 18, and 19 (Friday, Saturday and Sunday)

Location: Mansfield is located in north Central Ohio, about half way between Columbus and Cleveland. Kingwood Center is 1½ miles west from the center of the city at 900 Park Avenue West, on the west edge of the city.

Show, luncheon, educational and business meetings will be held at Kingwood Center. The banquet on Saturday evening will be held at the Holiday Inn.

Highways: Mansfield is served by U.S. Route 30 East and West and Interstate 71 North and South. From the Ohio Turnpike leave at Interchange No. 7 at Milan and take State Route 13 due South to Mansfield. Route 30 divides west of Mansfield into 30-S and 30-N. The Route to Kingwood Center is from Route 30-S. All roads are clearly marked with green directional signs pointing the way to Kingwood.

Railroads: Mansfield is on the main line Pennsylvania, New York to Chicago, The New York Central, Cleveland to Cincinnati, comes to Galion, 12 miles west. The Erie Railroad also has service from New York and Chicago.

Busses: The City is served by Greyhound and Lake Shore bus lines.

Airlines: Lake Central Airlines serves Mansfield and connects with major airlines at Cleveland, Columbus, Pittsburg, Dayton and Cincinnati.

Shipping Instructions for Flowers: Arrangements will be made to take care of prepaid shipments of flowers for the show by Railway, Air or Bus Express. When flowers are shipped, however, notice should be sent Kingwood Center with instructions. Any flowers received will be unpacked, placed in water and refrigerated unless otherwise specified. Flowers will be entered for persons not able to attend the show provided specific instructions are given and the specimens are carefully labeled with name and entry class. Address any and all shipments to Kingwood Center, 900 Park Avenue West, Mansfield, Ohio.

Show Entries: Exhibitors should be cautioned to allow plenty of time to complete their entries before 11:00 A.M. (Eastern Standard T.) on Saturday. Kingwood Center, being a public service institution, must adhere rigidly to the opening time as stated in publicity and publications.

Entry Tags: Anyone wishing entry tags in advance of the show, may request any specified number from Kingwood Center.

Hotel: Mansfield Leland Hotel. A good 300-room hotel, located at Park Avenue West (U.S. Route 430) and Walnut Street. Family-plan rates, restaurants, free overnight parking. Telephone, 522-5111. Single \$6.50 to \$10.00; Double \$9.00 to \$11.00; Twin Beds \$12.00 to \$13.00.

MOTELS

(Arranged in order of distance from Kingwood Center. The prices are single double twin, in that order.)

DOWNTOWN MOTOR LODGE \$9.00, \$11.00, \$12.00; 191 Park Avenue

West, tiled shower baths, air-conditioned; TV 522-3662.

WEST of Mansfield

JEWELL MOTEL (1 mile) \$6-\$7, \$7-\$8, \$9-\$10; 1346 W. 4th Street Road (East of Rt. 30 by-pass) 18 units, tiled shower baths, radio, air conditioned, TV; 529-4356

LINCOLN PLAZA MOTEL (1 mile) \$5, \$6.50-\$7, \$8-\$10; 1367 W. 4th Street Road (¼ mile east of Rt. 30 by-pass) 14 units, tiled showered baths, TV, family accommodations; 529-5176.

BEL-AIRE MOTEL (2 miles) \$6.50, \$8, \$10; 1985 W. 4th Street Road, 20 units, air-conditioned, radio, TV, swimming pool; 529-3121.

MANSFIELD TERRACE MOTEL (2 miles) \$7-\$8, \$8-\$9, \$10; 2165 W. 4th Street Road (Rt. 30-N) 10 units, air-conditioned, TV; 529-2116

NORTH of Mansfield

BLUE BELL MOTEL (4 miles) \$6-\$7.50, \$10-\$12, \$10-\$12; 1460 Ashland Road (Rt. 42) 3 miles west of Interstate 71. 28 units, tiled showered baths, TV, swimming pool, air-conditioned; 589-2500.

HOLIDAY INN OF AMERICA (6 miles) \$9, \$13, \$13; Mansfield Expressway, Rt. 30 (880 Laver Road) one mile west of Rt. 71. 105 units, TV, swimming pools, restaurant; 589-2200.

INN AMERICA (7 miles) \$8, \$10, \$12; Route 30 and 71 intersection (Koogle Road) 80 units, air-conditioned, TV, tiled shower baths, indoor swimming pool restaurant; 589-2300.

SOUTH of Mansfield

MOTOR LODGE, INC. (4 miles) \$6.50-\$7.50, \$7.50-\$8.50, \$9.50-\$10.50; 1400 Lexington Avenue (Rt. 42) 44 units, tiled shower baths, TV, circulating air; 756-3333.

42 MOTEL (5 miles) \$7, \$9, \$12; 2444 Lexington Avenue (Rt. 42) 20 units, radio, TV, heated swimming

pool, air-conditioned, Breakfast served; 884-1315

RECCOMENDED RESTAURANTS

(Arranged in order of their proximity to Kingwood. Group seating capacity of each restaurant is noted in parenthesis. Reservations should be made in advance direct with restaurant. Mansfield Telephone Area Code 419)

L-K, 879 Park Avenue West (20) 522-9323

THE RED CARPET, 1049 West 4th Street Road (50) 529-4637

MANNER'S BIG BOY, 1345 Park Avenue West (No reservations) 529-3000

SKYLINE LOUNGE, 1410 Park Avenue West (75) 529-4789

BLUE DOLPHIN RESTAURANT, (Motel) 191 Park Avenue West (150) 524-3669

McNEW'S RESTAURANT, 56 Park Avenue West (80) 522-3433

MANSFIELD-LELAND HOTEL, 27 Park Avenue West (25) 522-5111

JONG-MEA CHINESE & AMERICAN RESTAURANT, 10 S. Park Street (40) 524-4301

On the Northeastern side of Mansfield

HOLIDAY INN OF AMERICA, (Motel) on the Mansfield Expressway, Route 30, about one mile west of Route 71 (180) 589-2200

INN AMERICA, (Motel) at the intersection of Route 30, Mansfield Expressway and Route 71 (150) 589-2300

On the Southern Edge Mansfield on Route 42

TIFFIN AND TOFFEE HOUSE, 1120 Lexington Avenue Road (15) 755-4166

PERKIN'S PANCAKE HOUSE, 1372 Lexington Avenue Road (50) 756-2110

HOWARD JOHNSON'S 1402 Lexington Avenue (No Reservations) 756-1609

Program

All times are EST.

FRIDAY, JUNE 17TH, 1966

12:00 noon—through 11 a.m., Saturday: Prepare and place entries in the Show. (Show management will be on duty until 11:00 Friday evening to assist in placing entries.) **Remember ENTRY TAGS** are available on request from Kingwood Center prior to the Show.

8:00 p.m.—Meeting of the Board of Directors, Conference Room, Kingwood Hall.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 1966

7:00 a.m.—Continue placing entries. Closing time for entries will be strictly adhered to.

11:00 a.m.—Buffet Luncheon served at Kingwood Hall. Reservations required. See **Reservation Form** enclosed in Bulletin.

11:30 a.m.—Judging. All judges are requested to assemble immediately after entries close at 11:00 a.m. for Orientation period. Exhibit Hall will be closed to everyone during this period except judges and clerks.

1:00 p.m.—Show open to members of the Society and Exhibitors only.

2:00 p.m.—Show open to public. (Scheduled opening hour will be strictly adhered to.) Visit Peony collection in Kingwood Gardens.

3:30 p.m.—PEONY AUCTION - Main Assembly Room in Kingwood Hall. Certificates for peony roots will be awarded highest bidder. Roots will be mailed at proper planting time. All profits from auction to be used by and for operation of American Peony Society. Excellent opportunity to procure new and rare varieties! Open to public!

6:30 p.m.—Annual Banquet, Holiday Inn. Reservations required. See Registration Form enclosed in this Bulletin. An unusual program is being planned! The 63rd Annual Meeting of the A.P.S. will be held immediately following the banquet.

SUNDAY, JUNE 19, 1966

10:30 a.m.—Second meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Peony Society, Conference room, Kingwood Hall.

2:30 p.m.—Panel Discussion on Peony Culture, varieties, showing. Assembly room, Kingwood Hall. Excellent time to exchange ideas, seek information. **Open to the Public.**

8:00 p.m.—Show closes. All ribbons will be mailed exhibitors, therefore, all entry tags, etc., are requested to be left in place. Special awards may be removed after 8:00 p.m. as long as sufficient notification is given the Show management. Cooperation of all exhibitors in correctly and completely filling out entry tags and leaving ribbons in place will facilitate a complete and detailed report of the Show which will be compiled for the Society by the Kingwood Staff.

61st ANNUAL SHOW

KINGWOOD CENTER EXHIBIT HALL

MANSFIELD, OHIO 44903

ENTRIES CLOSE, SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 1966

11:00 A.M. (EST)

SHOW OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2:00-9:00 P.M. (EST)

SUNDAY, JUNE 19TH, 9:00 A.M.-8:00 P.M.

Rules

1. All entries must be completed by 11:00 a.m. (Eastern Standard Time) Saturday, June 18th.

2. All entries except those in Division VI (Arrangements) must have been grown by the exhibitor.

3. Entry tags supplied by Kingwood Center must be filled out completely as to class, variety, name and address of the exhibitor. It is essential that both the upper and lower portions of the entry tag be filled out. (The lower part of

the tag will be the official record of the entry.) This must be done before placing the entry in the designated exhibit space. In addition, all blooms must have a small wooden label wired securely to the stem with the variety name printed on both sides. In collection classes each individual specimen requires only the name label, but one specimen must carry the entry tag completely filled out except for variety. Completion of entry tags is the responsibility of the exhibitor or his agent. Entry tags may be obtained on

ADVANCE REGISTRATION

63rd Annual American Peony Society Meeting

JUNE 18 and 19, 1966

Kingwood Center

Mansfield, Ohio

Return to Kingwood Center, Mansfield, Ohio, P.O. Box 1186

To assist in making arrangements, advance registrations for the meetings will be required. Please return this card before June 13, 1966. If you plan to attend the luncheon and/or banquet, please make checks payable to Kingwood Center. Registration is required regardless of whether you attend either or both meals.

I plan to attend the Luncheon, Saturday

_____ number of persons at \$2.50 ea.

I plan to attend the Banquet, Saturday Evening

_____ number of persons at \$4.00 ea.

AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

Name _____

Address _____

Others in my party:

Name _____ Address _____

Name _____ Address _____

Name _____ Address _____

Name _____ Address _____

Receipts in the form of luncheon and/or banquet tickets will be forwarded to those enclosing prepayment as noted. All registrants will receive lapel tags with their name upon arrival at Kingwood Center.

request from Kingwood Center in advance of the show. Stems should be approximately 16 inches.

4. Exhibitors are limited to one entry in Classes 1, 2, 32, and 42. Multiple entries are permitted in all other classes provided there is no duplication of varieties. Ex.: One may enter *Le Cygne*, *Kelways Glorious* and *Ann Cousins* and others as three or more entries in Class II, but not more than one entry of *Le Cygne*.

5. If there are three or more entries of the same variety in a class, the management may create separate variety classes if quality warrants.

6. The management may create subclasses in Section F. (hybrids) if number of entries and quality warrant.

7. All entries must be correctly named except in DIVISION II (Amateurs) where failure to have correct name will not disqualify; however having correct name will enhance the chances for a prize. Names are not required in DIVISION VI (arrangements) except as specified.

8. Standard containers furnished by the show management must be used except for arrangements. The management will not be responsible for arrangement containers left after the show.

9. Artificial plant materials are not permitted in the arrangement classes.

10. The American Peony Society's Handbook will govern bloom types and color.

11. Only one first, second and third ribbon may be awarded in any one class, but more than one certificate of merit and honorable mention may be awarded in the classes where they apply if the judges feel they are deserved.

12. Ribbons and awards may be withheld at the discretion of the judges and their decisions will be final.

13. The management reserves the right will be permitted in the exhibition hall to reject for exhibit entries whose quality is not up to exhibition standards.

14. Utmost care will be exercised by the management in moving entries during the staging of the show, but cannot be held responsible for damage or loss.

15. Only the judges and the personnel, necessary for the conduct of the show, during the judging.

16. Exhibitors will be permitted to place entries any time from Friday noon until 11:00 a.m., Saturday.

17. The show will close Sunday, June 19th at 8:00 p.m. No flowers, ribbons or trophies may be removed before that time without special consent of the management. Ribbons and other awards will be mailed to all winners. Flowers will be removed by the show management.

Awards

The Court of Honor shall consist of the following award winners:

American Peony Society Awards:

- A. Gold and silver medal certificates will be awarded in classes 1 and 2 respectively.
- B. Certificates of excellence will be awarded in Classes 32 and 42.
- C. Rosettes will be awarded in Classes 18 and 25; also to the outstanding entry in DIVISION VI.
- D. Peony roots will be awarded all first place winners in Division II (Amateurs) and DIVISION IV (Arrangements). Roots will be sent in the fall at the proper time. Be sure name and address on **Entry Tags** are **correct** and **legible**.
- E. First, second and third place ribbons will be given in classes other than those in which certificates and rosettes are awarded.

- F. The **JAMES BOYD MEMORIAL MEDAL**, donated by the Pennsylvania Horticulture Society, will be awarded for the most distinctive 10 Best Hybrids.
- G. **B. F. FARR MEMORIAL MEDAL** for the 25 Best Blooms-Class A.
- H. **CHARLES F. WASSENBERG TROPHY**, donated by the Van Wert County Foundation to be awarded to the Best Peony Flower in the Show.
- I. **THE KINGWOOD BOWL** will be awarded to the Exhibitor who wins the greatest number of blue ribbons. In case of a tie, red ribbons will be awarded.

Schedule

- DIVISION I - Open to all
Section A. Certificate Classes
Class 1. Twenty-five varieties, any type; in separate containers,

each labeled. Gold medal certificate.

Class 2. Fifteen varieties in separate containers; any type, each labeled. Silver medal certificate.

Section B. 3 blooms of one variety in one container. Lactifloras (albifloras) only.

Class 3. Double white or flesh

4. Double light pink
5. Double dark pink
6. Double red
7. Semi-double white
8. Semi-double other than white
9. Doubles, one each, red, white and pink
10. Bomb type, any color or colors

Section C. Specimen classes. One bloom. Lactifloras only.

Class 11. Double white or flesh

12. Double light pink
13. Double dark pink
14. Double red
15. White or flesh semi-double
16. Pink semi-double
17. Red semi-double
18. Bomb type

Section D Japanese type lactifloras

Class 18. Collection of 5 varieties, any color or colors.

19. Three blooms of white, same variety
20. Three blooms of pink, same variety
21. Three blooms of red, same variety
22. Specimen bloom, white
23. Specimen bloom, pink
24. Specimen bloom, red

Section E Single type lactifloras

Class 25. Collection of 5 varieties, any color or colors.

26. Three blooms white, same variety
27. Three blooms pink, same variety

28. Three blooms red, same variety

29. Specimen bloom, white

30. Specimen bloom, pink

31. Specimen bloom, red

Section F Hybrids (inter-species crosses)

Class 32. Collection of ten varieties, one bloom each

33. Collection of 3 double varieties

34. Collection of 3 semi-double varieties

35. Collection of 3 Japanese varieties

36. Collection of 3 Single varieties

37. Specimen bloom, double

38. Specimen bloom, semi-double

39. Specimen bloom, single.
Note—In case there are enough entries in class 39 to warrant it, the class will be divided into (a) white (b) cream and yellow, (c) pink and (d) red.

Section G Tree peonies

Class 40. Collection of three varieties

41. Specimen bloom, any type or color

DIVISION II - Amateurs only: Those who raise peonies for pleasure only, do not sell plants, roots, except casually, and do not have over 200 plants.

Section H Collections or Cut Flowers

Class 42. Ten varieties, one bloom each, any type, any color

43. Three double varieties, one each red, white and pink

44. Three semi-double varieties, any color

45. Three Japanese type varieties, any color

46. Three single varieties, any color

Section G Specimens - one bloom

- Class 47. Double white
- 48. Double pink
- 49. Double red
- 50. Semi-double, any color
- 51. Japanese, any color
- 52. Single, any color
- 53. Hybrid, any color, any type

DIVISION III - Open to all. Seedlings and new varieties.

- Class 54. Seedlings, three blooms of one variety that has not been offered for sale but has been propagated by division one or more times. It must be designated by number, code or name.

- 55. **R e c e n t** introductions. Three blooms. Limited to varieties which have been named and registered with the Society and have been offered for sale to the public no more than six years.

Awards in the above two classes will be **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** or **HONORABLE MENTION** at the discretion of the judges. varieties having won either award are not eligible to compete.

- 56. The Myron D. Bigger Plaque. Offered by Myron D. Bigger of Topeka, Kansas, to the originator of the best and most distinctive new peony shown under the following conditions:

1. A specific entry must be made in this class. The number of entries by any one exhibitor is limited to five.
2. Not less than three (3) blooms of each variety entered must be shown.
3. Any new variety, named or unnamed, any type, color, species, hybrid herbaceous or tree, may be shown.
4. The varieties must have distinctiveness as compared to existing varieties.
5. No variety that has been offered for sale for more than three years prior to the date of this show, may be entered.
6. No variety that has won this award in any previous year, may be entered.
7. If an unnamed seedling wins this class, it must be given a name and the

name approved by and registered with the American Peony Society. No award will be confirmed until this provision has been met.

8. The award shall be made by the Standing Seedling Committee of the American Peony Society.

9. A photograph in black and white must be furnished free of charge for reproduction in the American Peony Society Bulletin. It will be sent to Mr. Bigger when the engraving is completed. Size, preferably, 4"x5".

Partial List of Varieties for Use in Classes 56 and 57. (Taken from Bulletin 169, June, 1963, of the American Peony Society)

DIVISION IV - Visitors from out of State

- Class 57. Five varieties, any type or color; three blooms each.
- 58. Exhibitor from greatest distance.

DIVISION V - Court of Honor:

Specific entries are not required for participation in this class. It is attained by excellence and merit of entries, and is made up of the best flowers in the show of the various types and colors as follows: (a.) Double white or flesh; (b.) double light pink; (c.) double dark pink; (d.) double red; (e.) Semi-double white; (f.) semi-double pink or red; (g.) Japanese (h.) single; (i.) hybrid; (j.) tree.

Champion of the Show: The finest flower in the Court of Honor.

Note: Court of Honor candidates will not be limited to the specimen classes. It will be the duty of the judges to search the collections for outstanding flowers for Court of Honor competition.

DIVISION VI - Arrangements.

Open to all.

THEME: "Peonies for Permanence"

59. "As everlasting as the hills"—An arrangement using peonies as the dominant flower and featuring a rock or rocks as accessory.

60. "Peonies can survive Winter's snows"—Mass arrangement using double white peony bloms. Other white flowers permitted.

