



AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

Schedule of Events

Welcome to Bloomington, Minnesota! We're so glad you're here! The following pages provide a schedule of activities and events throughout the convention. Pre-registration was required for some events & meals. Please wear your name badge provided in your registration packet. Thank you!

Wednesday, June 5, 2024		
2:30 pm to 5:30 pm	CONVENTION CHECK-IN Open for check-in and information materials. <i>Hosts: The Minnesota Peony Society</i>	Hilton Bloomington Lobby
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm	WELCOME RECEPTION Our evening begins with a social reception buffet dinner and a Cash Bar. Join fellow peony enthusiasts for an informal meet and greet.	Hilton Bloomington American Salon A
Check times posted at hotel	HOSPITALITY SUITE OPEN Open for check-in and information materials and light refreshments. <i>Hosts: The Minnesota Peony Society</i>	Hilton Bloomington Presidential Suite Parlor
Thursday, June 6, 2024		
6:00 am to 7:00 am	BREAKFAST: Registered APS Convention Attendees whom are staying at the Hotel and registered through the Hotel Link for the APS Convention Only — You will need your daily breakfast voucher. Others: Breakfast on your own.	Hilton Bloomington Jefferson & Washington Rooms - 2 nd floor
7:15 am loading 7:30 am departure	GARDEN TOURS DAY 1: Swenson Gardens & Stevens Garden Check in prior to boarding the motor coach. Be sure to wear your name badge and comfortable walking shoes. Bring your rain gear, sun glasses & your camera! The bus will leave promptly at 7:30 am, don't be late. <i>Travel time: 58 min, 50 mi</i>	Hilton Bloomington Meet in Lobby
8:40 am	Arrive at SWENSON GARDENS <i>Hosts: Keith & Becky Swenson</i>	Swenson Gardens
10:45 am	Lunch at Swenson Gardens Box lunches under tent. Lunches as specified on your registration form. Bring your meal ticket located in your welcome packet.	
11:30 am loading 11:45 am departure	Motor coaches depart for Steven's Gardens <i>Travel time: 1hr 36 min, 82 mi</i>	
1:40 pm	Arrive at STEVENS GARDENS <i>Hosts: Jill Stevens</i>	Stevens Gardens
3:30 pm loading 3:45 pm departure	Motor coaches depart for Hilton / Bloomington <i>Travel time: 2 hr 22 min, 151 mi</i>	
6:30 pm	Arrive at HILTON / BLOOMINGTON	3900 American Blvd. W Bloomington, MN

7:00 pm to 11:59 pm	FLOWER SHOW STAGING / PREP Exhibitors are welcome to begin staging their entries. Volunteers will assist with placement of entries. Exhibition Co-Chairs: David and Linette Sorrentino	Hilton Bloomington American Salon B/C
Evening	DINNER ON YOUR OWN Eat at the Bloomington ChopHouse or see supplied list of optional restaurants.	Bloomington ChopHouse - (Hotel Restaurant) or other location
Check times posted at hotel	HOSPITALITY SUITE OPEN Beverages and light snacks available. <i>Hosts: The Minnesota Peony Society</i>	Hilton Bloomington Presidential Suite Parlor
Friday, June 7, 2024		
6:00 am to 7:15 am	BREAKFAST: Registered APS Convention Attendees whom are staying at the Hotel and registered through the Hotel Link for the APS Convention Only — You will need your daily breakfast voucher. Others: Breakfast on your own.	Hilton Bloomington Jefferson & Washington Rooms - 2 nd floor
7:30 am loading 7:45 am departure	GARDEN TOURS DAY 2: Sorrentino Gardens & Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Check in prior to boarding the motor coach. Be sure to wear your name badge and comfortable walking shoes. Bring your rain gear, sun glasses & your camera! The bus will leave promptly at 7:30 am, don't be late. <i>Travel time: 23 min, 21 mi</i>	Hilton Bloomington Meet in Lobby
8:15 am	Arrive at SORRENTINO GARDENS <i>Hosts: David & Linette Sorrentino</i>	Sorrentino Gardens
10:00 am loading 10:15 am departure	Motor coaches depart for the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum <i>Travel time: 12 min, 8 mi</i>	
10:30 am	Arrive at MINNESOTA LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM <i>Hosts: Brandon M. Miller, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Horticultural Science and Curator of Plant Collections, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum</i>	Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Peony Project Plot Lang Peony Walk
	Lunch at Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Flower pot Lunch Lunches as specified on your registration form. Bring your meal ticket located in your welcome packet. Attendees will receive a packet of pollinator seeds and a 10% off coupon for the arboretum gift store valid on Friday only.	MacMillan Auditorium
1:30 pm to 2:45 pm	ALM JUDGING REFRESHER / TRAINING <i>Instructors: Cory Tischman & Jill Stevens</i>	Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Lang Peony Walk
2:45 pm loading 3:00 pm departure	Motor coaches depart for Hilton / Bloomington <i>Travel time: 18 min, 15 mi</i>	
3:25 pm	Arrive at HILTON / BLOOMINGTON	3900 American Blvd. W Bloomington, MN
4:00 pm to 11:59 pm	FLOWER SHOW PREP / STAGING Exhibitors are welcome to begin staging their entries. Volunteers will assist with placement of entries. Exhibition Co-Chairs: David and Linette Sorrentino	Hilton Bloomington American Salon B/C

