



Announcing the 2021 American Peony Society Medal Recipient Kris Jurik

Honoring the Best in Peonies and the People Who Love Them

Over the last century, the American Peony Society has promoted numerous international awards in support of the peony. These awards recognize not only outstanding peony flowers, but the people who serve as passionate advocates of this beloved plant.

Past awardees include hybridizers, APS Board members, educators, growers, peony ambassadors, authors, artists, researchers, thought leaders and dedicated volunteers.

APS is honored to announce and congratulate Kris Jurik.



The American Peony Society Medal – Kris Jurik, Ames, Iowa

The American Peony Society Medal has been given for meritorious contributions by any person or group to the Society or the peony world through research, activity support, art, imagery, literature, authoring, publicity, ambassadorship, or any other number of peony related actions. Awardees may have provided a singular notable contribution, but often make an impact in multiple areas of the peony world.

Kris Jurik is an unsung, behind-the-scenes member of the American Peony Society who contributes hours of time to facilitate a smoothly operating society. Serving as treasurer of the APS for the last 7 years, she exemplifies the dedication of volunteers who daily and quietly keep the fabric of our non-profit society pulled together.

Kris works on a daily basis to manage APS finances and support society functions: processing all membership dues, cultivar registration fees, records seed sales monies, and pays bills associated with all APS activities. She remains in constant contact with membership concerning financial transactions and questions. She also manages the APS investment portfolio, working with Edward Jones to determine how best to invest any funds not immediately needed for operations.

An experienced event planner, Kris co-chaired the highly successful 2019 Ames, Iowa Convention, and is contributing to the upcoming 2022 convention to be held at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, where she and her husband Tom are avid alums.

Those reading magazines such as Better Homes & Gardens know Kris is also a peony “cover-girl”, promoting the beauty of the peony to readers around the country. An avid gardener with acres in cultivation, Kris and her peonies, hostas and other perennials have been featured in many publications.