61. ". . . and Peonies can live through Summer's heat."—Arrange-

ment using red and pink peonies. Other material may be used, but only peony flowers permitted.

62. "Peonies from the past."—Arrangement using albiflora peonies introduced before 1930. Other flowers and/or foliage permitted. The names of the varieties used must be listed on entry card. (See list of representative varieties attached.)

VARIETIES INTRODUCED BEFORE 1930

White doubles:

Festiva Maxima (1851) Frankie Curtis (1924) Keiway's Glorious (1909) Le Cygne (1907) Mrs. Frank Beach (1925) A. B. Franklin (1928) Alesia (1927) Avalanche (1886) Alice Harding (1922) La Lorraine (1901).

Light pink doubles:

Ella Lewis (1925) Hansina Brand (1925) Myrtle Gentry (1925) Nimbus (1923) Reine Hortense (1857)

Medium and dark pink doubles:

Mons. Jules Elle (1888) Sarah Bernhardt (1906) Souv. de Louis Bigot (1913) Therese (1904) Walter Faxon (1904) Blanche King (1922) Martha Bulloch (1907) Mme. Emile Debatene (1927) Edu-lus Superba (1824)

Red doubles:

Lora Dexheimer (1913) Mary Brand (1907) Karl Rosenfield (1908) Philippe Rivoire (1911) Richard Carvel (1913)

White Japs and singles:

Isani Gidui (unknown) Le Jour (1915) Exquisite (unknown).

Pink Japs and singles:

Akashi-gata (unknown) Largo (1929) Rashoomon (unknown) Departing Sun (unknown) Helen (1922) L'Etincelante (1905)

Red Japs and singles:

Hari-ai-nin (1929) Nippon Beauty (1929) Flanders Field (1928) President Lincoln (1928)

63. "Peonies of the Present."—Arrangement using albiflora peonies introduced since 1930. Other flowers and/or foliage permitted. The names of the varieties used must be listed on entry card. (See list of represent-

ative varieties after 1930.)

VARIETIES INTRODUCED SINCE 1930

White doubles:

Ann Cousins (1946) Dr. J. H. Neeley (1930) Evening Star (1937) Mary E. Nichols (1941)

Blush or flesh doubles:

Frances Mains (1955) Alma Hansen (1946) Gardenia (1942) Florence Nichols (1938) Judge Snook (1930) Moonstone (1942)

Light pink doubles:

Ave Maria (1936) Doris Cooper (1946) Dorothy J. (1938) Hans P. Saas (1937) Jayhawker (1949) Marilia Beauty (1940) Minuet (1931) Nancy Nichols (1941) Nick Shaylor (1931).

Medium and dark pink doubles:

Dolorodel (1942) Hermione (1932) Lottie Dawson Rea (1939) Mandaleen (1942) Marietta Sisson (1933) Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt (1933) Mrs. Livingston Farrand (1935) Westhill (1938) June Rose (1938) Loren Franklin (1931)

Red doubles:

Lowell Thomas (1934) Sir John Franklin (1939) W. E. Blanchette (1936) Bonanza (1947) Ruth Elizabeth (1936) Tempest (1931) Kansas (1942)

White Japs and singles

Gold Standard (1934) Pico (1934) Lotus Queen (1947) Moon of Nippon (1936).

Pink Japs and singles:

Doreen (1949) Vanity (1951) Westerner (1942) Mary Moy (1930) Sky Pilot (1939) Angelus 1933) Sea Shell (1937)

Red Japs and singles:

Arcturus (1933) Imperial Red (1932) Kickapoo (1931) Break o' Day (1947) Charm (1931) Mrs. Wilder Bancroft (1935) Nippon Brilliant (1933) Sword Dance (1933).

64. "Peonies of the Future"—Arrangement using hybrid or single peonies only. Other material may be used but only peony flowers permitted. Accessories allowed. The names of the varieties used must be listed on entry card.

65. "WAY, WAY out!"—An arrangement in a conical-shaped container. Peonies should predominate. An abstract interpretation.

GROWING AND SHOWING BLOOMS

by Clarence O. Lienau

At our last national show at Lake Mohawk, New Jersey (1965) our Secretary's associate editor and good wife, Catharine, requested me to write an article on how I grow and show peony blooms.

To begin with, after the soil dries out enough in late April in this vicinity (earlier south of here) so it is workable and the little red peony shoots protrude out of the ground about 2 inches I start to cultivate the soil around each plant. In about a week I go over the planting again as some of the later

varieties now are coming through the soil and want to be cultivated also. I cultivate my plants about 3 more times before blooming time. Care should be taken not to cultivate too deeply. It is my opinion that the first cultivation is the most important of all. You will notice the shoots will practically jump out of the ground 2 or 3 inches overnight after the first cultivation.

When the plants are 12 to 14 inches tall or better still, when the buds are as large as peas one should start to disbud, leaving just one bud on the center of the stalk or what is called the terminal bud. By using the thumbnail and the nail of your second finger you will find it easy to pinch out the side buds.

One should pinch close to stem but care should be taken so as not to break off your finest potential bloom. I go over the planting again in about 6 or 7 days doing the same chore, as you will find you have missed some, and the later varieties now need attention.

When the buds grow to about 1 inch in diameter I go over all potential varieties and select the buds that are the tallest and I have the thickest stems, these will be your finest blooms. Now I attach a tree label about 4 inches below the bud. I usually select 3 or 4 blooms of each variety to make sure I will have one good one. One should use a weather proof pencil for marking, be sure to write the proper name plainly on your label. I also write the name on top of my bags, I find this very helpful. After the bud starts to show color, I start to bag them. The reason for bagging is first to keep the hot sun off the bloom so as not to discolor or fade them. Second, for storing, carrying, and shipping purposes. I use 1 pound brown Manila bags for most single, Japs, small Hybrids and small double varieties. However, for such

large single and Japs as Imperial Red, Pico, Largo, Westener, Red Charm, be sure to use 2 lb. bags as too small of a bag may distort your bloom. Write the proper name on top of the bag, then place the opening on top of the bud and bring it down about half way, then pinch both sides together at the bottom and staple. Care should be taken to leave enough space above the bud so the bloom can expand. One may purchase an inexpensive stapler at almost any dime store. I find this is a must.

Wood tree labels $3\frac{5}{8}$ long x $\frac{5}{8}$ wide with a wire twisted around them can be purchased from your nursery or a florist can purchase them for you from his florist supply house. I suggest you purchase these early about March or April.

The bags should have a small corner torn off in order to leave out the hot air that generates from the hot sun to prevent cooking your blooms. Each day watch your plants whenever the single and Japs feel soft to the touch, cut them. It is easy for them to open. I believe it is better to cut these a little too tight, than too far open. This also applies to single and Jap Hybrids. In regards to the double varieties, you may wait until the bag feels full, before cutting the bloom. I would suggest cutting 16 to 18 inch stems, remove all leaves, except two, place in clear water in a cool place for about 1 hour, before placing in a refrigerator or walk in box. If, after cutting your bloom for any reason, you want to bag or rebag, you may do so.

The best way is to cut a small hole in the center of the bottom of the bag and insert the stem first, then pull the stem through the bag. Then fold the open end of the bag twice, staple it at the top two places. In regards to refrigeration, for a novice with 5 to 25 blooms, one could put them in your own home

refrigerator, the best temperature would be 34 to 36 degree's. For an amateur with 35 to 50 blooms, it would be advisable to contact a storekeeper, dairy or florist who has a walk-in-box. Two five gallon cans would hold 50 blooms. I prefer to store my blooms in water, for the all out peony nut like me, I am sure you open class boys will find refrigeration of some kind.

In regards to placing your bloom in the proper classes, I do not select the class I want to enter until after I have them unpacked and they are setting in water bottles for two hrs. or more, by then it is a lot easier to make a decision.

In regards to getting your bloom to the site of the show, I use army foot lockers. One locker will hold about 50 blooms. If you are not too far from the show or want to ship by air, you may secure, usually for the asking, a large used wholesale flower box from your florist, they hold about 50 blooms. By packing six or eight sheets of newspaper loosely all around inside of the box, you will have fairly good insulation.

Now varieties, for the novice and amateur, I would say use whatever you have to start with. Three and four old plants will grow the largest and finest bloom, however, I have won first prizes with 8 and 10 yr. old plants, so you see this is not always the case.

By showing and attending a show or shows, you will discover by experience what the best varieties are for exhibition. You may also look back in the last several American Peony Society Bulletins. September issues and see what the former winners were.

You may purchase these back bulletins for 50 cents from our secretary.

I would advise anyone who is interested in showing peonies to purchase number 86 and for the

open class exhibitor to read number 156, March 1960. Exhibition Peonies by Marvin C. Karrels. This is a very fine piece written by one of the finest exhibitors I ever had the pleasure of knowing.

For you new members whether you are novice, amateur or open class or non member exhibitor, if you will introduce yourself to the other exhibitors at the show, I am sure you will receive much expert advice on varieties, growing, showing, refrigerating, transporting etc. just for asking.

You will also find fine fellowship at our shows.

Please bring your blooms even if it is only 1, 5, 25, or 100 and let us prove we have a wonderful Peony Society.

Clarence O. Lienau

Chromosome Count

Silvia Saunders

Five Additional Chromosome Counts—these were made in January 1966 on anthers that had been gathered nine months previous, in April 1965; they had been kept in a refrigerator all this time.

May Lilac (an albi-macro F2	20
Winterthur (an albi-macro F2	20
Emodi x Mloko	10
Veitchi x Mloko	20
Mloko x Peregrina F2	20

Mrs. Paul Mellon, was awarded by the Horticulture Society of New York, their "Citation for Outstanding Service to Horticulture" in the Amateur division, stating "Mrs. Mellon a purist in horticulture, who both possesses a knowledge and understanding of the culture and rewards of growing plants, and has generously shared her talents and enthusiasm with others, including, at the request of the late President Kennedy, the redesigning of the rose garden at the White House.

PEONIES!

The Backbone of Beautiful Gardens

by N. Brandewie Emig

Peonies have not found their rightful place in America. Its the reason why so many gardens are lacking in glamour and drama, The Peony could supply this need, if the home-owner would only realize its great possibilities, and value, to the landscape.

The peony is to the garden, like a mother is to a home, for it provides backbone, strength and solidity. The Peony is the mother of the garden, and all the other plants are her helpers in making a unified pattern of beauty.

Beautiful gardens are achieved by taking the cue from the rainbow. All the colors of the rainbow are muted together, making the most enchanting color scheme of the entire world, soft, delicate exquisite.

The rainbow can be brought into the garden, by using the three "Greats of the Flower Kingdom together, namely Peonies, Roses, and Iris! These three blend together like the colors of the rainbow, each enhancing the other. Peonies are dramatic, and magnificent, with a great festival aura about them. Roses contribute incomparable velvety richness to the garden, that no other flower possesses. The Iris have a dignity, and exotic glamour that exists in no other flower. All are aristocrats in their own right, and, each stands alone in great beauty, anyplace.

Georgous gardens can be built around these three wonderful perennials. They can be used in many ways, together in one bed, or in adjacent plantings. Then, to put the frosting on the cake, judiciously, use various greyed border plants, like the velvety Lambs Ear, with its cathedral spired blossoms, the soft

Nepeta Mussini with its delicate blue flowers, and the dainty Clove Pinks, of many shades of pink and white, with their luscious fragrance, wafted on the winds, to the entire neighborhood. Incorporate also, into the scene, such charming filler plants, like Coral-bells and Memorial Day Daisies.

Hardy shrubs, enclosing the garden, are very effective; with a mixed border of all kinds of perennials. In the foreground, use Peonies, Iris, Florabunda Roses, and Tea Roses, for the basic design. Spring Bulbs, Day-lillies, Hostas, Lillies, Delphiniums, Veronics, Hardy Asters, Phlox Platycodon, Lythrum, Chrysanthemums and many other perennials, that provide color, from early spring until hard frost, can be artfully combined, in a most rewarding planting.

Semi-formal, and formal plantings, with all types of tall shrubs, as a background, are really stunning, laid out with long sweeping curved beds, flanked by Peonies, of all colors, in the foreground. Edged with Iris, of late varieties, in colors of violet, blue, yellow, pink, purple, white and lavender, it leaves one spellbound!

Climbing Roses on the garage, in red, pink, and blush, are a dramatic foil for Peonies of all colors. On the adjoining side of the building, using white, pink, buff Climbing Roses, and a half-moon bed of Iris, in yellow, purple, gold, blue and rose, the whole planting is outstanding. Viewed from a distance, this arrangement makes a picture, never to be forgotten by anyone who sees it.

Breathtaking beauty can be achieved by planting Peonies in

front of Florabunda Roses, interspersed with Coral-bells, and edged with Clove Pinks. A bed like this, with its tall background of Japanese Plum, Lilacs and Flowering Crabs, makes the garden sing, and gives the poets something to write about! In our garden, I am sure, this is the place where the Fairies hold their meetings!

Endless combinations, evoke endless gasps of delight, from visitors, when Peonies, Roses and Iris are used together in any garden. A sight to behold, is a whole row of **FESTIVA MAXIMA**, of white peonies, bordered in front with several rows of Tea Roses, in all colors. In full bloom, a bed like this, looks like a hand-made bouquet dropped from heaven!

Plan the garden so it is artistic, and beautiful, from all angles. No matter where one sits, or stands, in the garden, the view should be lovely, in all directions. When the flowers are gone, the green garden should still be beautiful. The foliage of the Peonies, and the Iris is decorative, until hard frosts. Iris leaves should never be cut off, at any time, for they make a handsome pattern, even in winter. Peony stalks should not be removed, until right before cold weather sets in, as the foliage turns all colors in October and November, adding greatly to the beauty of the landscape, and autumn coloring of the surrounding shrubs.

The most important fact to remember, when planning the garden, is that the blooms of the Peonies, Roses and Daylillies all face the sun, and light. They all have backs to their blooms. They should be planted in the right location, so the bloom faces the garden. All are best planted, so they will face the south or east. Its quite disconcerting to walk along a garden bed, and see nothing but the backs of the

flowers. Iris blooms do not have backs, so they can be placed in any situation.

Our garden is a strictly non-commercial, educational private garden. Being an artist, I planned it for beauty only. We have used over seventy-five varieties of Peonies, one hundred varieties of Iris, and over a hundred varieties of Roses for the basic plantings. Enclosing the 100 ft. by 168 ft. garden are over forty different kinds of hardy Flowering Shrubs. Many of these shrubs are as old as the house, which we built forty-five years ago. We keep eliminating and adding perennials every year, as new plants appear on the market, that show improvement over the old.

One of the Peony plantings we shall never disturb, is a row of Festive Maxima that we planted forty-five years ago. Every clump is still producing up to sixty blooms, every year, without fail. Every married couple with children, should plant a few roots of this wonderful Peony. Let these roots develop, for a few years, then divide, to make a row, for future cut flowers. Festiva Maxima means Great Festival, and that's what it always looks like, no matter where it is. When cut in the bud, it lasts ten days, to two weeks in water. When the children grow up, Festiva Maxima will be ready, with hundreds of blooms for any occasion, graduation, parties, showers, and best of all for church, home, and Country Club decorations, for future weddings. This marvelous Peony will provide stunning flowers for the affairs of the grand-children, as well as the great-grandchildren. So look to the future, Mother! Get the roots in the ground, this very September. You'll be glad, fifty years from now, that you did. And as the years roll by, pray that all of the offspring won't get married in the dead of winter.

PEONIES AT WINTERTHUR

by C. Gordon Tyrrell, Director of Gardens

The growing of peonies at Winterthur, near Wilmington, Delaware, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry F. du Pont is nothing new, as the records show that three plants of *Paeonia suffruticosa*, the Chinese Moutan Peony, date back to 1880, while a few plants of French hybrids (produced by M. Lemoine) 'La Lorraine' and 'Souvenir de Maxime Cornu' were brought over from France in 1910 and 1925 respectively.

The Peony Garden as we know it today was formulated in the early '50s. Framed by dark evergreens and accented here and there by lavender lilacs, pink Beauty Bush and pale yellow Broom. This garden is a collection of several types of peonies, both tree and herbaceous. The tree peonies are of two types, Chinese and the Japanese varieties, which are derivatives of the Moutan peony and come in shades of pink, crimson, maroon and white, and we have some twenty varieties of this type. The second, the Saunders hybrid peonies, are hybrids resulting from the Moutan Peony crossed with the rare yellow species *Paeonia lutea*. These come in shades of deep red, crimson, mauve, tearose, yellow and gold; of which we have something like seventy different varieties growing here at Winterthur.

The late Dr. A. P. Saunders of Clinton, New York, spent a lifetime hybridizing both the tree and herbaceous peonies and all the herbaceous peonies that are grown here are of his creation, hybrids not only of the common garden peony, but many rare and little known species from the mountains of Europe and Asia. In using these he was able to introduce new colors in his hybrids and to extend their seasonal bloom as well. It is curious that in looking over the records of the herbaceous peonies that most of those blooming earliest have *P. decora* in their blood,

whereas, the midseason varieties seem to have *P. albiflora*, either with *P. officinalis* or *P. wittmanniana*. The latest to bloom are those of the now famous race the *P. albiflora* x *P. lobata* hybrids. Among some of the herbaceous crosses are triple hybrids; for example, "Burgundy", a dark red, which is a cross between *P. albiflora* x *P. officinalis* x *P. macrophylla*; and quadruple hybrids, such as "Athena", an ivory, which is a cross between (*P. albiflora* x *P. officinalis*) x *P. mlokosewitschi* x *P. macrophylla*.

The history of the hybrids is very interesting and more information can be found in "The Peonies", edited by John C. Wister. The possibility of crosses is innumerable and today the field is wide open for further work on hybridizing peonies. The Peony Garden at Winterthur has been planted not as a collection of peonies per se, but with meticulous care to color scheme and ever since its first planting, has been gone over year by year to bring in new varieties and rearrange groups so that the result is now a perfect combination of plant material.

It might seem appropriate at this point to give a resume of our culture at Winterthur. This may not be the recommended method, but at least this is what we do and we find that our results are more than satisfac-

tory. For tree peonies, a hole is dug 30" deep and as wide as is necessary and the bottom 6"—8" is filled with large stone (not used for herbaceous plants) with sod put upside down on top of the stone. Then the rest of the hole is filled with the mixture of three parts of loam, one of well-rotted manure and a 5" pot of bone meal to every barrowful of soil. We like to do this job a month ahead of time so that the soil will settle and the plants can be put in when they arrive. Any planting or replanting we like to do at the end of August or in early September as the ground is in better condition than at any other time of the year. As for general care, bone meal is added to the beds each fall, usually a liberal handful around each plant. In the fall, too, after the leaves have dropped and been cleaned up, we like to start our spray program, spraying the plants and the ground with Fermate. In the spring, before the leaves appear and the buds open, again spraying the plants and the ground. Then the plants are sprayed every ten or fourteen days until flowering time. It is not usually recommended to wrap tree peonies any more, but we still are old-fashioned enough to do this at Winterthur and we feel that the extra time and trouble more than repays for doing this. Usually wrapping towards the end of November, depending on the weather conditions, and unwrapping as soon in the spring as it is at all possible. Watering is very important with us, especially in these dry seasons we've had just lately, and give a thorough watering every two weeks during a dry spell. For convenience sake this is done by overhead sprinklers which are usually left on all night so that a thorough watering is done.

We feel too that a mulch isn't necessary during the winter, nor

do we use one during the summer, except to cultivate after watering. The herbaceous plants are staked when they are about a foot high with wire rings. Tree peonies normally are not staked, but take care of themselves and the proof of the pudding is in the eating. The period of bloom here is from the early days of May right through the first week of June.

In 1962 we were able to cut from the garden here at Winterthur 500 blooms of peonies and ship them to the Chelsea Show where, as has been noted before, the coveted Lindley Medal was won by this exhibit.

Editor's Comment

We are indebted to Mr. Tyrrell for his gracious response to our request for an article about Winterthur and to Mr. Henry F. DuPont, a member of the American Peony Society for permission and his persuasion of Mr. Tyrrell to comply. Dr. Harold E. Tinnappel, a member of our Board of Directors, was so impressed at the time of his visit to the Gardens and Museum last fall, that it was through him we were challenged to make the request.! Thank you one and all!.

—o—

COLOR SLIDE LIBRARY

We have received a number of new slides of recent introductions.

Slide Rental Information

- (1) Slides are for 35 mm. projector. Renter supplies projector.
- (2) Slides must be ordered six (6) weeks in advance.
- (3) Rental fee—Five dollars (\$5.00) Return postage must be paid by renter. Insure for \$50.00. Make checks payable to American Peony Society.
- (4) There will be a charge of \$2.00 for every slide missing. Count slides when you receive them and again before you seal for return to A.P.S. Office.

Boss Apologizes

Proof that the Bulletin is really read is in the sequence of events following publication of our December Bulletin (see page 20). The following excerpts from correspondence tells the story: Under date of December 17th, Dave Gerard, cartoonist wrote your editor as follows: "Before the peony growers of America descend upon me enmasse I hasten to apologize for taking the name of peony in vane in my comic strip of September 21st date. Speaking for myself, I love the peony and consider it one of nature's noblest flowers. But of course I can't control the feelings my WILL-YUM'S dog WHIZZER. Joe Edwards one of the esteemed members of the society and a very good friend of mine—or he was until I slighted the the name "peony"—came by to show me the article in your journal urging all peony lovers to write me nasty letters. Joe says if I send you the original strip (which I do herewith) and apologize that all will be forgiven.

With kindest regards,
Dave Gerard

P.S. I'll try to even matters by saying something nice about the peony in a future strip. Okay?

We answered Mr. Gerard, accepting his apology on behalf of the American Peony Society and said, "we cannot really blame WILL-YUM'S dog WHIZZER for wanting to visit peony plantings for many peonies have a delightful fragrance."

We also heard from Mr. Edwards who enclosed a clipping from Mr. Gerard's home town paper, quoting our story and telling about Mr. Gerard.

We wish to express our appreciation to the members who took time to learn how to reach Mr. Gerard through the Newspaper Syndicate. It wasn't necessary. We did, however send a copy of Bulletin to the Syndicate at Mr. Gerard's request.

Flower Show In Texas

The American Peony Society will present awards for the best specimen, if merited, at the Wichita Falls Florama Council of Garden Clubs Annual Flower Show April 30-May 1st, 1966 at Midwestern University. The Council, Mrs. Bob Burns, President, is composed of six Federated National Garden Clubs and Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.

The American Rose Society and American Iris Society will also present awards if merited.

Peony classifications are to be in Section B-Perennials and Biennials, in Division 1. **Horticulture.**

30. Peony, one bloom, correctly named (Award of Merit)
 - a. Single
(White, Yellow, Pink Red, and Blend)
 - b. Semi-double
(White, Yellow, Pink Red, and Blend)
 - c. Double
(White, Yellow, Pink Red, and Blend)
31. Collection of five peony blooms, any variety, correctly named.
32. Collection—five specimens, any other perennial or biennial.
33. Collection—five perennials or biennials, different species.

The theme for the show is "Our Universe in Bloom." Anyone interested in entering peonies, herbs, flowering shrubs, trees, vine, potted other flowers, flowering plants, artistic arrangements and/or "Tables of the World," may write to the Executive Flower Show Chairman.

Mrs. E. F. Post,
3205 Sue Ann,
Wichita Falls,

Note: The original strip may be seen in my office, suitably framed and now hanging on the wall.

The Editor

“Loving Care” for Peonies?

by Edward Auten, Jr.

Glancing through some magazine recently I came across what was either an article on or a book review of a title “Loving care.” This was for roses I was not especially interested, so did not read it. In my list of favorite flowers roses can rank no higher than No. 10.

But as I got to thinking about the article I wondered whether this “loving care” was simply one way of listing standard methods of care, or something very super, and which might be either that or actually inferior to regular rose practice.

Then I got to wondering whether “loving care” might possibly be something for peonies. I concluded our present simple rules are ample, but then I got to thinking of some peony practices that were not correct and which might possibly have been inspired by loving care. Here are some that I have known about.

One man, with a small yard, was a fertilizer specialist. He fertilized regularly and so heavily that stuff would not do well for him. I outlined a method for him, and the first question he asked was “What fertilizer shall I use on them!”

Next, a lady wanted solution of her peony troubles. She was generous with water, watered her whole flower garden every day. No wonder sick peonies.

Then in an unusually beautifully kept yard, peonies not doing well, they had added one to two inches of new dirt each year on old peonies. Too much, of course, since additional dirt is not needed ordinarily.

Next trouble call. Peonies in a large bed of many kinds of flowers all crowded close, none could do well. I saw the same thing in a

display garden in a state horticultural test garden.

Then the people who think peony tops should be cut down soon after blooming, and those cutting many blooms with stems cut to ground O.K. if you are not concerned about bloom the next year or two or three. One well doer planted a gift root upside down. Not many do that, but hundreds of transgressors who in their enthusiasm to get them deep enough to grow, plant them 4 to 8 inches deep, instead of eyes only 2 inches deep.

Then those generous souls who want to share their choice plants with others, take a spade and chop off a section of an old plant and then maybe later wonder why their pet isn't doing so well. That might be all right for a bearded iris, but not for peonies.

And then those who plant in the spring, can't wait until September, even though their actual gain in spring planting is very uncertain.

And now to change the subject. A special outpouring against the visitor to the peony field of an originator of peonies, who on viewing one of his finest and most distinctive creations, says casually that he has one of that kind at home.

P.S. One man to whom I mailed a box of roots in October, took such good care of the box that the next April he asked me when was the right time to plant his order.

WEATHER WARNINGS

. . . When it is evening, ye say,
It will be fair weather: For the sky is red.

And in the morning; It will be
foul weather today: For the sky is
red and lowering.

—St. Matthew 16: 2-3

BUD FAILURE

by Edward Auten, Jr.

The question has been raised why, if buds fail to open, and die, can it be freezing or botrytis, when all the buds on a plant don't die, and when the botrytis does not kill the whole bloom stalk down to the ground. My theory of bud death from freezing is that when a bud is small it has a large proportion of water in it. When that freezes, it makes ice which expands and tears the fibres of the bud, which dies. The buds on a plant do not all have the same proportion of water in them at the same time. Some freeze, some don't. But if the freeze is severe, all buds may be killed. One variety that has frozen buds one year might go several years with none. In 1927 the national show was at Peoria, Ill., 25 miles from my town and I was appointed to get as many exhibitors as possible. We had a terrific freeze, and I had only 50 per cent of bloom.

The morning after the freeze I could see that the damage was severe. I then wrote to Mr. W. L. Gumm at Remmington, Ind., telling of my loss and fearful of his state of affairs. He wrote back that his were all right but I told Mrs. Auten that he would find out, and he did. He had a 90% loss and did not send a bloom to the show.

And as to botrytis killing some buds but not the stems they were on, clear to the ground—young tender stem tissue is much more susceptible to botrytis damage than more mature fibres. Botrytis may attack a leaf joint—the main stem not damaged, the tender side one can be killed. This spring in my yard with 90 peonies I stopped botrytis completely by plucking off the side stems afflicted, maybe a dozen of them, and burning them, just as soon as the trouble was visible.

From The Editors Desk . . .

Our correspondence is challenging! How we wish we might be able to share with each of you, through the pages of the Bulletin, a great deal more than it is possible at this time. If every **member** would **assume** the **responsibility** of **recruiting** another member, we would be able to add more pages to the Bulletin and thereby print more of the letters. For example, a few excerpts perhaps will "whet your appetite !!!"

* * * *

Meyer Marad, Mobile Post Negev, Israel; writes—"I have for many years tried to acquire Peony roots and I have finally acquired seed of 4 types which I planted last spring. 2 seeds of the same type in 4 inch clay flower pots. These pots

were then placed near a wall of my house in a bed of wood shavings and shaded by a burlap bag to keep the hot dry sun off.

In November I shook them out of the pots and noticed they have all sent out root systems so I put them back into the pots and left them there. I am moving into a new house and I would like to know if I should leave them in the pots or transplant them. Our climate here is like that of San Bernadino Valley, California . . . I would like you to send me any other important details in growing peonies . . .

* * * *

On behalf of the Board of Directors and membership permit me to welcome Mr. Hubert A. Fischer. into membership. Mr. Fischer had

as he stated "belonged to the Peony Society some years ago when I failed to renew my membership it was not through lack of interest, but just lack of time to keep up on the many other interests."

We can understand that with his duties as past president of the American Hemerocallis Society and now of the American Iris Society as well as active in the American Dafodil Society, Mr. Fischer has been and is doing a great deal to encourage good gardening.

Mr. Fischer does grow about 250 varieties, perhaps more, of peonies of which 50 or more are early hybrids. We know that he has grown some from seedlings in years gone by and today has several hundred hybrid seedlings, "most of which should bloom this year."

* * * *

May we ask you, the membership to visit your public libraries—check the Garden Encyclopedias as to dates of most recent editions, send me the information, for we have learned there are some which give the name of the late Mr. W. F. Christman, Northbrook, Illinois, as secretary. Amount of annual dues as listed is also incorrect. We will appreciate your help in bringing authors and publishers up-to-date.

* * * *

Miss Silvia Saunders left March 1 on a most interesting European trip. She visited with Mrs. Barnett Auley, famous horticulturist, whom she has known for many years; then on for five days in Paris. She will see Dr. George Morel, Versailles, France, another of our members, who works in the equivalent of the department of Agriculture Research of France. Five days in Rome will follow and there from March 16 to April 16, Miss Saunders will be in Greece. She may be reached c/o American Express, Athens, Greece.

Being true to her heritage as daughter of the late Dr. A. P. Saun-

ders, Miss Saunders did not leave until she sent us her latest Chromosome Count you will find on another page of this issue of the Bulletin.

* * * *

Elsewhere in this issue is a story-heading Young America's Gardens Contest, sponsored by Flower and Garden Foundation, Box 3357, Rosedale Station, Kansas City, Kansas 66103.

We urge you to **encourage young people in your community** to enter this contest. Bring them into your garden. Help them. How else will we be able to carry on the work of the Society if we do not aid and abet apprenticeships?

* * * *

Everyone should be enthused about returning to Kingwood Center at Mansfield, Ohio, for our Annual Meeting and Show this year. The fine facilities, cordial assistance of the Kingwood Center staff as well as the beauty of the surroundings, afforded us in 1963 are unforgettable. Our appreciation can be reflected in our participation in making the 1966 Show outstanding in Kingwood Center Flower Show history as well as focusing national attention on the history of our own Society, the oldest of its kind.

* * * *

Three of our Board of Directors will have visited our delightful Mexican member, Mr. Alfredo Kawage at Queretaro, Mexico, this year, 1966. Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smirnow and Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Moots were there in January and Mr. William Krekler plans to go there in August. We are all keenly interested in the new planting. Mr. Smirnow sent the following report:

"Some two years ago Mr. Kawage, as he is known, decided to enter the nursery business to supply florists in Mexico with cut flowers of roses, peonies and other flowers. In

addition he grows thousands of trees—walnut, avacados and others. This farm consists of several hundred acres of beautiful country just below a mountainous view in the distance. He has four acres of greenhouses of roses—several barns for raising and breeding race horses—he states this is his hobby. Now he is engaged in supplying 600 cows for a large milk farm.

The purpose of my visit was to see how his peonies were doing. He is growing several hundred herbaceous peonies and a few hybrids planted on long plateaus four feet a part with ridges of three feet between each flat plateau. The peonies are planted in these ridges 3 to 4 feet apart. When I questioned his foreman he told me that they felt this method of planting was best suited for them. All of these roots were planted between September and October—some in November of last year.

I was quite surprised to see that on January 28th, the day of my visit, the herbaceous peonies were all up out of the ground 9 to 12 inches high and many in bud. Most of them had one stem with a bud on it—some hybrids were already in bloom, especially Early Scout—that variety—six plants—no more than 6 inches tall in full bloom.

Frank Moots and I felt that cut flowers for trade would be almost impossible in this area because of the altitude almost 5,000 ft. and secondly because they never get enough cold to freeze the ground. There is evidently lack of humidity too—When we told this to Mr. Kawage he stated he was experimenting and would soon learn what is needed to grow peonies in Mexico—as a matter of fact, he was just completing a tremendous sprinkler system to help in the raising of peonies .

Mr. Kawage is a very determined gentleman and will go to all ex-

tremes to get satisfactory growth. The facilities are wonderful, the fields as clean as can be and we wish him well. Mr. Kawage is a cultured gentleman, an important citizen of Mexico, and I am sure he would welcome visitors at any time. Mr. William Krekler has supplied him with these peonies and Bill plans to visit the nursery to give them the benefit of his experience. . . . It was a most delightful visit."

Louis Smirnow

PEONY CULTURE PUBLICATION

An excellent publication entitled GARDEN PEONIES has reached our desk, courtesy of Charles M. Drage, Extension Horticulturist and George A. Beach, Professor of Horticulture, members of the faculty at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colo.

Issued by the Cooperative Extension Service, the booklet, although limited in space (4½ pages) covers briefly Forms, Site and Soil, Propagation and Planting, Cultural Practices, Failure to Bloom, Variety Selection and other sources of Information. Two line drawings and a modernistic cover in green, white and with blue line edging, are well done. We are hopeful this service will encourage more interest in Colorado in our favorite flower, the PEONY.

CRACKED CONTAINER?

If your favorite vase for peonies gets cracked so that you know it is no longer watertight, here's an idea! Coat the inside with some melted paraffin wax and the vase is reusable if you fill it with **cold water only**. So said Mrs. P. Haller, Thornsby, Alta., Canada. We heard someone else say that you can line your container with aluminum foil. Have you a better idea?

Board of Directors



Regardless of responsibilities attendant to policies and practices of the Society, members of the Board of Directors do enjoy their duties as exemplified by expressions on the faces of those in the above picture. We wonder if the joke was on the Associate Editor, or could it be she is camera shy?

The picture was taken at the called meeting of the Board of Directors held Saturday, February 26th, at the Hotel Marsh, Van Wert, Ohio. Pharon B. Denlinger, vice-president, presided in the absence of Frank L. Howell, vacationing in Florida.

Plans were completed for the National Show to be held at Kingwood Center, Mansfield, Ohio, June 18th, 19th and 20th. The scheduling committee composed of Walter Alexander, chairman, Marvin C. Karrels and Dr. Harold Tinnapel submitted the Rules; Awards; and complete schedule of classes, etc.

Other decisions reached pertained to advertising, presentation of awards at Flower Shows throughout the country; the development of publicity program including posters; and a screening of slides to be included in the Rental Slide Library.

The Board accepted the invitation of the City of Milwaukee, submitted by Marvin C. Karrels, to hold the 1968 Annual Meeting and Show in that city. The Board discussed the possibility of holding the 1967 show in the Detroit area, as presented by Clarence Lienau.

Patronize Our Advertisers!

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FANTASTIC SNOW FALLS

by Lyle Rexford Fletcher,

Associate Professor of Geography, Bowling Green State University,
and former Climatologist, U. S. Weather Bureau.

Peony culture is most successful in regions where the dormant season has a period with temperatures below freezing. These temperatures are associated with precipitation that occurs in the solid form, and it occurred to the writer that readers might be interested in some random snowfall data accumulated recently.

However, before looking at these data, let us have a look at where and when snow occurs. In our most northerly state, Alaska, snow is reported in all months at stations within the Arctic Circle, but in southern Alaska snow does not occur at the lower elevations where people live during mid-summer. In our northern-most states snow occurs from October to May and even in September and June at higher elevations and near the Canadian border. In those areas there is a period of continuous snow cover of from three to five months of the year. On the other hand, snow is rarely seen near the Gulf of Mexico or in states near the Mexican border. Flakes have been seen in the air at Brownsville in extreme southeast Texas and a trace of snow occurred at San Diego, California, January 10, 1949. In the continental United States snow has never been seen at Key West, Fla., and, of course snow does not occur in the Hawaiian Islands except at high elevations.

Now to look at the statistics. It is well known that New England is a region of heavy snowfall, and they also grow fine peonies. Gorham, New Hampshire, on the flanks of Mt. Washington, has the highest average yearly fall of 184.5 inches followed by Peru, Vermont, 125.9 inches; and Jackman, Maine, 118 inches. Norfolk leads in Connecticut with 86.5 inches; Heath, Massachusetts, has 77.8 inches, and Providence, Rhode Island, 38.4 inches of snow. Looking at the maximum fall for

any month, Gorham again leads with 83.7 inches in December, 1954; Orono, Maine, is next, 72.5 inches in February, 1920, and Jacksonville, Vermont, 67 inches in January, 1904. Monroe, Massachusetts, had 78 inches in February, 1892; East Hartford, Connecticut, 57.8 inches in January, 1923; and Providence, Rhode Island, 31.9 inches in January, 1948. Looking at the values for one day or 24 hours, the figures are really spectacular. Randolph, New Hampshire, had 32 inches, November 22, 1943; New Haven, Connecticut, 28 inches in the March blizzard of 1888; Milton, Massachusetts, 27.2 inches, March 4, 1962; and Orono, Maine, 40 inches, December 30, 1962. Snows like this utterly paralyze human movement.

Looking south of the Mason and Dixon line where peonies are perhaps less spectacular, we find Pickens, West Virginia, with an annual average of 107 inches; Bristol, Tennessee, 10.7 inches; Clayton, Georgia, 5.4 inches; and Pensacola, Florida, 1 inch. Monthly averages are as high as 23 inches at Pickens, West Virginia, but this station had 67.5 inches in November, 1950. The largest monthly amount for a Florida station was 4 inches at Lake Butler in February, 1899. Nashville, North Carolina, leads the stations in Dixie in 24-hour amounts with a fall of 31 inches on March 2, 1927. The value quoted above for Lake Butler fell on the 13th of February, 1899.