4:00 pm to 11:59 pm	FLOWER SHOW CLASSIFICATION <i>Classification Chairs: Steve Rutz and Jill Stevens</i>	Hilton Bloomington American Salon A
4:00 pm to 5:00 pm	SEMINAR — “EXHIBITING PEONIES” <i>Presenter: Kent Tretheway, APS Director</i>	Hilton Bloomington American Salon C
Evening	DINNER ON YOUR OWN Eat at the Bloomington ChopHouse or see supplied list of optional restaurants.	Bloomington ChopHouse - (Hotel Restaurant) or other location
Check times posted at hotel	HOSPITALITY SUITE OPEN Beverages and light snacks available. <i>Hosts: The Minnesota Peony Society</i>	Hilton Bloomington Presidential Suite Parlor
Saturday, June 8, 2024		
6:30 am to 8:00 am	BREAKFAST: Registered APS Convention Attendees whom are staying at the Hotel and registered through the Hotel Link for the APS Convention Only — You will need your daily breakfast voucher. Others: Breakfast on your own.	Hilton Bloomington Washington Room 2 nd floor
6:00 am to 8:00 am	FLOWER SHOW PREP AREA OPEN Entries must be completed and in American Salon A by 8:00 am.	Hilton Bloomington American Salon B/C
Check times posted at hotel	HOSPITALITY SUITE OPEN Beverages and light snacks available. <i>Hosts: The Minnesota Peony Society</i>	Hilton Bloomington Presidential Suite Parlor
10:00 am to 4:00 pm	APS BOOK AND SEED SALES, VENDOR SALES, BOUTIQUE Stop by and shop-books, publications, & peony seed available from APS. (Cash or Check Only). Vendors MAY also be selling peonies and peony related items.	Hilton Bloomington Foyer A & B
8:00 am to 10:00 am	PREP ROOM CLEANUP All materials must be removed to prepare for seminars by 10:00 am.	Hilton Bloomington American Salon B/C
8:00 am to noon	CLASSIFICATION & JUDGING Closed to all except judges, clerks and authorized personnel.	Hilton Bloomington American Salon A
noon to 5:00 pm	FLOWER SHOW OPEN TO PUBLIC View the APS flower show exhibition.	Hilton Bloomington American Salon A
1:00 pm to 2:00 pm	SEMINAR — “THE GREAT PEONY ADVENTURE!” <i>Presenter: Heather Palmer</i>	Hilton Bloomington American Salon C
2:00 pm to 3:00 pm	SEMINAR — “SEMINAR — “DEVELOP A PERFECT MEMORY: PEONY PHOTOGRAPHY” <i>Presenter: Nick Maycher, APS Director, CPS President</i>	Hilton Bloomington American Salon C
3:00 pm to 4:00 pm	SEMINAR — “MINNESOTA PEONY HISTORY” <i>Presenter: Dr. Kent Crossley, Former APS A MPS President</i>	Hilton Bloomington American Salon C
5:30 pm to 6:00 pm	SOCIAL HOUR — No host cash bar.	Hilton Bloomington Foyer A & B
6:00 pm to 6:30 pm	AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING <i>Presenters: President Nate Bremer</i>	Hilton Bloomington American Salon B/C

6:30 pm to 7:30 pm	ANNUAL BANQUET	Hilton Bloomington American Salon B/C
7:30 pm to 10:30 pm	MEMBER RECOGNITION AWARDS <i>Presenters: Awards Chair Steve Smith</i> EXHIBITION AWARDS PRESENTATION <i>Presenters: Exhibition Co-Chairs – David & Linette Sorrentino</i> ANNUAL AUCTION Join us for an awesome line-up of peonies, companion plants, books, peony-themed items for the home, gift certificates, etc. A chance to get something unusual, rare or simply a 'need' for your garden/home.	Hilton Bloomington American Salon B/C
Check times posted at hotel	HOSPITALITY SUITE OPEN Beverages and light snacks available. <i>Hosts: The Minnesota Peony Society</i>	Hilton Bloomington Presidential Suite Parlor

Sunday, June 9, 2024

7:00 am to 8:30 am	BREAKFAST: Registered APS Convention Attendees whom are staying at the Hotel and registered through the Hotel Link for the APS Convention Only — You will need your daily breakfast voucher. Others: Breakfast on your own.	Hilton Bloomington Jefferson & Washington Rooms - 2 nd floor
9:00 am to 10:00 am	SEMINAR — "ADVANCES IN INTERSECTIONAL PEONY BREEDING" <i>Presenter: Don Smith</i>	Hilton Bloomington American Salon C
10:00 am to 4:00 pm	FLOWER SHOW OPEN TO PUBLIC View the APS flower show exhibition.	Hilton Bloomington American Salon B/C
10:00 am to 4:00 pm	APS BOOK AND SEED SALES, VENDOR SALES, BOUTIQUE Stop by and shop-books, publications, & peony seed available from APS. (Cash or Check Only). Vendors may also be selling peonies and peony related items.	Hilton Bloomington Foyer A & B
11:00 am to 12:00 noon	SEMINAR — "WHAT'S ON YOUR PEONY RADAR?" <i>Presenter: Nate Bremer, Solaris Farms, APS President & Director</i>	Hilton Bloomington American Salon C
1:00 pm to 2:00 pm	SEMINAR — "ASK THE EXPERTS PANEL" <i>Facilitator: Nate Bremer, Solaris Farms, APS President & Director; Panelists TBD</i>	Hilton Bloomington American Salon C
2:00 pm to 3:00 pm	COMMERCIAL MEMBERS MEETING Commercial member discussion involving sales, growing and marketing with integrity. <i>Facilitator: Piet Wierstra</i> Please inform Piet Wierstra if interested in attending.	Hilton Bloomington American Salon C
4:00 pm to 5:00 pm	FLOWER SHOW TEARDOWN - everyone	Hilton Bloomington American Salon A

Thank you for coming! See you next year in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin.