

The **Boxwood** *Bulletin*

A quarterly devoted to Man's oldest garden ornamental



Castle Hill, showing the two-story brick addition of 1824 and the columned wings of 1844. See story on page 3. (Photo: Mrs. Robert L. Frackelton)

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The American Boxwood Society

The American Boxwood Society is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1961 and devoted to the appreciation, scientific understanding and propagation of the genus *Buxus* L.

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Memberships for the year May through April include \$12 for four quarterly issues of *The Boxwood Bulletin*:

Individual	\$25	Sustaining	\$75
Family	\$35	Life	\$500
Contributing	\$50		

Non-member subscriptions for groups and institutions, such as botanic gardens and libraries, are \$25 by the calendar year as established or current year for new subscriptions.

Available Publications:

Back issues of *The Boxwood Bulletin* (thru Vol. 34)

(each) \$ 4

Boxwood Buyer's Guide (4th Edition) \$ 6

International Registration List of Cultivated Buxus L. \$ 3

Index to The Boxwood Bulletin 1961-1986 \$10

Index to The Boxwood Bulletin 1986-1991 \$ 4

Boxwood Handbook \$15

Contributions:

Gifts to the Society are tax-deductible and may be undesignated or applied to:

Boxwood Memorial Garden Fund

Boxwood Monograph Fund

Boxwood Research Fund

ABS Blandy Capital Fund

Correspondence:

For address changes, memberships, dues, contributions, or to order back issues or publications, write:

Treasurer, The American Boxwood Society

P.O. Box 85, Boyce, Va. 22620-0085

For general information about the Society, advice concerning boxwood problems or cultivar selection, write to The American Boxwood Society at the same address. You are also welcome to write directly to the President:

Dr. Stephen D. Southall

3912 Faculty Drive

Lynchburg, Va. 24501-3110

Call for Papers:

Technical articles, news, history, lore, notes, and photographs concerning boxwood specimens, gardens or plantings are solicited for possible publication in *The Boxwood Bulletin*. Photographs should be suitable for reproduction and fully captioned. Suggestions regarding format and content are welcome. Material should be submitted to:

Chairman, Bulletin Committee

1714 Greenway Drive

Fredericksburg, Va. 22401-5209

Material to be returned to the sender must be submitted with a self-addressed envelope carrying suitable postage.

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Castle Hill in Albemarle County, Virginia

Mrs. Robert L. Frackelton

Castle Hill is a jewel in an area where jewels abound, i.e., Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson; three Cocke homes: Upper Bremono, Lower Bremono and Recess; Coles' homes: Estouteville, Enniscorthy and Tallwood; and Montpelier, home of James and Dolley Madison in adjoining Orange County, to name a few.

Castle Hill is interesting because of the people who lived there, for the architectural features as additions were made and for the boxwoods.

The property was acquired by Dr. Thomas Walker (1715-1794) upon his marriage in 1741 to the widow, Mildred *Thornton* Meriwether (1721-

1778). The one and one-half-story frame portion was built in 1764.

There were many facets to Thomas Walker. He was a physician, soldier, explorer, entrepreneur, and land speculator. He was surveyor for the Virginia-North Carolina border and he laid out the town of Charlottesville. He was a quartermaster general during the French and Indian War. He served as a member of the House of Burgesses. Dr. Walker, a friend of Peter Jefferson, was named a guardian of Thomas Jefferson.

Of the twelve children of Mildred *Thornton* Meriwether and Thomas Walker, the youngest, Colonel Francis Walker (1764-1806), married

to Jane Byrd Nelson, inherited Castle Hill. In 1819 it passed to their daughter, Judith Page Walker (1802-1882) who had married Senator William Cabell Rives (1793-1868). Under their ownership, with a large two-story brick addition, the house was expanded to form an H-shape in 1824 (see cover). Further additions were done in 1844.

Later owners have added and modernized, but with the consideration of maintaining the integrity of the original and early additions. Over the doorway connecting the two portions, there is on the 18th-century side an eagle and "Castle Hill" with the date 1764 and on the 19th-century



Castle Hill, the original 1½-story portion built in 1764 by Dr. Thomas Walker. Boxwood here are a more recent planting. (Photos: Mrs. Robert L. Frackelton)



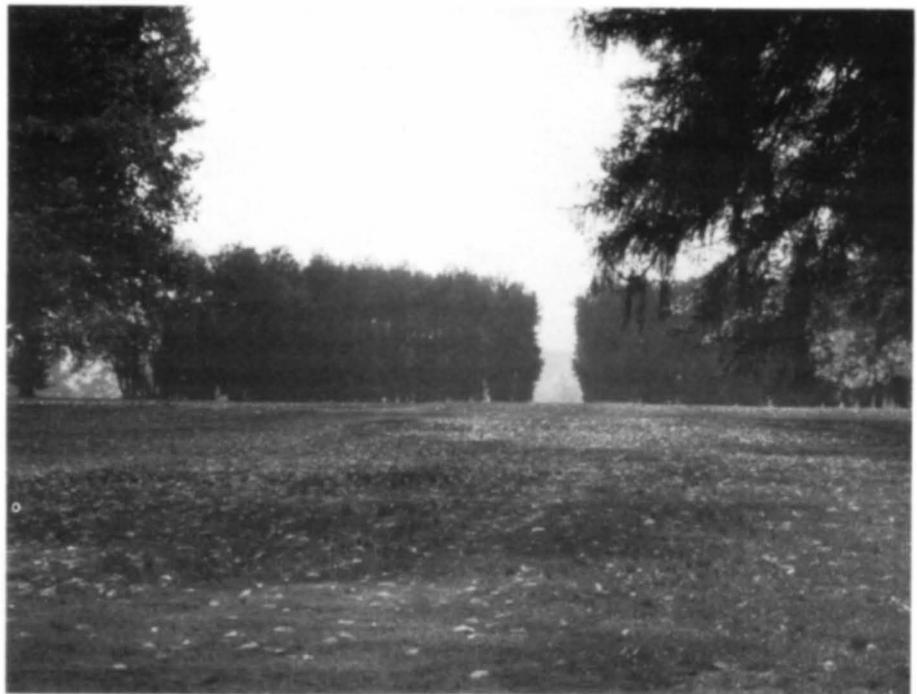
*The original portion of Castle Hill faces Walnut Mountain. Eastern Red Cedars (*Juniperus virginiana*) are typical of the 18th-century landscape.*

side an eagle circled with thirteen stars and "Castle Hill" with the date 1824.

