

The **Boxwood** *Bulletin*

A quarterly devoted to Man's oldest garden ornamental



The 1952 Georgian Revival house at Bundoran Farm sits serenely on a hilltop amid trim grounds tastefully planted with large trees and well-tended boxwoods. See page 12. (Photo: Scot Butler)

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<i>International Registration List of Cultivated Buxus L.</i>		\$ 3
<i>Index to The Boxwood Bulletin 1961-1986</i>		\$10
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Technical articles, news, history, lore, notes, and photographs concerning boxwood specimens, gardens or plantings are solicited for possible publication in *The Boxwood Bulletin*. Material should be submitted to:

Chairman, Bulletin Committee
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ABS Annual Meeting Report - Friday, May 24, 1996

Scot Butler

The ABS held its 36th annual meeting on May 24-25 at The English Inn in Charlottesville, Virginia.

On May 24 at 1:15 Mrs. Joan Butler introduced Dr. and Mrs. Mark Braimbridge who founded and operate the Langley Boxwood Nursery in Hampshire, England. Mrs. Braimbridge (Elizabeth) has been a member and strong supporter of The American Boxwood Society for more than a decade, having contributed a number of unique and informative articles to the *Bulletin*. She accepted an invitation to speak on both the Friday afternoon and evening programs.

In her afternoon slide lecture Mrs. Braimbridge displayed and described a number of favorite cultivars grown at Langley Nursery. In selecting from among a population of nearly 60 she had in mind their suitability for different uses, e.g. edging, hedges, specimen planting, topiary, and the like. In addition to names which are familiar in the U.S. she showed plants bearing names new to some: *Buxus microphylla* 'Faulkner', *Buxus riparia*, *Buxus sempervirens* 'Parasol' (a weeping variety) and *Buxus sinica* var. *insularis* 'Filigree'.

Following this group of examples Mrs. Braimbridge showed a series of slides illustrating the elements of boxwood design in the great formal gardens of palaces and large estates in Britain and on the Continent. In these gardens, mostly of the Baroque period, boxwood was featured not as a specimen ornamental but as an accessory edging or hedge to frame geometrical beds filled with flowers and other plantings. Bringing this tradition down to the present day she showed examples of formal gardens created by modern British landscapers and explained their design principles.

Mrs. Braimbridge entertained



Elizabeth Braimbridge of London, England, and Langley Boxwood Nursery in Hampshire, who has put boxwood back into the English vocabulary and gardens. (Photo: Decca Frackelton)

questions from the audience about Langley Nursery's experience in creating boxwood topiary of various designs and sizes as well as mediums and fertilizers used for container-grown plants.

The program continued after a break for refreshments with a panel-audience dialog on subjects of concern to both. The panelists were Mr. Lynn Batdorf, Curator of Boxwood, Perennial and Aquatic Plants at the U.S. National Arboretum; Mrs. Sigrid Harriman, Fredericksburg Landscape Designer; Mr. Jeff Naunchik, Horticulturist and Garden Designer with Ivy Nursery and Andre Viette; and Mr. Ian Robertson, Charlottesville Landscape Architect. Each panelist described briefly his or her experience with boxwood. All agreed that proper planting and good soil conditions, with plenty of humus, the presence of oxygen and microbes, are very impor-

tant in the nurture of boxwood. They did not recommend the use of tree spades to transplant boxwood except when unavoidable. Mr. Robertson stressed the surface habit of boxwood roots and the need to provide conditions for their growth outward rather than downward. Only sand with a crumb structure should be used in amending the soil so as to ensure good drainage.

Mr. Batdorf emphasized the

REMINDER: If you have not renewed your membership for 1996-97, you will not receive the next issue of *The Boxwood Bulletin*. Renewal notices were mailed in May 1996. Please mail checks to ABS Treasurer, Mrs. K. D. Ward, HCR 60, Box 41-T, Deerfield, VA 24432-9718.

physiology of boxwood plants—the interaction between the root system below ground and the stem and leaf structure above ground, especially during different seasons of the year. He noted, for example, that boxwood roots die when the surrounding soil reaches 87°F and drops to 27°F. Mrs. Harriman and Mr. Naunchik spoke about the use of plant material compatible with boxwood in garden design. One way that Mrs. Harriman achieves color variation is by using different forms of boxwood together. She said that designing gardens, especially when desiring to create “garden rooms,” is similar in principle to interior design but remembering to allow for growth of plants in gardens. Garden hardscapes (urns, statuary, walls), of course, do not change unless acted upon. She promotes the use of ornamental grasses, ferns, bleeding heart and hostas with boxwood. Mr. Naunchik favors herbaceous plants and bulbs in designing boxwood settings. For ground cover he uses *Vinca minor*, *Gallium odoratum*, *Pulmonaria*, and the like. Mr. Robertson warned that ground covers should be kept back from the trunks of dwarf (edging) boxwood. Among other plant material recommended as effective companions with boxwood were: pansies, roses, cranesbills, peonies, poppies, catmint, lady ferns and hay-scented ferns, *Impatiens*, white *Caladium*, *Lamium*, *Brodiaea*, *Narcissus*, *Ajuga variegata*. Interaction between the panelists and the audience was spontaneous and informative.

The annual auction of boxwoods growing in containers concluded the Friday afternoon program. Lively bidding was spurred on by the father-and-son team of auctioneers John Boyd, Jr. and John Boyd III. Among the contributors of plants were Mrs. Joan Butler, Mr. John Douts, Mr. Charles T. Fooks, Mr. Clifford Hoffman, Mr. Thomas Saunders, Mr. Donald R. Taylor and Mr. and Mrs. J.

Ward Walker. In addition, Mr. Saunders provided plants of *Buxus sempervirens* ‘Elegantissima’ from his nursery as a gift for each registrant at the meeting. Mrs. Butler distributed lists identifying and describing 16 of the types auctioned; she provided similar information orally for the other seven types. In all, over 30 plants of different types (see list of plant names) were sold at near record prices for the benefit of the ABS. The auction was of necessity held inside but with no perceptible difference in the level of enjoyment.

Friday Evening Program

Mrs. Braimbridge commenced her evening slide lecture with some informal photographs of the Langley Boxwood Nursery. Boxwood topiaries were prominent in these scenes, giving some idea of the number, sizes and shapes that the nursery offers both from stock and on custom order. Additional slides portrayed activities at the Chelsea Flower Show prior to opening. In this way Mrs. Braimbridge introduced the audience to several leading garden designers and commercial firms in England as they were setting up displays that included boxwood.

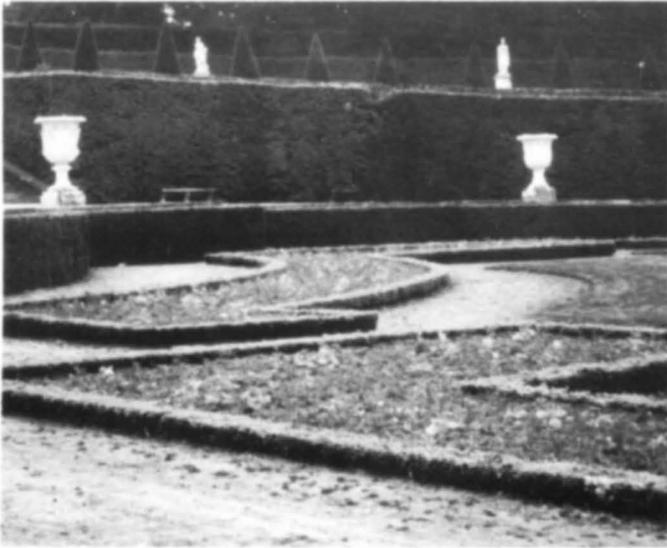
She also showed slides of unusual boxwoods that she and Dr. Braimbridge have encountered on their trips to remote areas of the world in search of new species. Among these were *Buxus glomerata* in Cuba, *Buxus macowani* in South Africa, boxwood from Yakushima, an island southwest of Japan, *Buxus riparia* in Japan and *Buxus wallichiana* in the Himalayas. Mrs. Braimbridge stressed that she and her husband have a scientific interest in boxwood on a global basis and a commitment toward furthering the educational aims of the ABS. They hope to be instrumental in increasing an awareness and appreciation of the genus as well as protecting it wherever

it is threatened. Dr. Braimbridge rose to amplify her comments and to announce their role in the formation of a European Boxwood and Topiary Society. As president of the Society Dr. Braimbridge introduced other officers on the screen via the projector. He expressed the desire that the ABS and the European Boxwood and Topiary Society could work together to promote their common goals.

Mrs. Braimbridge then turned attention to the plight of more than 30 species of boxwood in Cuba, none of which are in cultivation but continue to hang on tenaciously, as they have for millenia, under stressful geological conditions,

Having noticed a few years ago that missing herbarium specimens of Cuban boxwood at Kew Gardens were on loan to Dr. Egon Köhler of Berlin, a noted authority on tropical species of boxwood, the Braimbridges learned that he was actively helping Dr. Angela Leiva, Director of the National Botanical Garden in Havana, collect specimens of the 34 known species, and perhaps additional unknown species. Mrs. Braimbridge showed slides of collection expeditions where isolated specimens had to be chipped out of rock or carefully removed from water courses. She noted that the entire stock of a given species may grow in a micro area where its very survival is at risk. Because the broad diversity of foliage and growth habit of these plants is of great botanical interest the Havana Botanic Garden is setting up a native boxwood collection where these rescued specimens can be planted and studied. Much work remains, however, before the survival and adaptation of these plants to other conditions is assured.

To conclude the Friday evening program, Mrs. Sigrid Harriman showed a series of slides, many taken on a recent visit to Europe. Most of these depicted the extensive formal gardens at Versailles where clipped boxwood



At Versailles boxwood parterres are planted with flowers and clipped hedges and topiary behind at different levels. (Photo: Sigrid Harriman)



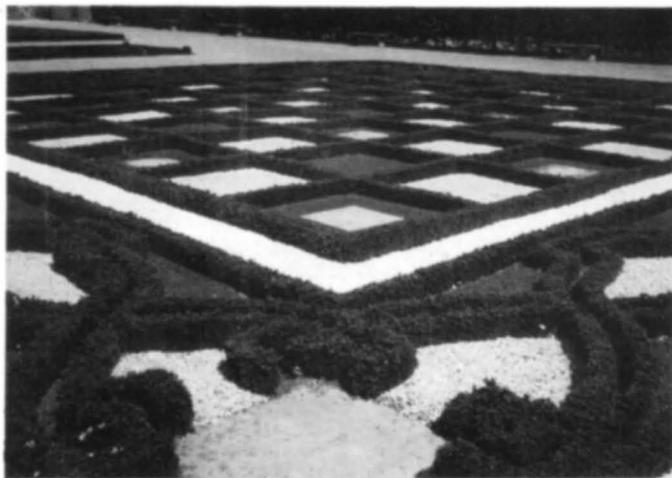
Clipped boxwood mounds at Versailles are interspersed with hedges and garden ornaments. (Photo: Sigrid Harriman)

provides structural framework and color contrast. The slides convincingly illustrated the principles that Mrs. Braimbridge earlier in the day attributed to the Baroque period, continuing in some gardens down to the present. Slides of Herrenhausen showed the use of clipped boxwood to create ornate designs within the formal gardens of the period. Mrs. Harriman closed her presentation with slides of gardens,

some of which she designed in Northern Virginia. Pictures of the damage done this past winter to newly planted *Buxus sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa' at Gunston Hall were disheartening. Pictures of gardens in Fredericksburg tended to illustrate the principles of design which Mrs. Harriman advanced during the panel session in the afternoon, permitting the audience to see graphically the effects she creates using

boxwood in mostly small gardens and as foundation planting.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:
The 1997 ABS Annual Meeting will be held at Blandy Experimental Farm, headquarters and location of the ABS Memorial Garden, May 15-17.



A corner of the Herrenhausen gardens shows a simple geometric design and an "embroidery" design using *B. sempervirens* 'Blauer Heinz'. (Photo: Robert Harriman)



A gardener works to maintain the design of the clipped boxwoods at Herrenhausen. (Photo: Sigrid Harriman)

ABS Annual Meeting Report - Saturday, May 25, 1996

Scot Butler

On Saturday, May 25, attendees at the 36th ABS Annual Meeting were treated to a full-day tour of gardens in Charlottesville (morning) and Albemarle County (afternoon) arranged by Dr. and Mrs. Henry Frierson. In spite of a gloomy weather forecast, the rain stopped after an initial stop. However, the skies remained overcast and the temperature chilly. It was not a good day for taking pictures,

Lawn have had the right to replace plantings as they chose.

There was little documentation of the original planting scheme when the Garden Club of Virginia undertook to "restore" these gardens beginning in 1948. Under the supervision of Mr. Alden Hopkins, Landscape Director of Colonial Williamsburg, restoration of the West Lawn gardens was completed in 1952 using design principles popular

are now very large. Subsequently a few other selections have been introduced. In at least one garden, some enormous pre-restoration boxwood still survive and appear, for the most part, to be growing vigorously. In several gardens an earlier symmetry of planting has disappeared because some specimens have had to be removed. Despite budget cuts that have impacted on garden maintenance the beauty, variety



Mary Hughes summarizes the Pavilion Gardens from the portico of the Rotunda at the University of Virginia as the ABS group awaits the passing of a shower. (Photos: Decca Frackelton, except as noted)



Larry Steward (behind the sundial) talks about the East Pavilion IV Gardens planted by Maximilian Schele de Vare, professor of modern languages 1845-1897. His boxwood garden was restored by the Albemarle Garden Club in 1916.

but as on similar occasions the buoyant spirits of ABS group prevailed.

