



We Are Looking For Spring Touring Sites for 2013

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Do you have a collection of peonies that you would like to share with the membership? The executive committee is looking for back yards, front yards, or well designed gardens which incorporates peonies, early bloomers, fragrant, or other aspects that would give members ideas or provide information.

The expression is “a picture is worth a thousand words.” It is so true. Reading a book that talks about dapple shade for tree peonies gives you a rough idea of what the conditions can be like for peonies. Your vision or perspective is confirmed when you see tree peonies nestled under magnolias at the Scott Arboretum.

Another possibility is if you know someone that has a nice selection of peonies and you know the individual well enough to ask them if they would mind a group of motivated, passionate peony gardeners visiting.

Please send and email with the idea as well as information on the location, what the draw would be for the site, and contact information to someone on the executive committee. The contact information is on page 2 of this edition.

(We are planning ahead and would like you to entertain the idea of hosting a tour.)

We would love to have your expertise to share with members. Consider writing an article on some aspect of peonies, their care, growth habits or an aspect that will grab our attention. Send articles electronically to the editor. Email on page 2



Magical Mystery Tour,

Plant peonies in the autumn for best results. Peonies prefer to let their roots transition when the air is cool and the soil is warm. You don't have to pass up bargains this summer. Keep them hydrated in their pots until the fall and then plant.

Planting Intersectionals (Itoh) Peonies

Intersectionals are available from many garden centers and at MAPS fundraisers. A majority of the plants come in plastic nursery pots.

It is recommended that you remove the nursery pot and vigorously disturb the soil. Intersectional peonies have a nasty habit of roots going in circles in the pot once they reach the sides of the pot. A

gardener, not knowing better, would place the plant in the prepared hole and watch the plant grow.

What is happening under ground is the plant's roots growing in circles and eventually strangling itself (girding). The gardener would notice the death of their expensive plant two to three years after plant-

ing. Another pointer— make sure that all of the roots are covered with soil. We have noticed that many of the plants arriving have exposed roots where they meet the stem. The plant thrives in a nursery setting planted this way but requires the additional soil for our winters.

More News

**Membership Meeting
Sunday, February 17th
Swarthmore College**

**Topic: Early Peonies
Presented by Eleanor**

**American Peony Society
Conference**

Save the date!

June 1, 2013

Location: Longwood Gardens

Mark your calendar



Love's Touch



Bowl of Cream

It takes a Village

Do you see an area that you would like to help with? Contact someone in the executive committee and offer your services. The pay is great— smiles, thank you, and seeing mother nature provide us with beauty.

You can email anyone on the executive committee and volunteer.

Spring at Jefferson's Monticello



The gardens in the backyard of Monticello has several tree peonies. Last spring the early spring allowed them to "strut their stuff" during spring break.

Email articles or tour sites to: brmilleri@yaho.com