The oldest portion of the house faces Walnut Mountain with 18th- and 19th-century outbuildings off to the sides behind a cedar-lined (*Juniperus virginiana*) green space.

The 1824 addition faces a pear-shaped lawn, extending about 800 feet to a tall hedge of ancient boxwood, with an opening cut to reveal a further vista.

Judith Rives is given credit for the beauty of the grounds in an article on the architecture of Castle Hill in Vol. 52, 1994, of *The Magazine of Albemarle County History*. This issue also deals with Dr. Thomas Walker as merchant and investor, with the medical world of Thomas Walker and with the story of Judith Page Walker Rives.



At Castle Hill, there is an ancient boxwood hedge to the south with an opening to extend the vista from the 1824 portion.



An entry point from the house to the terraced boxwood gardens.



The center boxwood parterre has openings to other parterres, to the house, and to fields and other buildings.



A sitting area in the boxwood garden has two handsome dogwoods, colorful in the fall.



One of two mazes with a sculptured figure in the center.



One of the farm roads winds through ancient boxwood hedges.

The terraced gardens are to the southwest. Entry points are made through tall boxwood hedges that are found along the sides as well as at the end of the 800-foot lawn space.

Mrs. Frackelton, a Director of the ABS, reports that this property is in private hands, but has been open from time to time. She was taken there as a little girl by her grandmother when she had out-of-town guests. More recently when one of the owners had it open on a limited basis, she attended a meeting of the Albemarle County Historical Society there and an antique show. In 1993, through the courtesy of the owner, a Kenmore group was also given the privilege of visiting.

CORRESPONDENCE

BOOK REVIEW

Money, Manure & Maintenance by Nancy Fleming, published by Country Place Books Weston, Massachusetts, 1995 (\$14.95 plus \$2 shipping.)
02193

An account of the life and career of pioneer landscape architect Marian Coffin (1876-1957), this delightful book is an easy-to-read chronicle of Miss Coffin's early struggles and later great success.

Accepted as a special student into MIT's new Landscape Architecture course in 1900 despite little formal schooling (none in mathematics) she completed the course's difficult requirements in three years and became one of the first women landscape architects when she began

her practice in 1904.

Her contacts with several wealthy families led to an outstanding legacy of fascinating and beautiful gardens – Delaware College, Winterthur, the Pavilion at New York's Fort Ticonderoga, and Mt. Cuba in Wilmington.

The book is filled with wonderful garden plans and photographs of landmark gardens produced in her 52 active years as a garden architect. This book is a fine record of remarkable achievements. The unusual title reflects Marian Coffin's three requirements for a successful and lasting garden.

Joan C. Butler, ABS Secretary, owner of Bluemont Boxwoods

ABS Sponsors New Research Project



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND AT COLLEGE PARK

COLLEGE OF LIFE SCIENCES ♦ DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY

April 28, 1995

Dr. Stephen D. Southall, President
American Boxwood Society

Dear Dr. Southall:

Please find the enclosed copy of the proposal entitled “Integrated approaches to managing boxwood leafminer in nursery and landscape settings” to be considered for funding from the American Boxwood Society. As you will see, this proposal addresses the problem of managing the boxwood leafminer which is the most important insect pest of boxwoods in this region and throughout the United States. At the present time, control of the boxwood leafminer is unreliable due to a lack of knowledge regarding the choice and optimal timing of pesticide applications...

I have taken the liberty of enclosing a copy of my curriculum vitae for your use in evaluating my competency to conduct the research. If I can provide any further information that can assist your evaluation, please do not hesitate to contact me. If the American Boxwood Society is unable to provide the amount requested, we would be most grateful for any support you can provide. I thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Raupp
Chair

PROPOSAL:

Integrated approaches to managing boxwood leafminer in nursery and landscape settings.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS:

Gabe D'Eustachio and
Michael J. Raupp
Department of Entomology
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742
Phone 301 405 3912
FAX 301 314 9290

RATIONALE:

Nursery production and landscape maintenance industries need reliable approaches for managing key pests of valued plants. Boxwoods, *Buxus sp.*, are among the most prized, useful, and valued of all woody shrubs produced by the nursery industry. They are also important components of estate, historic, and residential landscapes. In Maryland, boxwoods are the second most common plant found in residential landscapes. The

boxwood leafminer, *Monarthropalpus buxi*, is a key insect pest of boxwoods in both nurseries and landscapes. In Maryland landscapes, 25% of boxwoods require treatment for control of leafminer. Cultivars of American boxwood, *Buxus sempervirens*, are severely damaged by this insect which causes damage in its larval stage by mining between the epidermal surfaces of boxwood leaves. Mined leaves have an ugly, discolored, blistered appearance that

destroys the aesthetic quality of the plant. In heavy infestations, leaves senesce and drop prematurely rendering the canopy thin and unsightly. Heavily infested plants are more susceptible to cold injury and winter kill. This research will provide boxwood growers with a highly reliable method for timing the application of insecticides for control of the boxwood leafminer. It will evaluate the efficacy of three systemic pesticides and one biological agent for control of this pest. It will document levels of resistance found in several cultivars of boxwoods for which resistance has not been quantified. This knowledge will allow growers and landscape managers to produce high quality plants while reducing unnecessary pesticide use through better timing and material selection. It will also identify resistant plant lines for which chemical controls will be unnecessary.

OBJECTIVES:

At the present time, control of the boxwood leafminer is unreliable due to a lack of knowledge regarding the choice and optimal timing of pesticide applications. The objectives of this research are threefold. First, we will develop and refine a highly reliable procedure for predicting the optimal timing of pesticide applications based on heat unit accumulations known as the degree-day method. This system adjusts the timing of pesticide applications to local and seasonal climatic conditions and greatly improves the nurseryman's and landscape manager's ability to apply pesticides at an optimal time. The second objective will test the efficacy of three new systemic and one biological control agent for control of the boxwood leafminer. The foliar systemic insecticides to be tested are Avid, Orthene, and Merit. The biological control agent to be tested is the

entomopathogenic nematode, *Steinernema carpocapsae*. The third objective of the research will be to evaluate the naturally occurring levels of host plant resistance found in boxwood cultivars. Through a series of controlled experiments, we will determine the levels and type of resistance observed in several existing cultivars of boxwood such as *Buxus sempervirens* 'Vardar Valley', *B. sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa', *B. microphylla* var. *japonica*, and *B. sempervirens* 'Handsworthiensis', which has not been quantified previously.

PREVIOUS WORK:

Previous researchers have observed variation in the susceptibility of various species and cultivars of boxwood to leafminer attack. However, most of these studies lack quantitative data regarding the levels of susceptibility. We have developed methods for quantifying egg-laying behaviors of the boxwood leafminer and tracking the development of leafminer larvae. Our preliminary studies indicate that much of the resistance observed in boxwoods is due to plant related mortality of developing larvae rather than avoidance of the plants by adult flies. This has important implications for breeding resistant lines of boxwoods. We have collected one season's worth of data for the development of boxwood leafminer eggs, larvae, pupae, and adults. This has been correlated with temperature data and a preliminary degree-day model has been constructed. Plants have been selected for replicated trials to determine the efficacy of various insecticides for leafminer control.

METHODS:

Objective 1—Degree-day predictive model - Heat unit accumulations will be measured at Longwood Gardens, Pa., The University of

Maryland, College Park, Md., and the U.S. National Arboretum during the spring and summer of 1995 and 1996. Using a 50° F base temperature, a March 1 start date, and the averaging method, daily degree-day accumulations will be made for the key life history events of adult emergence and flight, oviposition, egg hatch and larval development. These events will be correlated with heat unit accumulations to construct a predictive model. The techniques for all of these processes were tested, refined, and perfected in 1994.

Objective 2—Insecticide and biological control efficacy -Three systemic insecticides, Orthene, Avid, and Merit and one biological control agent, the nematode, *S. carpocapsae*, will be tested on containerized and landscape plants infested with boxwood leafminer. All materials will be tested against three life stages of the leafminer, pupae, adults, and larvae to determine which material provides the greatest efficacy and to determine which life stage is the most vulnerable to pesticides. These data will be coupled with the degree-day model in Objective 1 to provide a reliable, highly efficacious procedure for leafminer control.

Objective 3—Host plant resistance - Using flight cages, controlled densities of newly emerged boxwood leafminer adults will be confined on terminals of nine different cultivars suspected of exhibiting variation in their susceptibility to leafminer attack. The mean number of ovipositions, larvae, pupae, and adults produced per leaf will be estimated on each plant. A randomized complete block design with six replicates will be used. The mechanism of resistance such as nonpreference, antixenosis, or tolerance will be measured for each cultivar.

PRODUCTS:

The results of these studies will by

presented in three formats.

The first will be a technical publication prepared for the scientific community of professional entomologists in the form of a refereed journal article.

The second will be lay articles for appropriate clientele groups. Likely publications include *The Boxwood Bulletin* and *American Nurseryman*.

The third publication will be a short bulletin prepared for distribution through the Cooperative Extension Service of the University of Maryland.

BUDGET:

Amount	Years
Total Estimated Cost of Project	
\$43,500	1994-1996
Present Support	
University of Maryland	
\$10,000	1994-1996
Longwood Gardens	
\$13,000	1994-1995
Pending Support	
Horticultural Research Institute	
\$5,000	1995-1996
University of Maryland	
\$6,500	1996
Amount requested from American Boxwood Society	
\$4,000	1995-1996

Funds will be used to provide partial support for the graduate assistantship of Mr. Gabe D' Eustachio, who is a graduate student under the direction of Dr. Michael J. Raupp at the University of Maryland. Pending funds from HRI and The American Boxwood Society will be leveraged with those provided by Longwood Gardens, and the University of Maryland to support Mr. D'Eustachio for the three field seasons necessary to complete this study.

Funds will also be used for the purchase of plants, materials, and travel to the nurseries and landscape sites.

NOTICES

From the Board of Directors:

Thank you to those who were able to give us the extra four digits of their Zip code. We will appreciate others sending it to us when they have it.

Dues Reminder: If you have not renewed your membership for 1995-96, you will not receive the next issue of *The Boxwood Bulletin*. Renewal notices were mailed in June 1995. Please mail checks to ABS Treasurer, P.O. Box 85, Boyce, Virginia 22620-0085 or, for faster service, to Mrs. K. D. Ward, HCR 60, Box 41-T, Deerfield, VA 24432-9718. Individual memberships are \$25; family memberships, \$35.

Mark Your Calendar: The 1996 ABS Annual Meeting will be held in Charlottesville, Virginia May 24-25.

Boxwood Handbook: The long-awaited *Boxwood Handbook: A Practical Guide to Knowing and Growing Boxwood* (see inside back cover) was eagerly received at the Annual Meeting. It may be ordered (\$15.00 postpaid) from Mrs. Katherine D. Ward, Treasurer, HCR 60, Box 41-T, Deerfield, VA 24432-9718 or from Mrs. Robert L. Frackelton, 1714 Greenway Drive, Fredericksburg, VA 22401-5209. Make checks payable to The American Boxwood Society.

Our thanks to Tom Saunders of Saunders Bros. for the donation of the gift plants of *B. microphylla* 'Green Pillow' to those attending the Annual Meeting.

Olde Princess Anne Days Historic Tour and Colonial Fair in Princess Anne, Maryland

House and garden tours, colonial fair, period crafts and demonstrations, children's activities, entertainment, farmer's market, food and drinks, horse and carriage rides.

- Sat. Oct. 14, 1995, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
 - Sun. Oct. 15, 1995, noon-5 p.m.
- For admission charge and more information, call Somerset County Tourism (800) 521-9189.

NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

Annual Meeting, Williamsburg, Virginia

The Boxwood Symposium on Friday afternoon, May 19, 1995 at the Holiday Inn Downtown began at 1:45 p.m. with presentation of the new *Boxwood Handbook* by its author, Mr. Lynn Batdoff, showing slides of many of the illustrations in the book — cultivars and pests and diseases. Mr. Batdorf noted that the boxwood leaf miner (*Monarthropalpus buxi*) is not truly a miner but rather a midge, since it does not move about inside the leaf as does the holly leafminer,

for instance. (See inside back cover.)

Mrs. Joan Butler reviewed the list of boxwood cultivars which would be auctioned on Saturday afternoon, discussing their history and care. (See page 15.)

Evening Program: Participants gathered after dinner at the Holiday Inn to hear Dr. Gwynn Ramsey, Master Storyteller, recite Appalachian Mountain and country tales with delightful wit and whimsy. This most enjoyable program was followed by a

reception at the Lord Paget Inn, where boxwood friends shared refreshments and conversation.

Annual Meeting: The 35th Annual Meeting of the American Boxwood Society was held at the Holiday Inn Downtown in Williamsburg, Virginia, on Saturday morning, May 20, 1995. President Stephen D. Southall welcomed the 61 members who attended and urged their greater involvement in Society activities. He announced that the 1996 Annual Meeting would be held in Charlottesville on May 24-25, and that the 1997 meeting would be held at Blandy Experimental Farm, the State Arboretum of Virginia in Clarke County, Virginia.

The minutes of the 1994 Annual Meeting were approved as published in *The Boxwood Bulletin*, Vol. 34, No. 1, pp. 26-29.

The Treasurer reported balances of \$5,814.35 in the checking account and \$13,219.91 in a certificate of deposit.

Registrar, Handbook: Mr. Batdorf reported on his many activities during the past year: He attended the meeting in Seattle, Washington, of the International Society of Horticultural Science (ISHS); he met with International Registration Authorities for other genera (he is the IRA for *Buxus* L.); one of the main issues of discussion was problems of plant nomenclature. The ISHS will meet again in 1999 in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Mr. Batdorf has been corresponding with Dr. Egon Köhler of Berlin, an authority on tropical species of boxwood, with Dr. Angela Sanchez, Director of the National Botanical Garden in Havana, Cuba, and Elizabeth and Mark Braimbridge from Langley Boxwood Nursery in England, about a project for field work in Cuba to collect specimens of the 34 known species of boxwood there (and perhaps to discover others.) A trip is tentatively planned



The youngest attendees, Miss Frierson and Messrs. Saunders, enjoy one of "Dr. Baldwin's" trees. (Photos: Scot Butler)

for fall 1995, and boxwood germ-plasm will be brought back to the Fairchild Tropical Garden in Miami, Florida, where it will be grown for future study.

The North American Plant Consortium has begun a program to establish national collections to preserve plants of many genera. After a lengthy application and evaluation process, the boxwood collection at the U.S. National Arboretum has been designated as the National *Buxus* Collection, the first one so chosen. Mr. Batdorf had also spent three weeks working on boxwood at the White House gardens in early spring. He described a graduate study at the University of Maryland on boxwood leafminer, which a grant from the ABS will help support.

Memorial Garden and Research: Mrs. Joan Butler reported continuing progress in relocating plants to permanent positions in the Boxwood Memorial Garden at Blandy Farm, supported by the Blandy Capital Fund, which is augmented by the

interest earned on the ABS checking account and the certificate of deposit. New white-flowering native trees have been added as co-plantings in the garden.

The Research Committee will pursue a second plant evaluation project at the Chicago Botanic Garden; the cultivars selected for this test will be ones which may be expected to prove hardy in the northern tier of states and Canada: *Buxus* 'Green Gem', *B. sempervirens* 'Handsworthii', 'Inglis', 'Newport Blue', 'Northern New York', 'Welleri', 'Woodland', and 'Myrtifolia'; *B. microphylla* 'John Baldwin' and *B. sinica* var. *insularis* 'Tide Hill' and 'Wintergreen'. Mrs. Butler will also serve on a committee appointed to revise the ABS Constitution joined by Mrs. Robert Frackelton and Mrs. Sigrid Harriman.

Boxwood Bulletin: Mrs. Robert Frackelton, Chairman of the *Bulletin*, noted that a dues increase reported in the April 1995 *Bulletin* will be on membership renewal envelopes. She

also asked members to send her boxwood notes and photographs from their travels for inclusion in *The Boxwood Bulletin*.

Baldwin Boxwood Collection: Mr. Richard Mahone commented on the large group of boxwood plants established on the campus of the College of William and Mary by the late John T. Baldwin, Jr., in the early 1950s. There are many remarkable old plants of *Buxus* furnished in large part by Mr. Henry Hohman of Kingsville Nurseries. This interesting collection was to be visited at the end of the meeting, following lunch.

Nominating Committee: The following slate for 1995-96 was presented by Mr. Steve Zapton in the absence of Mrs. Tyra Sexton, Chairman of the Nominating Committee:

President: Dr. Stephen D. Southall
1st Vice President: Mr. Tom Saunders
2nd Vice President: Mrs. Malcolm Holekamp
Secretary: Mrs. Joan Butler
Executive Treasurer: Mrs. Katherine D. Ward
Directors, 3-year term, ending 1998: Mr. Richard D. Mahone
Mr. Steve Zapton
Director, 1-year term, ending 1996: Mr. Charles Fooks

Mrs. Robert L. Frackelton will serve as Director to complete the term of Tom Saunders, ending in 1997.

This slate of officers and directors was unanimously elected.

New Director Charles Fooks was introduced and asked to talk about himself; he lives in Salisbury, Maryland, where he has operated a wholesale nursery since 1968. He carries a large selection of many types of plants.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Joan Butler, Secretary

Minutes of Special Board Meeting

A brief meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Boxwood Society was held immediately following the close of the Annual Meeting to name two members to the Executive Committee in addition to the President, Secretary and Treasurer: Mrs Frackelton and Mr. Saunders were appointed. Steve Zapton was appointed to serve as Nominating Committee Chairman for 1996-97. The fall meeting of the Board will be held at Blandy Experimental Farm, Clarke County, Virginia, on the last Friday in September or the first Friday in October.

Joan Butler, Secretary

Following the business portion of the Annual Meeting, the formal program resumed with an informative plant talk by Eileen Weldon, Landscape Director at Busch Gardens, where she has worked since 1974. She covered many aspects of gardening at a "theme park," not an arboretum. One interesting facet was the



No tour of the boxwood collection at William and Mary is complete without a visit to the original plant of *Buxus microphylla* 'John Baldwin'.

reduction in the use of pesticides by 95%, in favor of introducing beneficial insects. Color is the single most urgent requirement for the plantings, which include water features and planters and hanging baskets. Coleus and impatiens are used everywhere. Boxwoods such as *B. microphylla* 'Winter Gem', *B. sinica* var. *insularis*



One side of the *Buxus sempervirens* hedge surrounding the Sunken Garden. A wedding was about to take place when the tour groups passed by. (Photos: Scot Butler)



One of the groups made their way through the Buxus sempervirens hedge at the triangle for a closer inspection of outstanding examples of Buxus microphylla 'Curly Locks', B. sempervirens, B. harlandii and others.



Our faithful auctioneer, John W. Boyd, Jr., with the assistance of his son, John III, got the bidding off to a lively start. Bidders had lists in hand, furnished by Joan Butler.

'Wintergreen', *B. sempervirens* and 'Suffruticosa' are used, as are sheared Yaupon holly and Korean Box. Huge quantities of tulips and bedding plants are used each year. Most plants are grown in the Gardens' own greenhouses. This most knowledgeable speaker was peppered with questions and thoroughly enjoyed.

Box lunches were distributed at the Lord Paget Inn and savored at many locations around the grounds.

Tour: Following lunch a cavalcade of cars wound its way to the campus of the College of William and Mary, where two groups visited plantings of boxwood created in the 1950s by Dr. John T. Baldwin, Jr.

The plants were enjoyed by all.

Auction: An exciting auction of named boxwood cultivars was held at the Lord Paget Inn. The generosity of those who contributed plants was much appreciated: Bluemont Boxwoods, Saunders Nursery, Charles Fooks (Woodland Nursery) and Mr. and Mrs. J. Ward Walker from Tennessee.

Joan Butler, Secretary

ABS Visits Special Garden Events

On April 22, 1995, the Society was represented by Secretary Joan Butler at the Earth Day/Arbor Day Celebration of the 25th anniversary, held at the Annandale Campus of the Northern Virginia Community

College in Fairfax County. Sponsored by Fairfax Releaf and the Virginia Department of Forestry, the event benefitted from wonderful warm spring weather and attracted large crowds. The Society of Tree Care



ABS table at the Friends of the State Arboretum Garden Fair, May 13, 1995.

Professionals offered exciting tree climbing and rescue demonstrations high in the huge old trees shading the site, and Girl Scouts distributed seeds and small rooted pine trees.

The grounds had once been the gardens of an old mansion and boxwood hedges framed many exhibits, including ours.

On May 13 and 14, 1995, Mrs. Butler again displayed ABS literature and membership information at the annual Garden Fair at the State Arboretum of Virginia, Blandy Farm. Beautiful weather on Saturday drew large numbers of gardeners seeking unusual plants, and even a rainy Sunday morning did not deter other horticulture enthusiasts, as many dedicated growers appeared on Sunday afternoon. The Fair is more attractive and better organized each year and has become a fine garden event.



Mrs. Scot Butler sets up display for the Earth Day/Arbor Day Celebration in Annandale. (Photos: Scot Butler)



Display of Buxus and publications of the ABS, April 22, 1995.

Plant List for May 19, 1995, Auction (Prepared by Joan Butler)

- 'Cliffside' (*B. sempervirens*) Selected by Dr. J. T. Baldwin, Jr., in the 1970s.
- 'Compacta' (*B. microphylla*) Very slow-growing hardy plant selected as a seedling in 1912 by William Appleby of Baltimore, Md. Registered in 1948 and marketed by Henry Hohman of Kingsville Nurseries, Md. Also called Kingsville Dwarf Box. Must be grown in shade to keep dark green color. It is prone to sporting which has resulted in the introduction of sports 'Curly Locks', 'Grace Hendrick Phillips', 'Helen Whiting' and 'Sunlight'. It is a good bonsai subject. Twenty-five-year-old plants are about 10" tall and 18" across. Hardy to Zone 5.
- 'Curly Locks' (*B. microphylla*) A sport of 'Compacta' which originated in 1942 and was registered in 1948 by Henry Hohman of Kingsville Nurseries. Its foliage have a curling, twisting habit of growth.
- 'Dee Runk' (*B. sempervirens*) A tall, narrow columnar plant, but with soft, loose foliage.
- 'Dolan' (*B. microphylla*) An unregistered cultivar with small leaves and general large mounded shape. It flowers profusely when mature, with a strong perfume.
- 'Elegantissima' (*B. sempervirens*) Grown in Europe in the 1860s. One of the best variegated boxwoods, with no reversion to solid green. Mature size is about 7' tall by 7' wide. Will benefit from having tips of new growth pinched to promote denser foliage. Hardy to Zone 6.
- 'Fastigiata' (*B. sempervirens*) Registered in 1959. An erect form with very dark green glossy leaves. Can grow to 15 feet tall. A fine hedge plant.
- 'Graham Blandy' (*B. sempervirens*) Has been growing at Blandy Farm, the State Arboretum of Virginia, since the 1930s; its origin is unknown. It was named for the donor of Blandy Farm to the University of Virginia. It has an unusual columnar form, tight and very narrow. New spring growth sometimes droops from its own weight; it is suggested that it be shortened about 1/3 by pruning to maintain the narrow upright habit. A 20-year-old plant is 9' tall and 1 1/2' across. Mature height 15' to 18'. Hardy to Zone 5.
- 'Green Beauty' (*B. microphylla* var. *japonica*) Registered by Sheridan Nurseries, Ontario, Canada in 1957. Maintains good green color throughout the winter even in full sun. Very glossy foliage.
- 'Green Pillow' (*B. microphylla*) Another of William Appleby's seedlings selected in 1912 and named and introduced by the Kingsville Nurseries. Registered in 1967. Very low broad mound, dense and compact. This is the plant used in the Rose Garden and East Garden at the White House, Washington, D.C.
- 'Helen Whiting' (*B. microphylla*) A sport of 'Compacta' and, like others with this parentage, prefers shade. Leaves have a faint yellow border, giving it a glowing halo. Found and named in 1973 by Dr. John Baldwin, Jr., in Williamsburg. Hardy to Zone 5.
- 'John Baldwin' (*B. microphylla*) A seedling selected by Dr. J. T. Baldwin, Jr., at the College of William and Mary and named for him after his death in 1974. Has vertical habit of growth, but slow and dense with very small bluish-green leaves. A 15-year-old plant is 6' high by 18" wide; makes a wonderful accent plant.
- 'Justin Brouwers' (*B. sinica* var. *insularis*) A seedling selected by J. B. Brouwers, a nurseryman in Williamsburg, Va. Maintains dark green color even in full sun; small leaves, dense habit, slow-growing mounded plant to about 30" in height. An elegant plant for many uses.
- 'Memorial' (*B. sempervirens*) Registered 1967. Found in a cemetery in Williamsburg, Va. Somewhat similar to 'Suffruticosa' in density, but with a narrower, more vertical shape and a slightly longer leaf. MUST be thinned often.
- 'Morris Dwarf' (*B. microphylla* var. *japonica*) An open-pollinated seedling selected by Dr. Henry Skinner at the Morris Arboretum, Philadelphia, in 1947. It is a dwarf box with dense and twiggy branches. A 40-year-old plant is 3' high by 4 1/2' wide. Hardy to Zone 6. Registered in 1972.
- 'Morris Midget' (*B. microphylla* var. *japonica*) Similar to 'Morris Dwarf' with the same history. Grows more slowly and will not become as large in maturity.
- 'Nana' (*B. sinica* var. *insularis*) Dwarf Korean box, a spreading plant of willowy or cascading habit, broader than high. Sixty-year-old plants of this cultivar line the front entrance walk at Blandy Farm. In a shady location it keeps a more attractive dark green color.
- 'Quiet End' (*B. microphylla*) Developed by Henry Hohman at Kingsville Nurseries, where it was originally carried as /Kingsville 2-A/. A broad spreading plant some 20" high and 5' wide at 16 years of age. A fine low filler plant for garden designs.
- /Spreading Japanese/ (*B. micro-*

phylla) A broad low spreading plant collected in Japan by Dr. John Creech about 1978 on an exploring trip sponsored by the U.S. National Arboretum.

/Upright/ (*B. sempervirens*) A tall narrow boxwood which once grew on Box Hill at Blandy Farm, the State Arboretum of Virginia. Vertical habit of growth.

'Vardar Valley' (*B. sempervirens*) One of Dr. Edgar Anderson's Balkan boxwood brought back in 1934. An extremely hardy box with blue-green foliage, low broad mature shape. A 40-year-old plant is 3' high and 8' wide. One of the best boxwoods.

'Winter Gem' (*B. microphylla*) Registered 1982, by John Vermeulen Nursery, New Jersey.

'Wintergreen' (*B. sinica* var.

insularis) Registered 1963. Distributed by Scarff Nursery, Ohio. A rather open, loose plant, but maintains excellent winter color.

Registrants for ABS Annual Meeting May 19-20, 1995

Armstrong, Martha, Williamsburg, VA
Batdorf, Lynn R., U.S. National Arboretum, Washington, DC
Boyd, John W. Jr., Alton, VA
Boyd, John W. III, Roanoke, VA
Bridges, Bartow H Jr., Virginia Beach, VA
Butler, Mr. and Mrs. Scot, Winchester, VA
Butler, Miss Susan, McLean, VA

Carell, Jr., Walter S., Millington, NJ
Carell, Alexandra, Millington, NJ
Clark, Mrs. S. A. (Rene), Midlothian, VA
Corey, R. Reece, Chestertown, MD
Corey, Jane, Chestertown, MD
Dykes, Mr. and Mrs. Robert, Delmar, MD
Fooks, Sr., Charles T. Fooks, Woodland Nursery, Salisbury, MD
Fooks, Lucille, Salisbury, MD
Frackelton, Mrs. R. L. Frackelton, Fredericksburg, VA
Frackelton, Miss Carter, Fredericksburg, VA
Frierson, Jr., Dr. and Mrs. Henry F., Charlottesville, VA
Goode, Edward, Richmond, VA
Goode, Eleanor, Richmond, VA
Goode, Kristen, Richmond, VA
Goode, Willie, Richmond, VA
Hahn, Mr. K Lee, Califon, NJ

Is it "Blandy" or "Virginia State Arboretum"? And who was Orland E. White?

An explanation is needed for the various names used in locating The American Boxwood Society Memorial Garden and headquarters.

Blandy Experimental Farm (the entire property) was left to the University of Virginia for research by Mr. Graham Blandy. (*Buxus sempervirens* 'Graham Blandy', the columnar boxwood, was named for him.)

A portion of the property was designated the Orland E. White Arboretum in honor of the late Dr. White upon his retirement in 1955. He was the first director of Blandy Farm, and served from 1927 to 1955 as Professor of Agricultural Biology at the University. He was in large part responsible for the collection within the Arboretum.

The ABS Memorial Garden is being relocated within the Orland E. White Arboretum.

In 1986 the General Assembly of



Virginia designated the Orland E. White Arboretum as the State Arboretum.

Locally, the property is called

"Blandy Farm." Written references use the three names interchangeably.