In the Midwest, where fine peonies are commonplace except at the au-

thor's home, snowfall is heaviest on the lee sides of the several Great Lakes. Marquette, Michigan, averages 110.1 inches a year; Duluth, Minnesota, 76.2 inches; and Bennetts Bridge, New York, 188.3 inches. Vega, way down in north Texas, averages 24.7 inches a year; and Bismarck, North Dakota, 36.9 inches a year. Grand Rapids, Michigan, had 72.6 inches of snow in January, 1918; Youngstown, Ohio, 30.6 inches in November, 1950; Astoria, Illinois, 46 inches in February, 1906; Erie, Pennsylvania, 53.6 inches in February, 1944; and Bennetts Bridge, New York, 107.4 inches in February, 1947. Daily maximum falls of 27.8 inches occurred at Rochester, New York, March 1, 1900; 28 inches at Galeton, Pennsylvania, February 4, 1960; 20 inches at Sioux City, Iowa, April 4, 1918; and 33 inches on February 5, 1956, at Hale Center, Texas.

In the Rocky Mountain-Pacific Coast states, where the land tends toward a vertical orientation rather than horizontal, peonies should do exceptionally well if snowfall amounts have any influence. Cascade, Colorado, averages 220.1 inches a year; Summit, Montana, 256.3 inches; Marlette Lake, Nevada, 363 inches; Brighton, Utah, 377 inches; Tamarack, California, 443 inches; while the Paradise Ranger Station in Washington contends with an average of 573 inches yearly.

In these regions of extreme snowfall, the snow load on roofs and other structural parts becomes a major problem particularly when we look at the extreme seasons of record. Bright Angel, Arizona, on the rim of the Grand Canyon, had 212 inches in 1940-41; Marlette Lake, Nevada, 308 inches in 1951-52; Kings Hill, Montana, 406 inches in 1953-59; Ruby, Colorado, 644 inches in 1894-95; Tamarack, California, 884 inches in 1906-07; Thompson Pass, Alaska, 957 inches in the winter of 1952-53; and Paradise Ranger Sta-

tion, Wash., 1,000.3 inches in 1955-56.

Contending with a 1000-inch snowfall in one season would present a major task; but for immediate problems, let's take a look at the records for a one-day fall. Winthrop, Washington, had a fall of 52 inches on January 21, 1935; Giant Forest, California, 60 inches, on January 19, 1933; Thompson Pass, Alaska, 62 inches, December 29, 1955; and Silver Lake, Colorado, 76 inches, or 6 feet, 4 inches of snow, on April 14, 1921. The two-day fall at Silver Lake was 87 inches; by April 16, the total was 95 inches, and the snow ended on the 17th with a total of 100 inches. Falls elsewhere in the Colorado Rockies ran from four to six feet in several instances, and this record is accepted by meteorologists as actual occurrence. Needless to say, such a fall of snow creates endless difficulties for human movement and would make shoveling an extremely difficult task as to where to place the snow that had to be removed.

Even the fall at Silver Lake which is generally regarded as the world's greatest one-day snowfall has been unofficially surpassed. On January 14-15, 1952, a 24-hour total of 84 inches was measured by the California Highway Department at Crestview, Mono County, California. Although this fall of seven feet is regarded as reliable, it cannot be accepted as a record since the observation was not made by an official of the U. S. Weather Bureau. A weather observer would have measured to the tenth of an inch and would have made every effort to arrive at a true fall on the level not in a drift as many times it is reported in the daily press. Trying to determine the true depth of a fall of this magnitude would offer problems to the most patient and careful observer. Therefore, such observations are not accepted as record even though they may be quite reliable.

Young Americas Gardens Contest

Plans for the 1966 Young America Gardens Contest are being announced by the Flower and Garden Foundation. The Foundation, a non-profit organization, has sponsored the national gardening competition for young people since 1960.

It ended to foster active participation in gardening among youngsters, the contest will offer **expense-paid trips, deluxe bicycles, and cash awards as prizes.** Entrants will be expected to develop a 200 square foot garden all in one plot or in several. Contestants will be asked to write a short article about their garden after it has matured, and to submit a snapshot of themselves in the garden. To make the competition as fair as possible, and to permit many winners, the foundation conducts it on a regional basis (East, Mid-America and West), and also divides it into two age groups, teen and pre-teen.

Those who enter will be sent a

kit containing a number of different kinds of seeds to plant, some hints and instructions for arranging them, questions to answer, and a page on which to draw a plan of their garden. Seeds to be used have been contributed by leading American seed companies. They represent a variety of easily grown and interesting flowers and vegetables.

Contestants will be required to have an adult sponsor who will oversee the project and co-sign the completed entry form. Cut-off date for entering will be May 15. The contest closes September, when all entries must be in the Foundation offices.

Those wishing to enter should send their name, age, address, the name of their adult sponsor and 25 cents to help defray postage and handling costs to Flower and Garden Foundation, Box 3357, Rosedale Station, Kansas City, Kansas 66103.

PEONIES IN THE GARDEN

A garden reflects the interests, the imagination and the resources of the designer and the owner. Some gardens are primarily collections of plants, and there is often a wide diversity with emphasis on the colorful, the unusual, the curious. In other gardens the accent is on compatibility of plant materials and harmony of color.

It is our intent to regularly feature in **The Bulletin** a description of some outstanding garden, in the design of which the peony figures prominently. Some will be gardens of extensive planting, some will be small. Some will be long-established, historic gardens; some will be of very recent vintage. There will be a few gardens devoted almost exclusively to herbaceous or tree

peonies, a number will illustrate the landscape use of the peony in conjunction with other perennials or shrubs. All should be of interest to readers of **The Bulletin** and provide a wealth of suggestions that can be adapted for their gardens.

Attention Readers: Turn to story, Peonies at Winterthur.

* * * *

MEET ME IN MANSFIELD!!

SOME OLD TIMERS

by W. A. Alexander

Peonies are unique among the more popular perennials. Not only do individual plants live to a great age, perhaps indefinitely, but varieties live for generations. How many varieties of iris which appeared in the catalogs 25 years ago are listed today? Day-lillies come and go so fast no one can keep track of them. Are there any hybrid tea roses of 50 years ago listed in today's catalogs? In contrast, there are some varieties of peonies that are old, very old as flower varieties go, which are still popular and listed by practically every commercial grower. The poet, Alexander Pope, said, "Be not the first by whom the new is tried, Nor yet the last to cast the old aside." Some of the old timers should be laid aside, dropped from the catalogs and dug from our gardens. But there are others whose passing would be mourned by many peony people.

In the following paragraphs, I have listed some 20 varieties, all more than 50 years old, some over a hundred, which, in their day, were proud aristocrats and even now, can mingle with the newest and best without shame. Here are my first ten: FESTIVA MAXIMA (1851); BARONESS SCHROEDER (1889); MONS. JULES ELIE (1888); THERESE (1904); WALTER FAXON (1904); REINE HORTENSE (1857); SARAH BERNHARDT (1906); LADY ALEXANDER DUFF (1902); KARL ROSENFELD (1908); and KELWAY'S GLORIOUS (1909).

These ten are worthy of a place in any peony garden. They are all reasonably good garden varieties, i.e. good growers and reliable bloomers. Their quality is such that all could appear on the show tables of a national show and not seem out of place. Several might even win high honors in specimen classes: KELWAY'S GLORIOUS is still one of the top white doubles; MONS. JULES ELIE is perhaps the finest example of the bomb type; REINE HORTENSE is a flower of real quality; LADY ALEXANDER DUFF is one of the most beautiful semi-doubles; and KARL ROSENFELD holds its own with most of the

reds.

We can add a second ten which might contribute to our show winnings and add some spectacular kinds to our garden, but, unfortunately, would introduce an element of uncertainty and unreliability which would result in many disappointments: LE CYGNE (1907); PHILLIP RIVOIRE (1911); RICHARD CARVEL (1913); MARTHA BULLOCH (1907); MONS. MARTIN CAHUZAC (1899); LONGFELLOW (1907); LE JOUR (1915); L'ETINCELANTE (1905); TOURANGELLE (1910); and SOLANGE (1907). LE CYGNE with its matchless form can (and often does) win best in the show any year it comes good, which, sad to relate, is rather infrequently in most localities. It is perhaps the most **unreliable** of all varieties which are widely grown. Much the same criticism goes for SOLANGE and TOURANGELLE. If SOLANGE and LE CYGNE happen to be good the same year, they can just about dominate a show. TOURANGELLE, in addition to being temperamental, has a weak stem. But in color, nothing matches it.

PHILIPP RIVOIRE will also get you some blue and red ribbons, especially if you go to the trouble

to grow them as large as possible. The form and color are good, they grow well and they are fragrant. But they are likely to be too small to win in stiff competition. **MARTHA BULLOCH** may get you some ribbons also, usually reds or whites, and will bring some "ohs and ahs" from garden visitors because of their great size. But its quality is so-so and it is not a prolific bloomer or a reliable performer. **LE JOUR** remains one of the better white singles, and **L'ETINCELANTE**, while not as attractive in color as some other pink singles, is nevertheless a valuable sort because of its reliability and heavy blooming habit. **MONS MARTIN CAHUZAC** is for those who want a black red. It is quite variable, often coming semi-double, but is show quality when fully double and large enough. The other two reds, **RICHARD CARVEL** and **LONGFELLOW**, are good garden varieties, reliable and free blooming. **CARVEL** has the added advantage of being one of the earliest blooming lactifloras we have.

There are probably a number of Japanese type varieties of Japanese origin which are more than 50 years old, some likely more than 100; but their dates of origin or introduction are unknown. Such well known varieties as **Fuyajo**, **Rashoomon**, **Isani Gidui**, **Tamate-Boko** and **Toro-no-Maki** are all likely beyond the half century mark. **MIKADO**, which still enjoys a degree of popularity is dated 1893, so might have been included in one list or the other. If one wants to make a planting of old timers, I am sure he would be perfectly safe to include any of the Japs of Japanese origin which are undated.

In addition to some excellent garden varieties, and some which would get us ribbons, perhaps trophies, in stiff competition, these lists of 20 old timers includes several varieties which are among the

most important in the cut-flower trade. **RICHARD CARVEL**, **MONS. JULES ELIE**, and **FESTIVA MAXIMA** are widely used for early varieties; and if we expand the list by adding **EDULIS SUPERBA** (1824), a bright old rose pink, and **JUDGE BERRY** (1907), a very light pink which fades to white, we have a good color range and flowers of at least fair quality. The two oldest, **EDULIS** and **FESTIVA**, are unquestionably the most widely grown lactiflora varieties extant. It seems that anyone who ever paid any attention to peonies knows these two perhaps not by name but as "the big white with the red splash" and "the pink that smells so good."

For later blooming varieties, **BARONESS SCHROEDER**, **REINE HORTENSE** and **SARAH BERNHARDT** are widely planted for cutting, which leaves us without a red. We could add **MARY BRAND** (1907), **LORA DEXHEIMER** (1913) or **FELIX CROUSSE** (1881) to remedy that deficiency. The first two are good quality peonies but may be a little too early. **FELIX** is later and has been one of the most popular cut-flower varieties, but does not have good stems and is not a high quality flower. We could go to **KARL ROSENFELD** which is in our first list. It is a flower of excellent quality, but is said to open rather poorly from storage and not to last well when cut, thus lacking two essential qualities for cut-flower varieties.

So we find that there are many useful varieties among the old timers. If I were making a new planting of say 25 varieties and had to do it on a very limited budget, I would include several of the old timers I have mentioned. Even with no financial restriction, at least one, **KELWAYS'S GLORIOUS**, would be included. (The late George W. Peyton thought **K. G.** was the finest variety in existence.) If I were

planting for cut-flowers, several would be on my list. The peony fan will always be interested in new things, and I am confident breeders will be providing them as fast as they can be assimilated. Some of the new ones will hold more than usual interest because they will be advanced generation hybrids, giving us new colors and new types. But in our preoccupation with the new things, let us not forget that there are some fine old

timers which can hold their own in any company.

Many of our readers have favorite old timers, no doubt, which I have not mentioned. Why not send in your list? Some friendly controversy will be a stimulant to our Society.

Note: Authority for the dates given in this article is: PEONIES INDOORS and OUT by Arno and Irene Nehrling.



TREE PEONIES

by Anthony J. De Blasi

If you have missed the opportunity so far, begin your association with the tree peony this year. Let this fall be the time you introduce the artistry, color, and floral drama of the tree peony into your own garden.

Now is the time to plan on visiting nurseries and plantings during the blooming season to see these beautiful plants "in the flesh." Catalogue descriptions and photographs may whet your appetite, but direct exposure will result in "tree peony fever," whether you are observing them for the first time or the ten-thousandth time!

If you enjoy photography, you'll enjoy having your camera along. Photographing the blooms will serve the dual purpose of providing you with engaging subject matter and later recalling to mind those varieties that left a "must have" impression—an aid in selecting the varieties you wish to plant in the fall.

Selection of plant material is one of the special delights of gardening and while there are not many pleasures greater than choosing a tree peony, bear in mind the following selection problems peculiar to the peony tree:

1. It takes a young plant a long time to become established; if

you have the time and the inclination, plant 2 to 4 year old stock, otherwise choose plants older than 4 years, to shorten the waiting period toward establishment.

2. There are hundreds of varieties of tree peonies. They are not all equally vigorous, floriferous, or otherwise desirable. For first attempts, avoid seedlings and choose varieties that appear on lists of favorites, especially those that have been singled out in articles for desirable qualities.
3. The general appearance of the Lutea hybrids is quite unlike that of the Japanese varieties and while, it is difficult to characterize the general difference on account of the wide diversity within the groups, I would say that the Lutea hybrid is a plant you **add** to a collection—your **first** tree peony should be a Japanese variety. Of course, if you insist on whites, pinks, rosy-red, or purples, you will **have**



KAMADA - FUJI

to choose Japanese varieties, the Luteas providing yellows, orange-reds, creams, smoky mauves and lavenders. Maroon is common to both Japanese and Lutea groups. (If you find a blue tree peony, pinch yourself and if you are not dreaming, be prepared to become famous!)

4. The tree peony is not a plant to "experiment with." It does not lend itself to frequent moving about to find the best spot for it. Each transplanting sets a tree peony back for well over a year, and constant moving may irreparably weaken a plant. You should decide, well in advance of planting, how you wish to use tree peonies in your garden, then stick to the plan and give the planting project your noblest gardening efforts. The bearing of this factor on selection is that you

would not place a scarlet tree peony in an area already busy with May color or next to a rose-red tree peony by accident or to "see what would happen." Experimentation is a virtue with annuals and perennials; with tree peonies, **be sure before you plant**

5. Bear in mind that the peak of Lutea hybrid bloom is midway between the first Japanese varieties and the last herbaceous varieties, so there is overlap either way. In my area (Climate Zone 7—Average Annual **Minimum** Temperature 0 to 10 Degrees)' the Japanese tree peonies start blooming in the middle of May, reach a peak near the 20th of the month, after which the Lutea hybrids begin, stretching the tree peony blooming season into the first week of June.
6. Take catalog descriptions with

several grains of salt. The confusion in nomenclature and identity among the Japanese varieties is by no means over, though some effort has been made to remedy this situation. Add to this such inaccuracies as describing the smoky-lavender **Kamada-fuji** as rose-red shaded lavender (by a famous nursery) or the rich purple **Rimpo** as reddish brown to maroon (by another well known nursery), and what you may think you are ordering is not at all what you'll get. In the latter two cases it won't matter, since getting **Kamada-fuji** instead of a rose-red, and a **Rimpo** instead of a reddish brown, will still put you ahead of the game. But in the case of some lesser known and rare varieties, it is a gamble to or-

der on the basis of a catalog description.

7. Blooming tree peonies are at their best in the morning hours (between 9 and 11) of a mild (60 to 70 degree) day. Try to arrange any visit to gardens or nurseries with these conditions in mind. Avoid visits during or just after a rain, during, mid-day (unless it is cloudy), or during weather that is too cool or too warm, or you will not be able to judge properly.

In a nutshell: If you avoid "bargains," seedlings (unnamed varieties) and very young plants, and you stick to varieties recommended in lists and articles of the American Peony Society, and you plant them with care, you will find that tree peonies will add a special dimension of excitement to your life.

"Are We Giving Tree Peony Reine Elizabeth An Honest Chance?"

by **Ralph H. Giff**

Apart from the feeble and unscientific approach I have made and am continuing to make (see Bulletin Nos. 151-168-169-175-178) towards assisting **Reine Elizabeth** in proving its great beauty by flowering annually, there is one angle I have had in mind for some time, but am now coming out into the open with it.

While our Society, particularly during the last five years or so, has held a fairly stable membership of around 500 yet any indication of any interest in this variety of the *Suffruticosa* group has been conspicuous by its absence. One notable exception to this is Mr. **Armatys'** article on page 26 of Bulletin No. 178.

nized standards, astronomical in numbers, yet surely out of, say 500,

there are more than have come to light who have had experience with **Reine Elizabeth**, or other varieties for that matter, yet are not "standing up to be counted." Based upon our well founded belief that the Peony is really a beautiful flower and worthy of being placed upon a high pedestal we as a Society are beholden towards "mending fences" where needed by keeping our Secretary posted as to what efforts each of us is making and as to what success is being accomplished.

Hoping I may still be around to the end of the 1966 Peony flowering season, one of my fondest aims is to be able to write the Society concerning the behavior of **REINE Elizabeth** (my pet problem) be it good or bad. **Ralph H. Giff**

TREE PEONIES

by Leo J. Armatys



To those under the spell of the Moutan Mystique, other growing things are cast in supporting roles. Plant tree peonies near your prize Metasequoia, for example, and its purpose in life promptly shifts to the furnishing of a filmy background and light shade for the king of flowers. Spot a few tree peonies in a perennial border and all other plants become Moutan's loyal subjects. Group a dozen or more in a far corner

and watch your garden tilt in that direction. Place a solitary specimen near the edge of a grassy expanse for a made-to-order focal point. Even the showiest drifts of spring flowering. Even the showiest drifts of spring flowering bulbs become heralds of greater things to come.

Top Ten?

To single out the ten best from a genus numbering hundreds of named varieties is presumptuous on the part of expert or amateur. Still, we all have our favorites. There are some that I wouldn't want to leave out of any list. The whites SUSHO HAKU and RENKAKU; pinks HATSU HINODE and DOKUSHIN DEN; reds KINKADEN and ORIHIME; single yellows CANARY and SILVER SAILS; double yellows ALICE HARDING and GOLDEN HIND. Did you count ten? They can't be my top ten, because smokey bluish-lavender KAMADA FUJI belongs on every list. And so does the red lutea CHINESE DRAGON and the dark, heavily subtended BLACK PIRATE. So does flamboyant JETSU GETSU NISHIKI and sultry lutea RIGHT ROYAL. So do several of the Gratwick introductions. And I can't feature any list without *P. suffruticosa*, var. J. F. Rock. Before you dash out and buy any of these plants, keep in mind that there are several hundred varieties I haven't even seen. All

ratings are subject to change. Non-descript blooms on many scrawny young plants can be transformed in a few short years to rival the leaders.

State of Confusion:

Two Ohio nurseries dreamed up something new last winter. One listed S. de MAXIME CORNU at \$20 (as it has for many years), and added KINKAKU at \$15. The price is right, but they are one and the same variety, as even the Japanese will admit. The other nursery offering 1-year grafts at \$1.65, said they could grow to a height of 12 feet—without mentioning this might take 100 years.

Editorially Speaking:

Not everyone who is exposed to tree peonies joins the ranks of Moutan's Militia. I have no quarrel with those whose taste runs to another type of plant, nor with those who prefer a specialized type of garden where early bloom is unimportant; but too many turn their backs on tree peonies for the wrong reasons. Some rebel at the high prices charged for good plants. They value quantity over quality. Some can't wait; their petunias will bloom this year but Moutan will take its time. Still others buy several small grafts, plant them like potatoes and, when they die, classify tree peonies as tempermental

foreigners. The reactions of these misguided gardeners are mirrored in their gardens. They have much in common. The only seeds they plant are annuals; they don't order nursery stock until they are ready to plant it; and they never plant a tree if there is any doubt about their being around to bask in its shade. Have you looked in your mirror lately?

We Welcome

LENARD JUGLE, 261 West Grantley, Elmhurst, Illinois 60126. Membership sent in by Sam Wissing, sponsored by Carl Klehm. Mr. Jugle is an accredited Judge for the American Iris Society (past four years). He is a past president of the Northern Illinois Iris Society and the Mens' Garden Club of Villa Park, Illinois, largest Mens' Garden Club in the U.S.A. Member of the Northern Chapter of American Gladiolus Society. We understand he is a fine photographer as well as being a research engineer for the Reliable Electric Co. Franklin Park, Ill.

LERTON W. HOOKER, 117 Greenfield ave., Lombard, Illinois 60148 Mr. Hooker is regional vice-president of the American Iris Society, Section 9. A member of the Northern Illinois Iris Society and the Men's Garden Club of Villa Park, Illinois. Mr. Hooker has introduced several Iris of his own origination to the commercial field. His Black Charm won an award in "Planten & Blooem," Hamburg, Germany. We are indebted to Sam Wissing, President of the American Peony Society, Division V for information about Mr. Hooker whose vocation is coordinator for General Mills.

LYLE POOLE, 500 S. Edson ave., Lombard, Illinois 60148. Mr. Poole, like Mr. Jugle, Mr. Poole and Mr.

Wissing, is a member of the Men's Garden Club of Villa Park, the American Iris Society, Northern Illinois Iris Society and Sam Wissing says "he is a very enthusiastic gardner." Mr. Poole is an engineer for Commonwealth Edison Company.

RICHARD WISSING, 824 Hillview, West Chicago, Ill., 60185 sponsored by his father Samuel E. Wissing, is a Printer we have learned and he could not help but be a flower grower, and we hope a hybridizer like his father.

MRS. WILLIAM ZIBIN, Box 433, Quill Lake, Saskatchewan, Canada Mrs. Zibin read an article written by Percy H. Wright in the Saskatoon Star Phoenix newspaper on peonies. Since Mrs. Zibin is interested in "gardening of all sorts" she would like to know more about peonies their culture and how to grow them with success, she wrote us. Mr. Wright suggested in his article that one could join the Society by writing this office. Mrs. Zibin is a new 1966 member and we hope through the unselfish devotion of our members she will receive much help and encouragement.

GOOD PUBLICITY

The 5th District division of the American Peony Society will have an educational exhibit at the Annual Spring Show sponsored by the Northern Illinois Iris Society, Saturday and Sunday, May 28th and 29th.

The Show will be held at Proviso West High School, corner Wolf and Harrison Streets, Hillside, Illinois. Sam Wissing, President, is doing an excellent job for the American Peony Society, not only showing and sharing for us but bringing in **NEW MEMBERS**. On behalf of the entire Society we say **THANKS Sam ! !**

WE LACK COLOR

Ralph H. Giff, Sarnia, Ontario

How many of us, I wonder, have taken time out for a few moments to ponder how lack-luster our surroundings would be were it not for color—perhaps not many. One does not have to have been born any earlier than say 40 years ago to recall anything other than black automobiles; men's clothes all in the mourning shade; dwelling houses in drab, lifeless colors; catalogues without illustrations or color; and so on ad infinitum.

Today we are in the age of color explosion and those who have failed to recognize or follow the trend are being relegated to a bleak area. Let us be thankful that the picture has changed and in that same spirit of thankfulness pay tribute to manufacturers and distributors of merchandise as well as designers of commodities too voluminous to enumerate, for not only having recognized the trend but have already gone a long way in doing something about it. Consider, if you will, for a few moments, the wholesome pleasure mankind is deriving from color photography; color lithography; color motion pictures; and now, the latest, color television.

In case any of you readers of the foregoing have not already sensed what I am driving at, let me drop a gentle hint—The American Peony Society, still cloaked in black and white. Have you ever picked up a horticultural magazine and found therein an article on Peonies accompanied by pictures in true colors? Such experiences, I would venture to say, have been scarce indeed. Did you ever respond to the advertisement of a Peony grower—commercial or otherwise, asking for price list and description of that being offered and

received in reply a mimeographed form? Following that how-many hours' sleep did you lose in pondering over the glowing descriptions before making a final decision as to what to order? Have you realized the quandary a novice would be in as to what to order? All this frustration could be avoided by the aid of true color sheets supplied along with the mimeographed sheets.

Please do not construe the foregoing as criticism of growers and sellers of Peonies. On the contrary, we, as a Society are failing in our obligation on which our Society was founded, namely to uphold the beauty of the Peony and offering supporting means in the advancement of its culture. It is not too late to take steps to provide this supporting means, namely the making available of pictures quality lithographed in true color. We have a service to sell and, one might say, (in a sense) a product to offer but who is going to buy if we do not provide a bit of window-dressing. If we are to hold any interest the public may still have in our Society a radical change in our method of approach should not be further delayed. The channel in which we are already adrift has rocks ahead and unless we alter our course we shall be in real trouble.

As to a solution let's go back to the title of this article—"We Lack Color." While not a lithographer or printer by trade yet indirect association over a period of 40 years with these two arts I gained valuable knowledge and realize full well that what I am about to suggest has a rather high price tag on it.

The preliminary step would be

to appoint a Committee—say three—to first determine how many of the named varieties and hybrids in the Lactiflora and Suffruticosa groups are worthy of procurement of color plates and at what cost. Going on a few steps farther the initial quantity run would have to be determined; what method of distribution and what charge, if any would be made. Rest assured, the foregoing suggestions hardly break the ice but it would be preposterous for me to attempt finalization in one brief article.

As a final note: if we as a Society are to continue trying to sell our service we shall have to show prospective members in color just what we have to offer. Mr. John Q. Public is today demanding convincing proof that he is making no mistake before making any commitments. As I see the situation we, The American Peony Society have failed to keep abreast of the times.

I can only hope that the foregoing thoughts may be found viable and that they will fall upon fertile soil.

Q.—How many acres of land does the modern highway engineer need to grow one cloverleaf?

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| a. 25 acres | c. 75 acres |
| b. 160 acres | d. 145 acres |

A.—(b) A cloverleaf for a four-lane super-highway uses up 160 acres. Each mile of super-highway uses 50 to 60 acres of land.

Did you know that in the U. S. about 100 million acres of once-good cropland has been ruined, for profitable production, by erosion. We have about 460 million acres of good cropland left.

—o—

**THE 1966
PEONY TRAIL LEADS
TO KINGWOOD CENTER**

New Advertising Schedule

The Board of Directors at the recent meeting revised the rate schedule for display advertising to appear in the Bulletin. This change was made to prevail upon new and old advertisers to use more space.

New rates are as follows:

1/6th page	\$20.00	\$ 5.00
1/4th page	50.00*.....	15.00
1/2 page	70.00	20.00
Full page	80.00	25.00

*—Indicates change

Enclosed in this issue is an application, restatement of rates and space for copy. May we have the help of members in obtaining advertising from growers, dealers of plants, seeds or gardening material?

If pictures, are desired please explain our process of printing is letter press, therefore, you must furnish copy mat or glossy prints of pictures desired.

—o—

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

Meilof Kasuya, Founder and Headmaster of Ichiyo School of Floral Arts, one of Japan's leading masters, is an author, lecturer and teacher. She will be in Philadelphia, Pa., in April. Our members who might be affiliated with the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, will be given an opportunity to attend a luncheon and demonstration to be held there Thursday, April 21, 1966. It is said, thousands of Americans and Europeans who have studied in his school in the last fifteen years know of the inspiration and joy of his programs and instruction.

—o—

CHEAP AS DIRT?

She ordered some top soil
The price? It sorely hurt!
Please, she said, don't ever say
The price? It's cheap as dirt!

A BIT O' NONSENSE

by Neal R. van Loon

"A bit o' nonsense now and then, is relished by the wisest men."

I see by the last Bulletin that the great sovereign State of New York has come through with a brand new system of nomenclature for the peony, a veritable New Deal, as it were, for our favorite subject. You simply pick out all the prettiest seedlings and give them each a horrific name. The prettier they are the more shocking the name. The champ as of now is: "The Captain's Concubine!"

Now that is what I call going some!

Not to be outdone, I think I shall try to find a Wisconsin breeder to bring out a fifteen inch purple peony with orange stripes and with delicate pole-cat fragrance. I have the name ready to offer to the registrar: "Macbeth's Knockkneed Witch." I just bet you that she will stir up a mighty fine broth for our A.P.S. members.

Who knows but what, as Arthur Godfrey would put it, a few of the silly things might sell, and even wind up occasionally in the Court of Honor.

But time is a 'wastin'. Let's try to get busy and see if we can cast a more serious light beam or two on the peony's ways and whims.

Unorthodox? Imponderable?

I once had ten beautiful lush plants growing of that old classic variety **Mdm. Emile LeMoine**. For three years running I got never so much as one measly bloom from them. In disgust I seized my mattock and just chopped those ten plants, roots, stalks and branches all to pieces. That was in June. Well sir, you ought to have seen them the following year. They were contentedly licking salt out of my hand. Those plants bore me no less than seventy magnificent blooms. All opened up wide, chaste, more

than generous in size, and uniform as peas in a pod. There was enough class there to grace the finest display.

Note: the moral of this story is not to go out and chop the living daylight's out of your peony plants but to keep eyes, ears and brain open. In the course of a lifetime we can learn some strange but wonderful things. One must never be afraid to try something different!

Another story—this time it's the delphinium. On their chalky soil, the English grow probably the world's best delphiniums. We conclude that this plant requires plenty of calcium and thrive on it, they surely do.

After many years of experience with English delphinium seeds I finally bought a whole ounce of their seeds. These seeds were not fresh so I froze them first for a whole week in solid ice. I dried and pelleted them through the use of sifted wood ashes. They were planted with the garden seeder and soon popped up real strong.

After a few weeks I set them out, row upon row in a rented field of yellow clay. It was only a rough hay field, illy prepared, and without benefit of any test for acidity, and without any manures or fertilizers added.

That field soon looked like a lawn of heavy moss. Those plants just

loved it. I have never seen the likes before or since. Those were delphiniums, my friend!

By the way, if you love these things as I do, only a couple of notches behind the peony, I suggest you try the world's biggest bargain. It includes a year's membership in the Royal Delphinium Society, a year book full of practical wisdom, plenty of black and white photos as well as color and two hundred fresh seeds gathered from the finest gardens in the country—all for less than twenty-five bits.

About Those Unopened Buds

In the last Bulletin there is a statement to the effect that when peony buds fail to open, you can blame it either on botrytis or frost damage. Not necessarily.

Do not overlook the possibility of thrip at work and do not underestimate the damage these creatures can do.

Several times, both in the East and Middle West, I have had people ask me to come inspect their plants—May or June. "Why don't the pesky buds open?"

Close inspection under the scales of the buds, revealed the thrip, lots and lots of them. I have had plenty too.

Like for the gladiolus, you need a stomach spray with sugar in it to bring 'em out in the open. Granted this, they are not hard to combat, only keep a close watch for their arrival.

Dolomite vs. Dolorodell

I think my father must surely have been the best farmer that ever lived. At least he produced some of the most remarkable results. He always claimed that, generally the best form in which to apply lime for your crops was ground dolomite or gypsum. The latter he claimed to be fairly safe for the amateur and quicker as to re-

sults. He doted much on lime. The hydrated product gave results still quicker but risky and not to be played with by the beginner. A beginner is what I always considered myself to be so gypsum was usually my choice. As I see it now, if I could get raw rock ground just as I wanted it, I would choose a mixed grind; particles as fine as flour, and up to a pea in size.

Of course no one considers calcium a plant food. It is to be thought of as a catalyzer. It frees locked up food in the soil so the plant can use it. It also improves the mechanical condition, loosening up the stubborn sticky soils and binding together the too open ones.

I once put ten pounds of gypsum on a fine Dolorodell plant, just for the dickens of it, to see what would happen. Well, it happened all right. That plant refused to die and it refused to live. It looked daggers at me every time I walked past it. It was remindful of a man who had ruined his liver.

I have found enormous profit in studying a certain library book authored by Teuscher, Adler and Seaton. This is printed by the Rheinhold Publishing Corp. The title! "The Soil and its Fertility." It contains a chart I like to call "The Compatibility Star." Here I see a startling beauty and as regards the things you add to your soil, it shows you just what you may combine with what and the things you must not combine. Beautiful!

Several times I have seen the statement: "Potash means nothing to the peony," or words to that effect. I do not believe a word of it. Having seen grain fields go down flat from a storm and just across the fence another field stand up stiff and strong, I am convinced potash will stiffen the "back bone." The second field had been treated to a generous dressing of Muriate

of Potash. A stiff back bone is especially desirable in a flower as heavy as the peony.

Give 'Em The Works

The best peony patch I ever had, and this was my brag patch, was under careful preparation for ten years. I give you the various steps:

First thing, alfalfa was planted with a garden seeder in rows six inches apart. The ground had already been given a heavy dressing of raw ground lime stone. The alfalfa was mowed twice each year for eight years and allowed to lie. Then plowing—we went down eight inches with a one bottom plow to which we hooked, with a chain, a kilifer blade. This latter we ran down clear to its beam, or in other words, that soil was broken up a total depth of twenty-two inches. Next came a deep, thorough harrowing after a generous application of complete fertilizer, plus, and get this, **plus**, a mixture of essential minerals like copper, sulphur, iron, manganese, zinc, and some others.

Come fall and the roots were tucked in. After getting well established, those plants were a sight for sore eyes. They were especially great during that period when they were between four and sixteen inches in height. The leaves fairly glistened in the sun and ranging in color from deep bronze to lighter bronze as they grow to maturity. Flowers or no flowers, that field was a picture.

But there were flowers! All were on thick strong stems. That field produced three Grand Champs and plenty of others for the Courts of Honor.

One flower, some fans still living, will not soon forget—a near-black "Splendor" not large and not quite black, but nearly so.

A happy plant produces happy flowers for happy gardeners.

Breeders, Please Do This

Give us more of the handsome plants like that great, great **Flamingo**. Give us more colors on a plant like that one, growing up proud like a formal small evergreen.

There is not much more to be longed for as to color unless it be a peony in the national colors, in sharp stripes, and fifty stars worked in somewhere.

There is much to be longed for when it comes to foliage and plant style. Compare, if you will, the insipid appearance of the foliage of Tourangelle and Walter Faxon to name two old ones, with that of Festiva Maxima and Mrs. A. M. Brand to name two other old ones that have that "something."

Roy Gayle says "A longer season for the peony? Who wants a longer season for the peony? We have our noses on the grind stone now, from March to November!" Plants that are handsome all the time will keep romance in all the long months of labor, and that, thank you, is no nonsense!

ROOT AUCTION

The root auction held annually during the period of the Peony Show and Annual meeting of the American Peony Society is one of the outstanding features of the program. This provides an opportunity to obtain fine plant material of new and favored varieties donated by prominent people in the Society.

During a lecture to his young son, the father stressed the fact that we are in this world to help others. After a moment of reflection the son asked "What are the others here for?"—Your officers of the American Peony Society cannot accomplish everything you desire without your help. Let's remember—everyone can do something! Such as—Every member get a new member!

Magnolias and Lilacs Fine Companion Plants To Use With Peonies

Some of the better lilacs are: VESTALE, MONT BLANC and ELLEN WILLMOTT are all white; DEMIRIBEL, MARECHAL LANNES are violet; LEMOINE, LEON GAMBETTA are lilac, KATHERINE HAVEMEYER, ESTHER STALEY are pink; CAPITAINE BALLET, MME. F. MOREL and MARECHAL FOCH are reddish purple; LUDWIG SPAETH, MONGE are purple. Among the better lilac species are; S. MICROPHYLLA. This blooms heavy in spring and also in the fall and has exquisite fragrance. S. MEYERI is a small bush—rare and beautiful. OBLATA DILATATA is blue—early and beautiful. S. POTANINI blooms in the spring and also in the fall. S. PUBESCENS is the most fragrant but for some the fragrance is too heavy. ASSESSIPPI, EVANGELINE and JAMES MACFARLANE are fine hybrids. All of the above do fine in my garden.

Some Magnolias have proved quite hardy with me: MAGNOLIA SOULANGEANA planted in 1941, MAGNOLIA STELLATA (water lily) planted in 1949 and MAGNOLIA VIRGINIANA planted in 1956—all bloom for me every year. They have showed winter injury but once and that was following a very dry summer and we were not permitted to use city water for watering. I am not sure whether this was drought injury or winter injury or perhaps excessive watering when I was permitted to use water in late fall just before freezing. They bloom every year for me but occasionally a breeze when the flowers are in full bloom will cause some damage. They are hardier than Forsythia for me. The Forsythia bush itself is very hardy but the flower buds are not so they blast. I get just a few scattered

blossoms from my five varieties. I have a total of 23 varieties of Magnolias and except the three that I mentioned are 3 to 8 feet high. These are under test to see how many will do in this cold climate. I believe that quite a number will be hardy here. There have been some test winters here since I planted the first one. I live in Zone 5A.

I have a nice collection of TREE PEONIES but the first was planted in about 1951 and a large number just the last three or four years so I have not grown them long enough to give a good report. I shall just report on those that I have grown long enough to test. My heaviest bloomer is KURO-botan with 40 blossoms. Other beautiful ones are GODAISHU FESTIVAL, SOUV de MAXIMA CORNU, IMO SHOJI ECHIGOJISHI, RIMPO, SANTA MARIA, GUNPO-DEN, HANA-DAIGIN YACHYO-TSUBAKI, ROMAN GOLD, YASO NO-MINE, CHROMATELLA and SHIN-TEN-SHI. I lost a few tree peonies last winter but most had not made their own roots. Several others that died to the ground made a nice growth last summer.

Last Fall I dug twelve of my Herbaceous peony seedlings that I thought were quite beautiful and divided for further test. I got about 60 divisions. After another season I may be able to give a better report on Tree Peonies.

I grow for hobby only and do not sell anything. Visitors are always welcome.

Herbert L. White
Woodbine, Iowa

* * * *

Editor's Comment: We would add that Mr. White has in his "hobby" garden 246 varieties of herbaceous

peonies, 50 varieties of Hybrids besides species and nearly 100 tree peonies, as well as 2 dozen Magnolias, more than 100 Lilacs, a few nut trees and 80 Carpathian Eng. Walnut seedlings, the latter, include a few from a tree at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and the rest from trees near Chicago.

Mr. White does not sell anything from his "hobby" garden. What an interesting garden. We hope the readers as well as my wife and I can visit the garden some day! We are sure Lester Votrian, Edwardsville, Illinois, and Mr. White will be wanting to compare notes about Walnut tree roots (See Votrian's story elsewhere in Bulletin).

CLUMPS ARE BEST

On a pleasant September day when John and Jennie Doe come to one's "pinie" patch to get those lovelies which they took the names of when they wandered through your fairyland early last June, they expect to get at least a fair sized clump, and a plant that will bloom well come next June. They just will not be satisfied with a stingy little three budder, and so they buy only a few from their list. This especially is true when they learn that their handful of "minatures" will take three years to produce large or abundant blooms.

I believe we growers should all sell John and Jennie a **CLUMP**, just like their common sense tells them they should have. Best of all is an entire two year clump, with it's abundance of buds, and mass of small vigorous young roots, all ready to **GO**. These are not heavy to mail and are so easy to dig.

The next best is a double size division, of around eight big buds, cut from a three or four year healthy clump. These huge buds alone can give huge flowers, but

they must have roots enough to feed them, but when transplanting leave only enough roots to produce fair sized blooms the following spring. These large old roots **MUST** be cut back hard to about half a foot long, so they will have to make a lot of young vigorous new roots, or they will just lay there for years in their bed not having enough pep to produce much (like all old things). Young roots like children have more zip and resistance than the old. Such fat buds nearly always bloom their first spring, and that is what folks rightly expect—though they from habit gripe about cost, what our prosperous citizens really want is a plant big enough to quickly bloom.

The slow (and oh so chilly) process of dividing into common 3 to 5 bud divisions not only takes much time but a skilled high-salaried man. Also it generally means that John and Jennie become quite unhappy because they can not wait hours to take their freshly dug stock home with them but must return another day, or the busy nurserymen must take time to box and mail. Why not just rapidly whack off the long roots and put the clumps directly into John's car trunk right there in the field—every one thus is happy and so much better off. The nurseryman because of so much less labor costs can sell the double-sized clumps of more common varieties at about the same price as a 3 to 5 bud division—if by mail, somewhat more. **Try clumps** and be convinced.

William H. Krekler

P. S.—At the nursery always cut the tops off down to the buds so no bits of top diseases can be carried away on the stem stubs. If there are any pea-sized nematode balls on the ends of the little hair-like roots pull them off as soon as dug. Few if any nematodes usually will be in the large roots.

Action of Walnut Tree Roots on Peonies

Lester Votrian, Edwardsville, Illinois

In 1961 and 1962 I made a small planting of about 100 plants in 7 rows. The last row being planted in 1963 was the nearest to a young walnut tree with about a 10 inch trunk, old enough to have a wide root spread. Sassafras trees as high as the walnut with 4, 5, or 6 inch trunks have been killed out, those closer to the walnut being the first to die. It would appear that the nut tree would be responsible back in the 1930's, not too long after we had purchased this tract of "Hills and Hollers" with a 3 acre field across the south part.

Then, this property or 3 acre part, was a cultivated field, the fence line dividing a similar but larger cultivated farm tract.

After purchase, this fence line was permitted to grow what nature, with the help of the squirrels and birds, decided to grow. After the usual weeds, blackberries; sassafras trees developed a decided favorite of ours.

To get back to the original subject, I was somewhat surprised and vexed to find the next spring after planting the last row of Felix Crousse, that the last 3 or 4 plants in the row about 10 feet from the south property line and about 30 feet west of the walnut tree, pale sickly short 5-6 inch stems, while those farther north in the same row were the normal 14-16 inch growth in the first year.

Now, if anybody is easy to get along with, it's Felix.

I had 'tailed' the row out with a good strong division as had been my habit, using any smaller root divisions farther back in the row.

The soil was excellent for such planting even if we are not blessed

with that black corn land well known farther north in the State. After being a cultivated field, it was planted to grass, the larger part of the field still in sod.

For this small planting, I had had the sod dug up in the spring and had kept it clean of weeds and sod until planting in the fall. A row of *Edulis Superba* was next to the Felix, being planted the same time. Several of the end plants, while not as husky like they were farther down the row, were growing, possibly the 4 feet farther west of the walnut tree helped.

In planting the roots I recall finding assorted roots, mostly sassafras, but did come up with another root that had a familiar pungent odor. I'm acquainted with the odor of walnut root; when about 1/4th to 3/8th, it is about as strong as the hull encased nut or crushed leaf stem. The fact of the missing sassafras makes me certain that the walnut was the cause.

Oddly enough, the reaction to another peony species, *Tenufolia*, appear different. A squirrel seedling that had grown up alongside a 10 year old *Tenufolia* had been cut off in the fall when the field was mowed and the tops collected and burned.

When I decided to increase my planting of this fern leaf (due somewhat to a reported shortage of same) I chose these 3 plants, one of which had this nut seedling growing in it.

I found the main root of the nut to be about 1/2 inch thick with a lateral root about 1/2 inch thick and about 18 inches long, had grown thru the plant. The soil was somewhat damp making division of the roots difficult, *Tenufolia*

especially seems to me to grow a crown deep down.

Occasionally a *Chinensis* planted too deep will form eyes on a stem up from the regular crown.

With me, *Tenufolia* is 10 to 12 inches high and fully grown plants are 3, 4 or 5 inches across depending on how close they have been planted to the larger, heavier *Chinensis*. I notice the Manual shows a variety of *Tenufolia*, but mine are the clear red single about 3 to 4 inches wide.

Being short a stem, from my experience, a bloom must be cut clear to the ground to obtain adequate stem, and it follows, as foliage must be left for next year's bloom, not much can be obtained from one plant.

One of my arguments with my early bloom cutting root customers: "Ya don't cut down the apple tree to get the apples." Probably not a brilliant argument, but does cover the subject on excess cutting in a roundabout way.

Tenufolia here, according to some of my old blooming data is 10 to 12 days in advance of the first *Chinensis*, with me Richard Carvel. Sometimes *Eduilis Superba* will make it with Richard Carvel. Some later blooming recollections have brought the *Chinensis* about a week after *Tenufolia*.

Lester Votrian
Edwardsville, Illinois

Have you ever tried when planting grass seed on those bare spots, covered the planted area with cheesecloth which has been dyed a grass-green color with vegetable dye? It is a recognized fact that covered seed takes root much faster when protected from the sun—the cloth retains moisture—keeps birds from eating the seed. The green cheese cloth beautifies as well as it blends into the landscape.

RECEIVES AWARD

Mr. Takeo Sakata, Yokohama, Japan, a worlds outstanding plant breeder, was the first overseas recipient of the All-American Selections silver medallion and plaque for **DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT** in horticulture.



The presentation and tribute was made by A.A.S. President John J. McCabe, of Mountain View, Calif., at the International Flower Seed Conference at Pa. State University, August 9, 1965. Mr. Sakata is recognized the world over for his phenomenal success and contributions to the world of horticulture and to gardeners everywhere. Hybridizing and developing superior new varieties especially flowers, has been a life-time work.

Are you going to Mexico this year? If so, please write us, giving us your itinerary. We have new members in Mexico who are going into the Peony business commercially and as hobbyists. We know you would enjoy a visit with them and they would indeed benefit from talking with you.

Several of our advertisers are now sending peonies to Mexico. William Krekler sent his first large order by air freight to the mountains (6500 ft. elevation) near Mexico City. A recent letter from him states he has just shipped his second big order.

Nichols Method of Mulch Culture

L. E. Nichols, Chillicothe, Missouri, has retired from his work at the Wallbrunn building—after 50 years—but this has not meant retiring entirely, for Mr. Nichols is famous as a flower grower not only in Chillicothe, but throughout that area.

“Lincoln Nichols is a most unusual man,” according to Bill Plummer of the Constitution-Tribune in Chillicothe. From him we learned of the many, many times Mr. Nichols has furnished flowers for schools, churches and organizations.

30 years of devotion to mulch culture, peonies and his Flower Center is proof of his contribution in the area of beautification. Mr. Nichols stated “To work my 7 miles of trenches, spending countless hours with hoe, mogul or sharp shooter spade, long handle dirt shovel, has been in result, an inspiration . . . and since my retirement I have really re-doubled my efforts. Last season I bought 300 bales of straw for my mulch culture plots but this season I bought 154 bales of alfalfa hay, times have changed, so nice, soft weed seed free alfalfa hay is as cheap or cheaper than straw and so much better.

Mr. Nichol’s method as described in his book is as follows: “Crops are grown in mulch beds or rows, 21 feet-center to center. The mulch bed is formed by mowing in the middle between the rows twice each year and adding the two cuttings to the mulch row at the time of mowing. The mulch beds or rows are projected approximately in the level or contour, so drainage must filter through the mulch rows instead of running down the middle . . . one purpose is to stop erosion; second to enrich soil; three to stop floods . . . relieve the ill effects of extreme wet or dry weather and thereby have marked improve-

ment in soil condition.

Mr. Nichols states further in his book that he “learned the hard way about the importance of drainage when it comes to peonies. In the spring of 1947 I set 1000 peonies in rows 9 ft. apart and about 3½ ft. apart in the rows which were 515 ft. long. The old hog lot was 100 ft. wide and had been used as a feed lot since buffalo roamed the country. The lot lay on the top of a ridge and almost level . . . I do not plow or spade. Just clear row and plant . . . when things begin to grow up I move in with a sharp, bright hce and clean close around. By the 3rd time the dead grass and weeds as well as the new lush crop of weeds between the rows are sliced up and blended into the top soil.

Mr. Nichols’ book tells of strip and sheet mulch but we have gleaned that strip mulch seems to be his favorite. He writes, “I am forming high-raised beds with knee-deep trenches wide enough to walk in nicely and the beds are waist high. The beds are 7 ft. wide, by 500 ft. long and the trenches are about 2 ft. wide. There is just enough slope that water does not stand in the trenches. The soil was heavy and wet, but is now loose and so nice to till. There is very little run-off water, as the huge, loose beds so full of humus absorb so much. These beds can be worked when other soil is too wet. They are also highly productive.

Mr. Nichols preference of divisions is the small cutting—one bud, for he says they form their own root system, but his wife prefers the king size—she wants lovely flowers in a hurry and thinks I am silly to set out small cuttings when I have more than 8 acres of peonies. My peony efforts have been continuous . . . I’ve dug, divided and spread out for thirty years.”

OUR READERS WRITE . . .

Louisiana

We were delighted to receive the following letter from Colby's in Monroe, Louisiana. You will remember their excellent article "Planting Instructions for Growing Peonies in the South" appearing in Bulletin No. 178.

"We were quite suprised to find ourselves breaking out in print in the September Bulletin. Just another experience in our peony venture. Reminds us of our first flower show. The first year we had peony blooms the Monroe Garden Club, our oldest and most elite, had their annual show. The horticulture entries were open to the general public. We had never been to a flower show but were so proud of our peonies, decided to take some blooms. We went into the garden and and cut eight blooms that morning. We stuck them in a pitcher and away we went. Fortunately, we new all the names and were delighted to go back later and find we had four first awards and three seconds. Since that time, we have learned how entries are selected and pampered, etc. but fools rush in where angels fear to tread!

I am enclosing our check for dues for 1966 for both of us. Really enjoy the Bulletins and hope to make one of the annual meetings and meet some of the members. We were amused by the article by Mr. Ralph Giff about his tree peonies. Last year we had large buds on tree peonies which curled up and died. Think our trouble was cold "Yankee" northwind which hit in March. This year we are prepared for it-have put up wind breaks of matchstick bamboo. It may not be the answer but at any rate the passers by wonder, "What are the Colby's doing now?"

All our plants are labeled. We use redwood stakes, venetian blind cut and tacked on with handwoven tacks and written on with weatherproof pencils. We have one large bed with just peonies. In the winter it looks like a cemetery. Have been tempted to put up a sign—"Not dead, just sleeping." They are not so noticeable after foliage is out and are easily read and permanent.

We would like to receive the color slides. Would need them for a garden club talk March 3rd. How long may me keep them? Am enclosing \$5 for rental.

We are sending along the 1965 Survey of Most Popular Peonies. Am sure it is not a true picture but only listed peonies we have tried and which do well here. This fall we added new hybrids, tree peonies and imagine our list will be different next year.

Sincerely

Mrs. K. M. Colby

Springfield, Mass.

Mr. William W. Kirkham has about 50 Japanese Herbaceous and fifteen tree peonies at his summer place in Worthington, Mass.

British Columbia

Well, here we are now approaching the exit of another year. We are past the shortest day of the year and the sun is on its way back to bring the greenery back to our gardens. As I sit here looking out to my lawn, I notice it snowing. So far our winter has not been too bad. It looks like about 2 feet of snow. Practically all came the last two weeks.

January is, as a rule, our cold month. Our coldest so far this winter has been 10 degrees above zero. Nelson and Kootney Lake seem to enjoy a much milder temperature

than east or western points. Lake Cranbrook, is 137 miles east of Nelson. If they get 25 degrees below we would be about 5 degrees below. Then the same at Grand Forks, 95 miles west. I just looked at my thermometer and it reads 34 degrees. A year ago we had very severe weather. It got down to 15 degrees below zero.

Well, being in retirement, it doesn't make any difference to me or peony plants. It does to the various rhodendrons I am planning to buy. Some are not hardy. I was able to keep working on clearing out underbrush and trees at my Atbara property, 10 miles east of Nelson. A chain saw sure makes short work of a tree.

Last spring I transplanted about 150 peony plants. These were small plants, their stock through the ground up to 8 inches. I didn't like to move them, but they are now in their permanent home.

They were set back badly, but they are tough and I think and hope they give me a good showing this coming June. I have some grubbing to do when the snow goes and I'll be able to transplant a few more . . . On the cover of Bulletin No. 179 is a peony Paul M. Wild—certainly a beauty. As a perennial **nothing can compare with the PEONY!**

John E. Marquis,
1112 Beatly Ave.
Nelson, B.C.

Minnesota

Bob Tischler at Brand Peony Farms, Faribault, Minn., wrote us on January 4th, that "our weather has been lousy—In fact December 30th set an all time record of 47 above. All the frost went out of the ground and I do not know just what harm might have happened. Right now we have a good snow covering that we should have had

weeks ago. Last summer was also crazy, but we did have good peonies and one of the best shows that we have ever had. We have many new seedlings that shall soon be ready to market and many more new ones in the fire . . . Our new catalog will soon be out . . .

We have a new box number—see the advertisement in this issue."

Mrs. Carrie Hovland, Minneota, Minn., writes . . .

"I have a white single seedling which is deeply lacinated. It has been transplanted, but not divided. When I divide it—will send one to Mr. Tinnapel to try. Martina Eliason had a pink seedling which he called 'Fringy.' He used it in an arrangement at a National Show in Minneapolis. It was very effective.

My Dad and I started growing peonies here in southwestern Minnesota (near the South Dakota line) in 1938. Our first ones were those which had done so well at our former home in Northwest North Dakota (7 miles from the Canadian border) Karl R., Sarah B., Festiva M., Jules E., Felix C. Courme d'Or. We visited the Franklin and Brand peony fields and the 1940 National Show at Rochester Minn. We were overwhelmed! Our fate was decided.

We added many doubles, especially the very late ones. The hard-to-open varieties like LeCygne, Solange, Hansina Brand usually give a magnificent performance here. The anemones, Redbird, Primevere and Prairie-a-Fire intrigued us. We fell in love with the Japs and started with Rasmann and Charm. We acquired *Officinalis Rubra* and *Rosea*, *Tenuifolia*, *Floreplena*, and *Laciniata*, some singles and semi-doubles, and lastly, the fantastic hybrids. We have never planted a tree peony here.

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Since 1945 we have conducted an annual Peony Show on our grounds. Our other perennials and evergreen business are subservient to our first love—the versatile peony. Once my Dad made the remark “After while they will get filled up with peonies around here.” But it **has not happened** as yet—people love them— Our most popular red has been Philippe Rivoire and the pink—M. Jules Elie.

Our soil is a deep sandy loam, left by the glaciers. Our rainfall varies from drought to floods. We have temperatures down to 35 degrees below and up to 105 degrees. We hoe and cultivate the rows, but do not water, except after transplanting. We mound up each plant with soil, the first fall after planting. We remove soil early in spring, before growth begins. We have eliminated heaving in open winters and rotting after a wet spring by this method. We leave tops to collect snow and leaves for winter protection and remove in late winter. We occasionally use bonemeal and wood ashes as side dressings.

The albiflora varieties stand up well under the variations in temperature and moisture. The Japs have not always fared as well. A year long dry season, followed by a June flood, followed by another dry year once resulted in complete rotting of all well established Japs and *Officinalis* varieties. So far the hybrids have not shown this tendency to rot. We first acquired some of Mr. Auten’s varnished black reds, now we have a number of the charming salmon pinks and Claire de Lune. It is interesting to speculate what this century may yet produce to add even more enjoyment to the future!

California

The Frank D. Rupperts have moved from South Pasadena, Cal-

ifornia to . . . “our little ranch in Julian, California. This has an altitude of 4500 feet, cool winters, and less hot summer days. Peonies do well in that area and in fact a few are grown commercially. Generally, they are marketed from road side stands to afternoon sight seers and visitors in this area. I plan to establish a few dozen plants and if they do well to increase to a larger planting. Naturally I want to learn all I can about them and their growing habits. The book ‘Peonies Outdoors and In’ seems like an exhaustive study and I am enclosing my order for a copy.

Nebraska

For many years I have been an admirer of the Peony and I grew them as a hobby for over 30 years. Time and a couple of heart attacks caused me to give up gardening in 1964 and I was introduced to apartment living. I now must be content to read and observe what others are doing in this regard.

My introduction to the peony was in the early twenties by the late Hans P. and Jacob Sass (brothers) who then had sizable gardens west of Omaha and were hybridizing and developing new varieties of iris and peonies. These men were German farmers (Hans was born in Germany) who at an early age began working with flowers, mainly iris, crossing and developing new and better varieties.

I went to Douglas County, Omaha, in 1918 as the first County Agent. That summer in driving about the county one Sunday we got a glimpse of a large and colorful garden through a rather dense growth of trees. We soon learned it was the Hans P. Sass place and we learned why the garden was almost hidden from view from the highway. We were told that Han’s neighbors, whose main interest was

in growing corn and hogs and certainly not flowers, had made fun of him for spending so much time with flowers, so his attempt to screen his garden from view.

We visited the Sass garden many times in the twenties and when leaving Douglas County in 1930, I bought several peony varieties from him including his Elizabeth Huntington, then a numbered variety 8-25, to plant at the Maxwell farm in Henry County, Indiana. I stayed at the Indiana farm 3 years and returned to Nebraska in 1933. My boss, the late W. H. Brokaw, Director of Agriculture Extension at the University of Nebraska became interested in planting some peonies and in the fall of 1934 he and I drove back to the Maxwell farm in Indiana and dug a number of the better varieties and transplanted them at Mr. Brokaw's place as I then had no place on which to plant. Three years later in 1937, the National Peony Show was held in Lincoln. We showed bloom in several amateur classes under the name Maxwell and Brokaw and won several prizes, including Sweepstakes in the general amateur peony display.

I have attended only two National Shows, the one in Ft. Wayne, Ind., I believe in 1931 and here in 1937. It is questionable if I will be able to attend the Show this year. As to weather conditions here—At the time of writing Nebraska is in a favorable weather cycle. Growing conditions have been generally favorable since 1940, the year we think of as the end of the drouth of the thirties."

Earl G. Maxwell
1130 H. No. 306
Lincoln 8, Nebraska

Tennessee

Dr. David Camp, University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, was very prompt in replying to our

letter asking for information about his planting. We are privileged to quote from his letter as follows: . . . final exams, so he asked me to answer your letter and tell you something about peonies. Most of our yard is too shady for flowers, but we have an open area in the back yard where we grow everything that requires sun. Our peonies are in three rows with about 15 plants in each row. Most types and colors of herbaceous peonies are represented . . . Most of our peonies have not been planted long enough to become well established, but they are all vigorous and most bloomed the first year after planting.

Dave is a firm believer in thorough preparation. He makes a wide trench at least two feet deep, using a power cultivator to loosen the soil. He puts in several inches of compost (either oak leaves or horse manure mixed with sawdust and straw) mixes it well with the soil, then fills the trench with soil before planting the peony roots. He fertilizes rather heavily with 6-12-12 in the spring, and at intervals during the summer.

Our soil up here in the Cumberland Plateau is sandy loam on a sandstone base, and is subject to leaching. We mulch with well rotted horse manure once or twice a year.

We cut off and burn all old foliage in the fall, and find that dusting during the spring and summer keeps the foliage healthy much later in the season.

Due to the higher elevation on the plateau (1900 ft.) we usually get enough cold weather to insure dormancy. Until a week ago, (Jan. 29th) this winter had been open, with hardly any freezing and no snow and gardeners were getting worried about some of their plants. However, the last week has been below freezing with some on the ground

and today it is 6 degrees with over a foot of snow, so I think we can count on good bloom for the 1966 season . . .

Eunice R. Camp
(Mrs. David B. Camp)

West Salem, Wisconsin

William P. Bringe writes further about Age of Gold, Hans-Kisoi and Kama-Fugi (See Story by Anthony de Blasi in this issue). "In describing Age of Gold, "Mr. Bringe states, "I did not mean that the other two are not."

Probably Moutan would be "hardy" here when raised under the conditions I described. It's just that Age of Gold was extra vigorous and free flowering, having at least 25 fine golden blossoms. The other two had fine flowers each and these were larger than Age of Gold. The plants when sent to me were at least five years old and entirely on their own roots which probably helped a good deal in growing well. Smaller and younger plants still on grafted roots probably would not have done so well."

Israel

Mr. Meyer Barad, Mobile Post Ha Negev wrote us: "I have for many years tried to acquire Peony roots and I have finally acquired seed of 4 types of Peony II planted last Spring. 2 seed of the same type in 4" clay flower pots. These pots were then placed near a wall of my house in a bed of wood shavings and shaded by a burlap bag to keep the hot dry sun off.

In November I shook them out of pots and noticed that they have all sent out root systems so I put them back into the pots and left them there. I am now moving into a new house and I would like to know if I should leave them in the pots or transplant them. Our climate here is like that of the San Bernardino Valley, California.

—Meyer Barad

Taiwan (Formosa) Isle of Beauty

Mrs. Donald Chang, one of our new members, is privileged to live on an island described by Kermit Holt as an "isle blessed with great beauty" and many American tourists would not think of missing the opportunity to see the green wooded mountains, the terraces as well as the many fascinating sights in this seat of government of Free China.

Your Editor has had interesting correspondence with Mrs. Chang who is interested in planting, growing and propagating peonies. We welcome Mrs. Chang into membership and look forward to the time when she will find it convenient to attend our annual meetings.

Toronto, Canada

Henry Landis, Barrister and Solicitor, is a most interested gardener we understand. We learned of his experience with nematodes and include here some of his comments: "There is a material on the market which will kill nematodes in the soil only and which I have found safe for use around peonies. This material is **VC13** and I used it without any harmful effect on peonies. A nematologist also told me to cut off the hair roots containing root knots because he believed that root knots nematodes do not generally go into the thick tap root, for example, in carrots they did not go into the thick root. I think if the root knots are all cut off and if **VC13** is used, there should be a good control established of the root knot nematodes that find their way from the root into the soil.

"There is a systemic poisonous insecticide now on the market which is fatal to root knot nematodes in roots but because it is so hazardous to use, it should only be applied under the supervision of a specialist and only upon permission from the local Government Agriculture office.

"I would like to mention two Japs, both pink and yellow that I got from the collection of the late Bill Brown of Elora which in the established plants produces beautiful flowers. One is called **Donna Jean** and the other **Rosaurea**."

Rapidan, Va.

January 10th, the editor received a letter from Elise F. Peyton, (Mrs. George M. Peyton) in which she referred to further correspondence regarding peonies and then stated "We are having the warmest winter, not a snowflake, no rain. We do not understand it any longer. We had a fine summer and our vegetable garden was a delight, but it begins to look bad. The water level is receding, but then we might have a late winter, like it happens here sometimes. We stay so busy here, we wish you lots of luck in 1966.

Redkey, Indiana

Mrs. Adda E. Ayres writes that she has "a small city lot, but it is crammed full of all kinds of flowers. . . . My peonies are all older ones but I love them all. I also have about 15 young tree peonies and 3 older tree peonies. Harry Smith, now deceased, a well known peony man lived only a few houses from me."

McLean, Va.

Mrs. O. L. Brandenburger, 1301 Scott Run Rd., McLean, Va., 22101 has joined the Society and when sending in her application and check stated, "I have only 3 tree peonies and not many named varieties. One was, but lost track of the name. This was one I had ten years, bought from . . . but failed to bloom each year. Last year we sprayed it with Molathon and the buds opened for the first time since we bought it. Formerly the buds failed to mature. It was sprayed each spring, but only effective last year. Other two bloom every year.

Have long borders of herbaceous peonies. Unable to keep proper and lasting name plates on them. They do quite well for us and we add varieties regularly."

Mt. Pleasant, Iowa

Mrs. J. E. Leeper, who resides on Route 4 Box 272, writes, "As I've raised hundreds of Peony plants from seed, all types and colors and also have about 35 specimen of Japanese tree peonies (procured from Japan about 12 years ago) I've become very much interested in growing peonies from seed. I obtained your address from one of my Iris Bulletins. I've grown and hybridized Iris for a number of years. Enclosed you'll find my check for my 1966 subscription."

Thank you, Mrs. Leeper. We are sure you will be hearing from some of our members . . . The Editor.

Illinois

In a copy of "The Sprout," published by the Men's Garden Club of Villa Park and distributed free to the members of the Club under the heading **Distinguished Gardeners** we find the name of SAM WISSING! Congratulations SAM

We can double those congratulations to Sam Wissing, president of Division Five of the American Peony Society for he has brought in more new members this year than any other member!

Let's see who can top his record by June 1st, 1966.

POTS FOR PLANTS

The U. S. Dept. of Agriculture gives two tips for maintaining plants in individual pots in a window garden: 1-Use plastic pots because water is not evaporated through them, and so less watering is necessary. 2-Encourage symmetrical development by rotating the plants every week so that the sunlight will hit different parts of them.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS — 1966

Please add the following events to your Calendar published on Page 21 of December 1965 Bulletin No. 179.

MARCH

29-April 3—Colorado Garden and Home Show (7th) Denver, Colorado.

APRIL

- 7-9—Northwest Orchid Society, Seattle, Wash.
13-22—5th World Orchid Conference, Santa Barbara, Calif.
14-15—Holly Society of America. 40th annual meeting.
11-20—New England Flower Show, Mass. Horticulture Society, Boston, Mass. Theme "Gardens Beautify America."
12-17—Cherry Blossom Festival, Washington, D. C.
17-20—International Orchid Show, Earl Warren Pk. Santa Barbara, Calif.
22-23—Georgetown Garden Tour, Washington, D. C.
22-23—1966 Northeast Regional Daffodil Show, Pa. Horticulture Society Philadelphia, Pa.
22-27—Northwest Ohio Flower and Home Show, Toledo, Ohio Arena
23-May 1—California Spring Garden and Home Show, Exposition Bldg., Oakland, Calif.

MAY

- 3-4—Annual Meeting of Garden Club Federation at Swampscott, Mass.
9-14—Flower Show, Boston, Mass.
28-29—Peony exhibit in conjunction with Northwest Illinois Iris Society—Proviso West High School, Hillside, Ill. sponsored by District V of the American Peony Society.
19-21—Fifth annual Clara B. Ford Garden Forum, Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, Dearborn, Michigan.
28-June 1—Annual Meeting, American Iris Society, Newark, New Jersey.

JUNE

- 6-10—34th Anniversary Convention, Men's Garden Clubs of America; National Garden Writer's Convention; National Rose Society . . . Portland, Oregon.
9-11—National Convention, American Hemerocallis Society, Jackson, Mississippi.
9-30—New York Botanical Garden tour of England—Scotland.
17-19—63rd Annual Meeting, American Peony Society; 61st Peony Exhibition . . . Kingwood Center, Mansfield, Ohio.

JULY

- 4-13—Tentative dates - American Rock Garden Society.

AUGUST

- 15-20—International Horticultural Congress, U. of Mr. College Park, Maryland. 1st in U.S. and 1st in Western Hemisphere.
17-18—American Horticultural Congress, same place.
24-25—Annual Convention, Ohio Association of Garden Clubs. Cincinnati, Ohio.

TOURS

A number of tours have been arranged by several Societies—if interested please write the Secretary of the American Peony Society for information.

New Members

We welcome into membership the following persons and hope that members living in your area will make themselves known to you. Helping one another is one of the cardinal virtues of our members and we are sure your sharing of knowledge will be a pleasurable experience.

- Bennett, Mrs. Junior, 6780 St. Mary St., Brown City, Mich. 48416.
- Baugler, Eugene K., Star Rte., Dexter, Ore. 97431
- Brandenberger, Mrs. O. L., 1301 Scott Run Rd., McLean, Va., 22101
- Brear, John Wm., 1215 Devonshire Rd., Grosse Pointe, Mich. 48230
- Baugler, Star Rte., Dexter, Ore. 97431
- Carradus, Mrs. Francis D., Rte. 2, Central City, Iowa 52214
- Casey, Edward, Belmont Gardens, 702 S. Illinois, Carbondale, Ill.
- Chadwell, Miss Eliza, Rte. 2, Jacksboro, Tenn. 37757
- Chang, Mrs. Donald, P.O. Box 1635, Taipei, Taiwan, Rep. of China
- Cimino, Mrs. John J., 5400 Harwood Dr., Des Moines, Iowa 50312
- Colby, K. M., 4307 Bon Air Dr., Monroe, La.
- Cook, Glad L., P.O. Box 871, Blowing Rock, N. C. 2865
- Emery, Dara E., 517 W. Junipero St. No. 2, Santa Barbara, Calif. 93105
- Ewing, Irvin, Son-in-law of Clarence Lienau, Detroit, Mich.
- Fischer, Hubert A., Meadow Gardens, 63rd St., Hinsdale, Ill. 60521
- Franck, Mrs. Ed, Winthrop, Iowa 50682
- Frazier, A. Jay, 539 Penobscot Bldg., Detroit, Mich. 48226
- Garrison, Mr. and Mrs. Dee, 4512 N. 64th St., Milwaukee, Wis. 53218
- Gentry, Thomas B., 303 S Jefferson St., Lexington, Va.
- Greco, Dr. Vincent J., 2844 N. Lowell Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60644
- Hallan, Ray B., Northbrook, Ill.
- Henderson, Orville R., 39 Meriden, Rochester, N. Y. 14612
- Hess, Harold M., 240 Tourello Rd., Mount Eliza, Victoria, Australia
- Hooker, Lerton, 117 Greenfield Ave., Lombard, Ill. 60148
- Houck, Estella, 2244 East 96th St., Chicago, Ill.
- Howell, Mr. and Mrs. John H., 32 Carma Dr., Trotwood, Ohio 45426
- Hutmire, Mrs. E. W., 21 Columbia Ave., Takoma Park, Md. 20012
- Johnstone, M. M., 142 Hautapu St., Taichape, New Zealand
- Jones, Peter, 54 Shawbridge, G. T. Parn-don, Harlow, Essex, England.
- Jugh, Leonard, 261 W. Grantley, Elmhurst, Ill. 60126
- Kachik, Mrs. David, 5466 N. Lamon Ave., Chicago, Ill. 80630
- Kaser, Mrs. Ralph, Rt. 2, 25601 Layton, North Liberty, Ind. 46554
- Kelly, George E., 6604 Woodwell St., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15217
- Krasnowa, Miss N. S., 4 Bo Tani Cheskaja U-276-Moscow
- Kunz, Mr. and Mrs. Philip, 5864 Reigart Rd., Hamilton, Ohio 45011
- Lanman, Mrs. A. Leo, Jr., Old Roswell Rd., Roswell, Ga. 30075
- Lejman, Henry, 5713 N. McVicker Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60646
- McArthur, Mrs. I. S., 466 Kenwood Ave., Ottawa 13, Ontario, Canada
- Martin, Mrs. S. O., Rt. 1, Box 383, Jonesville, N. C. 79045
- Massey, Ben R., P. O. Box 248, Youngs-town, Ariz. 85363
- Moiles, Miss Sophia M., 1617 Emmett Dr., Johnstone, Pa. 15905
- Moore, Mrs. Charles, 98 Applewood Valley, Clarion, Pa. 55105
- Moore, Harvey L., 5433 Red Oak Dr., Los Angeles, Calif. 90028
- Olson, Christian, Colfax, N. D. 58018
- Papie, Fred L., 399 S. Johnsville Rd., New Lebanon, Ohio 45345
- Paquette, Leonell T., Paquette Garden, 3100 Holland (M46) Saginaw, Mich.
- Peyton, James F., 1407 N. Inglewood St., Arlington, Va. 22205
- Phetteplace, Carl H., 634 Eugene Medical Center, Eugene, Oregon 97401
- Poole, Lyle, 500 S. Edson Ave., Lombard, Ill. 60148
- Rawinsky, Gerald B., Primrose Hill Nursery, Haslemere, Surrey, England
- Reed, Donald, Sr., Reed's Perennial Garden, R. 1, Lincoln, Mich. 48742
- Risch, Mr. and Mrs. Robert, Box 152, R. 1, Grays Lake, Ill.
- Roberts, Mrs. Hale W., 4182 Auburn Rd., N.E., Salem, Ore.
- Rohrberg, Mrs. Wm. L., R. 2, Box 104, Boring, Ore. 97009
- Sakakura, Mrs. Henry, R. 1, Box 657, Stockton, Calif.
- Saur, Beldon C., Rockwell Nursery, Morrow, Ohio 45152
- Scott, Mrs. L. M., 12561 22nd Ave., White Rock, British Colombia, Canada
- Seaman, Gary P., Leicester Rd., Piffard, N. Y. 14533
- Simmons, Hugh G., 910 Cherry Dr., Dayton, Ohio 45406
- Slagle, Mrs. Lewis W., Rich Acres, R. 5, Box 102, Martinsville, Va. 24112
- Sloan, Mrs. W. C., 319 E. Nettleton Ave., Jonesboro, Ark. 72401
- Stark, Gunther, Norwalk, Iowa
- Statlor, Mr. W. O., 120 Rockingham Dr., Wilmington, Dela. 19803
- Thierauf, Frederick A., Rt. 2, Box 337, Jessup, Md. 20794
- Thompson, Mrs. Arnold M., 210 S. Cold-spring Rd., Woodstock, Ill. 91030.
- Ward, Mrs. John L., 127 E. Shore, Sparta, N. J. 07871
- Warren, Harold, 2985 Riverside Dr., Beloit, Wis. 53511
- Watson, Mr. Everett, Silver Lake, Kans.
- Wernimont, Mrs. Mabel A., 1119 East St., Geneva, Nebr. 68361
- Will, Mrs. Theodore W., 3301 N. Boston Rd., Eden, N. Y. 14057
- Wissing, Richard, 824 Hillview, West Chicago, Ill. 60185
- Wood, Mr. and Mrs. E. L., Rt. 3, Lockport, Ill. 60441
- Zibin, Mrs. Wm., Box 433 Quill Lake, Saskatchewan, Canada

KREKLER LOOKS BACK

Between college and landscaping with Olmsteds I spent three busy years with Mr. S. G. Harris (owner of the prominent Rosedale Nursery, Tarrytown-on-Hudson). As Mr. Harris always grew all of the best peonies I soon was incurably infected with "peonyitis." Recently a friend at Rosedale sent me a copy of their old 1919 catalog. This catalog proves America has greatly improved peonies since the end of World War I. In fact out of 140 peonies listed in Rosedale's 1919 catalog I find (other than species) only ten varieties that are obtainable today, and most nurseries long ago discarded nearly all of these foreigners. They are: Albatre (1885)—75c, Baroness Schroeder (1889)—\$1.50, Edulis Superba (1834)—50c, Felix Crousse (1881)—75c, Festiva Maxima (1851)—60c, Grandiflora (1883)—\$2.00, Mme. Emile Galle (1881)—\$1.00, Mme. Geissler (1880)—\$1.00, Mons. Jules Elie (1883)—\$1.00, and Octavie Demay (1867)—\$1.00. Note that half of these were created by Crousse (Such survival is quite an honor).

Following are a half dozen past favorites which headed Rosedale's list:(A's)—Adolphe Rosseau, \$1.50; Albert Crousse, \$1.00; Asa Gray, \$1.00; Augustin d Hour, 75c; Aurore, \$1.25; Avalanche, 75c. Doubtless most of you can easily remember them, as A.P.S. have so very few young members (if we do not enroll the young folks soon, our gasping Society will be buried with we old "dolittles." If we had a \$1.00 membership fee for kids we could infect scads of 'em. Do you agree?

Look at those prices of 47 long years ago. Most nurserymen who may have any of these antiques would now gladly sell at about those same old prices. Peonies almost alone have been so little affected by a half century of awful inflation, yet they still re-

quire as many hours of hard labor to produce. You buyers might reflect on that before complaining.

Blooming-size clumps are one thing that has largely ceased to be offered for sale. Wise Mr. Harris, and his contemporaries formerly listed only one, two and three year clumps, realizing that because of time saved in dividing, clumps can be sold for but little more than "slow-poke" little 3 eye divisions (except on high priced new ones).

Albiflora (Chinese) singles and Japanese types in 1919 were scarce and Rosedale listed only a dozen varieties. They had none of today's wonderous vivid early hybrids. I save confusion by listing only four types (semi-doubles, doubles, Japs and singles), but Rosedale also listed—Anemone, Crown, Bomb, Rose and Semi-rose types—W O W !

Mr. Harris's 1919 catalog has a poetic quote from Prof. Saunders' which I like—"Some single peonies, like great wild roses with hearts of gold, should be in your collection." These gentlemen were "tops." Also Prof. Saunders—Duchess de Nemours (1856), Festiva Maxima (1851), Jeanne d'Arc (1858), Mme. Leonie Calbot (1861), Philomele (1861), Marie Lemoine (1869). Some higher priced ones recommended by Prof. Saunders were—Carnea Elegans (1860), Eugenie Verdier (1864), Madame de Galhau (1883), Mad. de Vetry (1863), Grandiflora (1883), and Mme. Emile Galle (1881). Most all have "gone with the wind" (stepping stones to better varieties).

Mr. Harris had many better peonies when I ran Rosedale's landscape dept. but in 1919 such stock was too scarce to be listed. Some of these better doubles were—Cherry Hill (1915), Jubilee (1908), Kelway's Glorious (1909) (which Peyton used to declare as the one

best peony). Laura Dessert (1913), Le Cygne (1907), Longfellow (1907), Martha Bulloch (1907), Philippe Rivoire (1911), Sarah Bernhardt (1906), Therese (1904), Tourangelle (1910), plus these three Isani Gidui (Jap), Tomate Boku (Jap), and Le Jour (Single). Now even these fine peonies are being slowly pushed aside. Thanks to the very "pushy" hybrids, etc. created by our four honored hybridizers, Prof. Saunders, Auten, Mains and Glasscock, we now can enjoy at regular prices dozens of wonderful peonies weeks before any in Harris's catalog.

With these "early birds" now available, I think it is surely high time to change our way of describing "flowering seasons." Actually the single (latifolias, or albifloras) flower smack in the center of modern peonies. Species, trees and a lot of the hybrids should be described as either "early" or "very early." Likewise, the doubles etc. that follow albiflora singles should properly now be described truthfully as either "late" or "very late." My namesake "Bill Krekler," created by able Mr. Mains (who recently wandered away into the mists), is the first good double to flower with Officinallis. Perhaps these two doubles alone should be described as "early to midseason," though other hybrid doubles soon follow.

One should not be a knocker unless he can suggest better ones. For hybrid red singles you might try—Bravura Supreme, Dad, Edward Steichen, and Illini Warrior. For pink singles I suggest Dawn Pink, Flame, and Laura Magnuson. Good near-white singles are Mrs. Mac, Nosegay and Le Jour. Outstanding Japs are Moon Of Nippon, West Elkton and Westerner. Semi-doubles though scarce are good—try Miss America and Red Red Rose. Popular red doubles are—Harry L. Smith, Maestro, Red charm, Rose Marie and Tempest. In pink doubles

folks like—Bessie, Etta, Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt, Queen of Sheba and Splendens. Lastly, from the many fine near-white doubles I will suggest—Dr. J. H. Neeley, Lenora, Martha Reed, Mrs. Frank Beach, and Myrtle Gentry. Other fine ones are yet too scarce.

Department of Registration

Art Murawska has reserved two names (1) "SILVERY MOON" after the song "By the Light of the Silvery Moon". It is a silver white to delicate pink, almost iridescent, very full, flattish full double. (2) "Catharine Pennell", named for the Associate Editor and wife of the Secretary. The latter named variety is a darker pink double.

Charles Klehm and Sons have reserved the name "LADY CLAUDIA" Seedling number, description and pictures will be sent and upon approval of the Nomenclature Committee, registration announced in the June issue.

William H. Krekler has reserved the following names: QUAKER, ULTRA, UNCLE SAM, UTE, UTOPIA, X.E. LESS, YANKEE, YOUR PAL, ZENITH, ZEUS, ZION AND ZUNI. Complete description and notice of registration awaits receipt of further information for the Committee.

CUTTING REMARKS

In neighboring gardens,
by summer's last quarter,
grass may not be greener,
but it's certainly shorter.

by R. H. Grenville

God grant me serenity to accept
the things I cannot change; courage
to change the things I can; and
wisdom to know the difference.

Obituaries

Our sympathies are extended, on the American Peony Society, to Art Murawska in the loss of his sister-in-law and trusted secretary, **Mrs. Dorothy Ames**, and his brother, **August Murawska**, of Noel Missouri, both within a two week period this month.

Joseph R. Swan, former President of The New York Botanical Garden from 1937-1949 and Chairman of the Board of Managers from 1949 to 1958, died at his home in Boca Raton, Florida.

Dr. Robert H. Dunbar, Sr., who though a new member of our Society was an old-hand as you might say, on Glads, Iris and Roses. Mrs. Dunbar in response to our request for information about their garden stated, Dr's. bed of 18 peony plants still exists—all that is left of his flower hobby (since his retirement) and I am hoping they will continue to fight to live on, in spite of neglect. I am unable to garden and . . . I am taking to heart the statement that "Peonies are Forever". I was thinking that some nearby Peony member Hobbyist, might drop by some time and give me a few helpful tips." . . . Mrs. Robert H. Dunbar, Sr. 8 Appian Way, W. Barrington, R. I. 02890

Mrs. E. H. Rhodes of 7412 Holly Avenue, Takoma Park, Md., mother of Mrs. E. H. Hutmire. Many of our members have known Mrs. Rhodes and her deep interest in peony culture. Mrs. Hutmire resides at 21 Columbia Ave., Takoma Park, Md. 20012.

Mrs. A. S. Gowan, Excelsior, Minn., horticulturist and flower show judge passed away in January after a long illness. Mrs. Gowan served as former President of the Minnesota Garden Flower So-

ciety and The Peony and Iris Society, was an honorary member of the State Horticultural Society. Mrs. Gowan stated to Mr. W. G. Sindt, that she had "gotten all the medals given by the American Peony Society at the annual Shows. Members attending the Canadian Show will remember her entries at that time!

Mrs.Carolyn Mae Nelson a member of the Society for at least thirty-five years, was most active in the Garden Club of Lincoln, Nebraska and when the national peony show was held in the University of Nebraska Colosseum, it was under her complete supervision. While in Nebraska she worked particularly close with the Sass brothers of Omaha. Leonard R. Nelson C.L.U., her son wrote us that "upon her moving to Peoria, Ill., to make her home with me after my father's death . . . she came into close and intimate association with Edward Auten and even though Mother never did any hybridizing, she always kept abreast of the finest peonies in the country, many of which we have now in our own garden"—

John W. Goss, 77 Ledge Road, Burlington, Vermont, 05401. His sister, Mrs. Genevieve Goss Rice, informed us of her death which occurred a year ago. We regret our personal lack of information about Mr. Goss at this time, however, those in the membership who knew Mrs. Rice.

* * * *

In the death of **Walter Z. Mains** December 16 last, the American Peony Society lost one of its oldest members—oldest both in age and years of membership. His death occurred at a hospital in Kenton, Ohio, following a stroke. He had been in declining health for several years.

Mr. Mains was born in Belle Center, Ohio, and lived there his entire

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life. He had celebrated his eighty-fourth birthday just one month before his death. He never married, and his nearest relative was a first cousin who resides in New York City. His work during his active years was that of a railway mail clerk from which he retired about twenty years ago, and he devoted most of his attention from then on to tending his peonies. He became a member of the American Peony Society about 1920.

In the early twenties he bought very extensively and his gardens contained practically every well-known variety then in existence. But he soon became interested in breeding, and as his seedlings required more and more space the standard varieties had to go. By 1950 about the only named variety left in his garden was ALICE HARDING which he had in quantity, and which he used extensively in breeding work. He often said that he considered it the finest peony in existence.

Walter Mains was something of a recluse although he was a friendly man and loved to have garden visitors who knew something about peonies. During his more than 45 years as a member of the APS, he attended only one show, the Van Wert show in 1960, which he enjoyed immensely. He grew peonies only for his own enjoyment, was not interested in selling or in seeing that the best of his seedlings were made available for other peony lovers. In 1955 he was prevailed upon to permit the release of some of his more outstanding originations. FRANCES MAINS and WALTER MAINS are the two best known of his introductions, the latter an officinalis hybrid of perfect Japanese type which a friend insisted should bear the name of its originator.

The bulk of his estate, amounting to about \$210,000 was left to the United Presbyterian Church of

Belle Center, of which he was an officer for many years. The Belle Center library was left \$1,000 and The Dorothy Love Home of Sidney, Ohio, a United Presbyterian institution, \$500. The Westminster Foundation of the church was bequeathed a valuable block of stock and the Ohio State Historical and Archeological Museum certain personal items of historical and antique value. The dwelling was left to Miss Margaret Clark, a registered nurse, who had kept house for him and looked after his needs for many years. One of the fine seedlings which he named and allowed to be released for dissemination was named for her. His peony planting was left to W. A. Alexander of Bowling Green, Ohio, who had acted as his agent in marketing the varieties he had named and released. The planting consists of some 3,000 plants, about 1500 of which are unnamed seedlings, mostly officinalis hybrids. There are also 100 seedling tree peonies.

An article in the March, 1957 Bulletin (No. 144) entitled "The Man in Ohio", one of the series called "Peony People", told of Mains' work as a hybridizer and gave some insight into the quality and character of the man.

W. A. Alexander

DO WE SPELL YOUR NAME CORRECTLY?

If we have been in error, please correct us in the correct spelling of your name, and your address. Sometimes we find handwriting a little difficult to translate. Also, PLEASE read what you have printed on your renewal statement, as to your street, avenue or road name. One new member put down his own name for his avenue name. Unfortunately, our office did not know he was wrong!

**EVERY MEMBER GET A
NEW MEMBER IN 1966**

Kingwood Center Re-Visited

by Jim Martin

Kingwood Center looks forward to once again hosting the American Peony Society at their annual meeting and show. Since the last time this society met here in 1963 some changes have taken place, as you would expect with a growing organization.

One of the most interesting developments has been a new herbaceous perennial garden. It consists of over forty individual raised beds edged with railroad ties and grouped in a pleasant, unified design. Since the beds are not very wide visitors may view the plants up close while walking the slag, all-weather paths. On display are almost 400 varieties of perennials including many of the old favorites plus several bright, new promising varieties. We hope you find this a pleasant adjunct to our major collections of perennials and woody plants such as the peonies, iris, daffodils, tulips, roses, lilies, daylilies and chrysanthemums. Most of these major plant collections have been updated to keep pace with the time.

Progress in plant culture has been made also. All of our annual and most of our perennial displays have been mulched with black polyethylene film. This material provides an impenetrable barrier for most common garden weeds. The 1 1/2 mill gauge is adequate for most areas with the exception of those infested with quack grass or gout weeds. For these insistent characters and ones like them a heavier gauge may be required.

Polyethylene film has given us excellent weed control and an important side benefit of soil moisture conservation. Enough rain and irrigation water trickles in the slits around the base of the plants to provide the necessary moisture. The covering

all but eliminates surface evaporation so that moisture remains available to the plants.

While you are at Kingwood this year take advantage of the many fine displays that will be prominent at that time, and don't overlook the interesting wildlife collection and nature trail. You may also enjoy browsing around in Kingwood's 5000 volume gardeners' library. For those of you who have a little more time there are many outstanding attractions in the Mansfield area which has been appropriately named the "Fun Center of Ohio".

SIZE OF HYBRID ROOT DIVISIONS

I may have started the saying that a one eye division of some hybrid clumps was sufficient, but I never intended to imply that one eye was always enough. The root structure of hybrids varies widely. Some can be divided just as nicely and equally as the regular Lactiflora clumps. But others might have to be divided with one big root and only one eye. That is what I had in mind. But there might also be several eyes stemming from smaller roots of the same clump, and chance for two divisions only, one large root with one eye, one clump with small roots and three or more eyes but not enough roots for a really good division. Years ago when wearied looking at a big pile of roots to be divided I tried to figure the number of divisions I had carved out during my life time, and I then estimated it at 300,000 at least. Each clump to be divided is like a new puzzle, some easy, others difficult.

—Edward Auten, Jr.

Will Display

Charles Klehm & Son, Arlington Heights, Illinois, will again have an unusually colorful garden of flowering perennials and ornamental shrubs, at the World Flower & Garden Show to be held March 19th thru 27th at McCormick Place, Chicago, Ill.

Look at the picture on the cover of Bulletin No. 178, (September-1965) and you will have some idea of the peonies Mr. Klehm forced for the 1965 Show. We look forward to visiting the 8th annual exhibition this year. A poster for our So-

ciety will be displayed in their booth in the commercial arts section of the show.

FLASH—The Bronze Award was given to the Klehm Exhibit at the Chicago Show this year. Your Associate Editor visited the Show and thought his exhibit very outstanding.

Peonies "stole the show." Visitors were constantly taking pictures of the garden, designed for the small home owner.

More about the exhibit in the June Bulletin.

AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

"Peonies for Permanence"



*The Captains Concubine
By Nasso Daphnis*



Join! write →

The above picture is one of our first Society Posters. We have different styles, but all are designed to focus attention on the name of the Society, the Bulletins and the opportunity to join.

We are eager to have the Poster display at all Flower, Home & Garden Shows to create public awareness of the opportunity of belonging. Your cooperation in arranging for the display of a Poster will be appreciated.

. . . The Secretary

Announcing Reciprocal Arrangement

Following is information regarding the American Iris Society. We are pleased to announce that a reciprocal arrangement has been made with them and our story and advertisement will appear in their quarterly Bulletin.

The American Iris Society was organized at a meeting at the New York Botanical Gardens on January 29, 1920. The first President of the Society was Mr. John C. Wister currently the Director of the Scott Horticultural Foundation, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania.

ticulturists or specialists in allied fields. The Society's activities embrace the interests of all who love irises, who grow irises, and who seek to know more about the species, races, and the cultivated varieties of the genus. Recognizing the magnitude of the genus, the scope of environments peculiar to its scores of species, and the challenges presented by the many problems of culture, breeding, and classification, the Society is as much interested in the development of one section of the genus as it is in another.

The Society seeks to develop not only the traditional usage and to stimulate greater interest in irises for the garden, but also to encourage and assist in the development of new information founded on scientific investigation and to bring these data to the membership. A primary activity is the testing of new cultivars and the registering of their names, the maintenance of judging standards and issuance of nationwide awards, and the sponsorship of appropriate horticultural classifications of garden sorts. Stimulation of research in iris diseases and disease control, in nematology, and in insect pest control are another part of its program.

The official publication of the So-

ciety is known as "The Bulletin" and is published quarterly. Within its pages one may find articles devoted to a fourfold purpose:

1. To make permanent the records of the Society, i.e., Awards, proceedings, personalities, Registrations, etc.
2. To promote the culture of, and interest in, all types and kinds of iris.
3. To record articles of Scientific interest and importance.
4. To make available through varietal comment, the description of all current varieties, and the performance records of these varieties.

The American Iris Society will be fifty years old in January, 1970, and is currently formulating plans to conduct its 1970 semicentennial convention and celebration in New York, where it had its beginning.

The current President of the Society is Mr. Hubert A. Fischer, Meadow Gardens, 63rd Street, Hinsdale, Illinois 60521. The Executive Secretary is Mr. Clifford W. Benson, 2237 Tower Grove Blvd., St. Louis, Missouri 63110. The First Vice President and BULLETIN Editor is J. Arthur Nelson, 3131 North 58th Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68104.

—o—

John Evelyn, a 17th century diarist, wrote that "A gardner's work is never at an end; it begins with the year and continues to the next; He prepares the ground, and then he sows it; after that he plants, and then he gathers the fruit."

—o—

Isn't it true that from day-by-day association with the garden as well as the never ending excitement of discovery that a gardener derives his greatest pleasure and inspiration?

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

Send orders to: American Peony Society, 107 1/2 W. Main, Van Wert, Ohio

HANDBOOK OF THE PEONY. 36-page booklet of concise articles on why, when to plant, care propagation, culture of peonies of all kinds including tree peonies, 8-pages, 3 line drawings, 8 black and white illustrations. Short lists of varieties and sources included. Price 50c each; 35c each in quantities of 25 or more and 35c each in quantities of 50 or more.

BACK BULLETINS. Issues in plentiful supply 50c each. Four for \$1.00, our selection. Other issues \$1.00 each when available. Send list wanted for quotation.

MOST POPULAR PEONIES—1962. Small leaflet listing most popular peonies of all types, including hybrids and tree peonies. Price: 25c each.

PEONIES OUTDOORS AND IN. Arno and Irene Nehrling. Hearthside Press, Inc., New York. About 300-pages, 100 black and white illustrations and 11 color plates. Contents similar to those of the Handbook with the addition of a section on Peonies Indoors, arrangements and how to stage a show. About 40-pages are devoted to the Tree Peony. Price to members of the American Peony Society: \$4.95 each. To non-members \$5.95.

COLOR SLIDE COLLECTION. (35-mm slides), about 200 slides of all types, including hybrid and tree peonies. Rent \$5.00. Return postage must be paid by renter. Insure for \$50.00. Renter supplies projector. Write for listing.

THE PEONIES. Edited by John C. Wister and published by American Horticultural Society, 1600 Bladensburg Road, N.E., Washington 2, D.C., has over 200-pages and many illustrations. It treats both Tree and herbaceous peonies. Write direct to publishers for full information.

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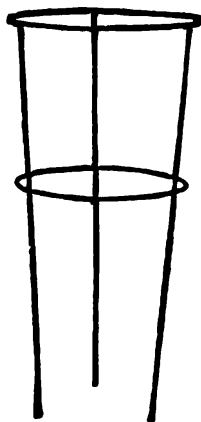
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DISPERSAL SALE

The entire peony planting of the late **Walter Mains**, of Belle Center, Ohio, must be disposed of. The planting consists of approximately 3,000 clumps of herbaceous and 100 tree peonies, the latter all seedlings. Roughly one third of the herbaceous plants are unnamed seedlings, the majority officinalis hybrids, a few lobata hybrids and some lactifloras. There are several hundred plants of the named Mains varieties and about a thousand **ALICE HARDING**. Two years allowed for moving. If interested in all or any part of the planting, write **W. A. Alexander**, 145 Eberly Ave., Bowling Green, Ohio 43402.

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