Plans are for the 1997 Annual Meeting to be held here.

Harriman, Mrs. Sigrid, Fredericksburg,
VA

Hoffman, Mr. Clifford, Flemington, NJ
Holekamp, Malcolm and Mary,

Webster Groves, MO

Mahone, Mr. Richard D.,
Williamsburg, VA

Pearce, Mrs. B. C., Charles City, VA

Plumb, Mr. William, Moorestown, NJ

Plumb, Audrey (Mickey),
Moorestown, NJ

Powell, Mrs. L.C., Alexandria, VA

Rankin, Barbara, Spring Grove, VA

Reeson, Mr. Claude W., Spring Grove,
VA

Richardson, Dr. Gary, Annapolis, MD

Richardson, Mrs. Mary, Annapolis,
MD

Rodgers, Mrs. Antone, Baltimore, MD

Saunders, Tom, Piney River, VA

Saunders, Lyn, Piney River, VA

Saunders, Caleb, Piney River, VA

Saunders, Thomas, Piney River, VA

Saunders, Kristi, Piney River, VA

Sexton, Tyra Fredericksburg, VA

Shafer, C. B., Easton, MD

Shafer, Mattie, Easton, MD

Shaw, Lucille, Springfield, VA

Somerford, Mr. Drew, Jeffersonston,
VA

Somerford, Annette, Jeffersonston, VA

Southall, Dr. Stephen Lynchburg, VA

Walker, Mr. J. Ward, Del Rio, TN

Walker, Betty, Del Rio, TN

Ward, Mrs. Katherine D., Deerfield,
VA

Weber, Clyde, Oak Hill Nurseries,
Bentleyville, PA

Weber, Janet, Bentleyville, PA

Weber, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Weber,
Annapolis, MD

Wells, Jr. Mr. Wm. T., Williamsburg,
VA

Zapton, Steve, Port Republic, VA

Zapton, Masako, Port Republic, VA

Guest speakers:

Dr. Gwynn W. Ramsey

Eileen Weldon

Spring Board Meeting Minutes—May 19, 1995

The spring meeting of the ABS Board of Directors was held on Friday, May 19, 1995, at 9 a.m. at the Lord Paget Inn, Williamsburg, Virginia. In attendance were President Stephen Southall, 1st Vice President Mrs. Robert L. Frackelton, 2nd Vice President Mrs. Malcolm Holekamp, Executive Treasurer Mrs. Katherine Ward, Secretary Mrs. Joan Butler and Directors Lynn Batdorf, Dr. Henry Frierson, Mrs. Sigrid Harriman, Richard Mahone, Tom Saunders, Mrs. Tyra Sexton and Steve Zapton.

The Treasurer reported balances of \$5,814.35 in the checking account and \$13,219.91 in the certificate of deposit. The new CD is for 30 months at an interest rate of 6%.

President Southall said his goal was to have more members become involved in the work of the Society. He suggested there is a need to revise the Constitution and that the number of Directors should be increased from eight to nine to have an even number elected each year with rotating terms. Perhaps it would be wise to limit service to one term and require a one year absence before being reelected. It was suggested that a job description be prepared to help new Board members understand expectations and duties of their office; attendance at meetings might be a requirement. Past presidents should be invited to attend all Board meetings. A committee of Sigrid Harriman, Decca Frackelton and Joan Butler will draft a revision of the Constitution.

A discussion followed on the need to work within a formal budget. A schedule of expenditures from the past will be prepared by the Treasurer and Tom Saunders so the officers can draw up guidelines for the future. Specific categories need to be recognized; an example was the amount up to \$8,000 approved for the

ABS Boxwood Memorial Garden at Blandy Farm, but not specifically itemized. The cost of installing a water line was the first expenditure from the allotment; future grading will also be included.

Plans for the 1996 ABS Annual Meeting were reviewed. Tentative date of May 24-25, 1996, was approved. Mrs. Harriman, Dr. Frierson and Mr. Zapton will prepare the program. Meetings will be held at the English Inn.

Mrs. Sexton, Nominating Committee Chairman, reported that the slate was ready to present. Tom Saunders will serve as 1st Vice President and Mrs. Frackelton will finish the remaining two years of his term as a Director. Mr. Jamieson had found it necessary to resign and his remaining one year will be filled by Mr. Charles T. Fooks, to May 1996.

Lynn Batdorf presented the new *Boxwood Handbook*, a tremendous achievement after years of preparation. Great appreciation was expressed to Mr. Batdorf from all members of the Board. Complimentary copies will be presented to libraries with large collections of herbarium specimens, such as Kew and Leningrad. In selling the *Handbook* (\$15 per single copy), a discount of 25% (\$3.75) will be given for orders of 5 to 45 in lots of five, and a discount of 40% (\$6) for orders of 50 or more in lots of five.

Mr. Batdorf's involvement in the Cuban boxwood project continues, in cooperation with Dr. Egon Köhler in Berlin and Dr. and Mrs. Mark Braimbridge in London. Mr. Batdorf proposes to travel to Cuba in the fall of 1995, with the backing of the ABS. This project offers potential for preserving plants that might be lost. There are more than 30 tropical species of boxwood in Cuba.

Mr. Batdorf also recommended

acceptance of a research proposal presented to President Southall by Michael J. Raupp, Chair, University of Maryland, for a graduate student to continue work on the boxwood leafminer. A motion to provide \$4,000 for this purpose was made, seconded and approved. (See page 8.)

The 1995 Fourth Edition of the *Buyer's Guide*, will be ready this summer.* All proceeds from its sale are allotted to the Research Fund.

Tom Saunders proposed that the ABS become a member of the Virginia Nurseryman's Association. A motion was made, seconded and approved to appropriate \$200 for one year.

After studying the plans for the classroom renovation at Blandy Farm, sponsored by the Friends of the State Arboretum, the Board voted to contribute \$1,000 to this improvement in honor of Dr. Walter S. Flory, a co-founder of the ABS. This will provide a fine new meeting facility for groups such as ABS.

The Meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

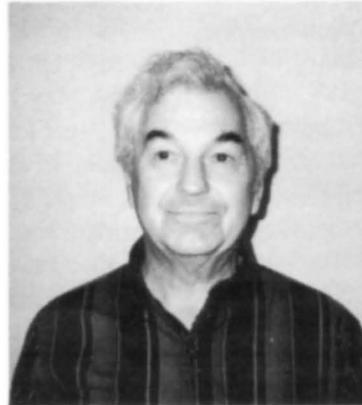
Joan Butler, Secretary

* *The Buyer's Guide*, Fourth Edition, which lists sources for *Buxus* species and cultivars, may be obtained for \$6 (postpaid) from Mrs. Katherine Ward, HCR60, Box 41-T, Deerfield, VA 24432-9718 or Mrs. Robert Frackelton, 1714 Greenway Dr, Fredericksburg, VA 22401-5209. Make checks payable to the American Boxwood Society.

In Memoriam

William N. Dickson
Mrs. R. James Macgregor

New Board Member



Charles T. Fooks

Charlie was born Jan. 13, 1930, in Salisbury, MD, where he grew up on a "truck" farm, five miles southeast of Salisbury in Wicomico County on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Growing up in the Depression era in a family of seven, field work and farm chores were a part of life and instilled in him a love of the soil and growing things which has never diminished.

He became interested in ornamental horticulture in the early fifties. His passion in horticulture is plant propagation. The miracles of germinating seed, the rooting of cuttings and putting a root system on a desired cultivar by grafting has never ceased to thrill and excite. He began acquiring, propagating and growing ornamental shrubs first as a hobby, then as a part-time business, which grew into a full-time profession. One of the first plants to be propagated and produced was *Buxus sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa'.

At present The Woodland Nursery has 26 acres in field production of landscape size B&B Stock. Chuck (Charles, Jr.) is in charge of the field production. Ten acres are in propagation and container production plus a three-acre sales yard which is stocked with everything from 3" cal. shade trees to 2" potted ground covers and everything in between ready to be loaded on the customer's truck. The

marketing aim is to provide the local landscaping industry with the wide variety of plant material they require.

Production of boxwood has been increased to meet the increased demand for boxwood in sections of the country where a large deer population overlaps residential areas. *Buxus* being grown to landscape sizes in the field are *B. microphylla* 'John Baldwin' and *B. sempervirens* 'Angustifolia', 'Belleville', 'Inglis', 'Myrtifolia', 'Glauc', 'Rotundifolia' and 'Vardar Valley'. Those being grown in containers are *Buxus sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa', 'Elegantissima', 'Graham Blandy', *B. microphylla* 'Grace Hendrick Phillips' and 'Curly Locks', *B. microphylla* var. *japonica* 'Morris Dwarf' and 'Morris Midget', *B. sinica* var. *insularis* 'Justin Brouwers' and 'Tide Hill'.

The nursery has a collection of 56 *Buxus* cultivars and others will be offered as numbers are increased and they are market tested.

Charlie is a member of the Maryland Nurserymen Assoc., the American Conifer Society, The International Plant Propagator's Society and the Holly Society of America. While in no way would he consider himself an expert or authority, he is glad to be able to share knowledge and experience and to contribute in any way he can to the ABS and its members.

The Seasonal Gardener

Practical tips for boxwood enthusiasts from Society members



BOXWOOD HANDBOOK: A Practical Guide to Knowing and Growing Boxwood by Lynn R. Batdorf

A new illustrated reference work on boxwood may now be obtained from The American Boxwood Society (for ordering information see Notices, page 10).

Chapter 1 - History of Boxwood

Illustrations: *Buxus sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa' at Mount Vernon, close-up boxwood flowers, seed capsule.

Chapter 2 - Recommended Boxwood Plants

Illustrations: *B. sempervirens* and *B. sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa' at Colonial Williamsburg in Virginia; *B. harlandii* Hance; *B. harlandii* 'Richard'; *B. microphylla* cultivars 'Curly Locks', 'Grace Hendrick Phillips', 'John Baldwin' *B. microphylla* var. *japonica* 'Morris Dwarf' and 'Morris Midget'; *B. sempervirens* cultivars 'Elegantissima', 'Pendula' and 'Suffruticosa'.

Chapter 3 - Boxwoods in the Landscape

Illustrations: *B. microphylla* 'Green Pillow' and *B. sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa', East Garden at the White House; *B. sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa' used to greet residents and visitors; *B. sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa' used as a parterre in a rose garden; J. Paul Getty Museum in California (using *B. microphylla* var. *japonica*); "Box Circle" at Tudor Place, Washington, D.C.; *B. microphylla* 'Compacta' as a bonsai; parterre -

Governor's Palace, Colonial Williamsburg; topiary - Colonial Williamsburg; *B. sempervirens* grown as a standard in a container.

Chapter 4 - Culture of Boxwood

Illustrations: Bronze or orange discoloration (stress); scorched leaves (potassium deficiency); moving boxwood with crane and chain; winter damage; ice formation.

Chapter 5 - Boxwood Propagation

Illustrations: young boxwoods, propagated from stem cuttings; layered rooting and root system (2); seed capsule; seedlings.

Chapter 6 - Boxwood Pests

Illustrations: results leafminer; leafminer damage; pupal casing; leafminer larvae; damage by mites; damage by psyllid; white secretion from psyllid; adult psyllid; wax scale.

Chapter 7 - Boxwood Disease

Illustrations: *Macrophoma* leaf spot; close-up of leaf spot; *Volutella* spores on underside of leaf; spores actual size; *Volutella* on *B. sempervirens*.

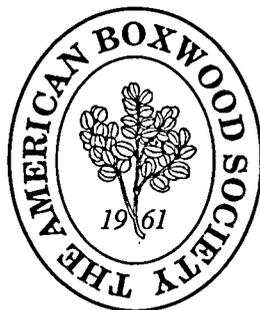
Appendix A - Species, Cultivars and Hybrids

Appendix B - Glossary

Appendix C - Bibliography

Appendix D - The American Boxwood Society

Appendix E - Hardiness Map



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