University of Virginia Gardens

Upon arriving at the original grounds of the University of Virginia we were given an overview from the portico of the Rotunda of Thomas Jefferson's plan for his "academical village." The plant materials in the gardens have undergone many changes since the adjacent buildings were essentially completed in 1826 because the residents of the "pavilions" on the

in Jefferson's time. Eight years later restoration of the East Lawn gardens was begun and was completed in 1965 under Mr. Hopkins' successor, Mr. Donald Parker, and Mr. Ralph Griswold of Pittsburgh. Other changes have since occurred, e.g. removal and/or substitution of trees and shrubs.

No two garden "rooms" are alike either in size, shape or planting. Only two varieties of boxwood were used in the restoration. *B. sempervirens* (common or "American" box) and *B. sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa' (edging or "English") box. Many of these plants

and proportion of the gardens remain unaffected. They boast exotic as well as native plants introduced by Jefferson and his friends. The architectural charm of brick serpentine wall, planted slopes, pocket gardens and other devices of Jeffersonian garden design have yet to be matched.

Woltz Garden

Words fail to convey an image of the town garden of Mr. and Mrs. Charles K. Woltz. Nearly fifty years in the making, it is a joy and inspiration to

behold. Aside from the celebrated allée of mature *B. sempervirens* 'Graham Blandy' and the two *B. sempervirens* 'Dee Runk' plants which flank a chimney and are fast approaching the chimney cap (Mrs. Woltz believes they will make it) these two columnar cultivars are also featured elsewhere in the garden as accent plantings.

The garden is exceptional in that it was built in stages over time but nevertheless has an unified, flowing form. Each vantage point reveals another vista to admire and area to explore. It embodies the concept of garden 'rooms' but without 'walls' that break up the unity of the whole.

More than 350 boxwood plants, representing about 15 types, are planted, sometimes together in a mass and other times to set off beds of perennials and annuals.

Except for 25 or 30 boxwood plants which the Woltz's



The Merton Spire is in the lower garden of Pavilion VI. It was carved for Oxford's Merton College in 1451. In 1928 it was given to the University to honor Jefferson's educational ideals. The wilderness of native trees and shrubs reflects the groves at Monticello.



A fanlight over a door and Chippendale-style stair rails are among the architectural features which can be seen in another of the East Pavilion gardens.



At Pavilion VII, which houses the Colonade Club, the lawn is smaller because of additions to the building. Secluded benches are among the plantings and connected by serpentine walks.



*The lawn slopes down from the Woltz home where *B. sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa' serves as an effective foundation planting.*



*Two *B. sempervirens* 'Dee Runk' flank a chimney covered with *Hydrangea patolaris*, while a smaller 'Dee Runk' flourishes at right behind a dogwood. (Photo: Scot Butler)*

bought to begin the garden, all have been grown from their own cuttings. The condition of the boxwood was remarkable: no sign of winter damage, disease, or cultural stress. They were as close to perfection as one is apt to see. Mr. Woltz personally built all of the attractive garden buildings, walls and walks.

Boxwood in the Woltz Garden

Buxus harlandii

Buxus microphylla

'Compacta'

'Green Pillow'

Buxus sempervirens

'Angustifolia'

'Arborescens'

'Dee Runk'

'Elegantissima'

'Graham Blandy'

'Jim's Spreader'

'Suffruticosa' ("English",
dwarf boxwood)

'Vardar Valley'

Buxus sinica var. *insularis*

(Korean)

'Justin Brouwers'

'Nana'

Unidentified

/Oriental/

/Batdorf/



ABS President Stephen Southall gazes upward at several mature plants of *B. sempervirens* 'Dee Runk' that form a backdrop in the Woltz garden.

(Photo: Scot Butler)



Boxwoods enclose the "room" featuring a pond in the Woltz garden.



Mr. Scot Butler stands under the arch of a pair of joined *B. sempervirens* 'Graham Blandy' at the end of an allée.



Mrs. Woltz asked the ABS members to vote whether to arch the rest of the allée.

Treacle Garden

The Treacle Garden surrounds the house in which Director and Chairman of the *Bulletin* Committee, Mrs. Robert L. Frackelton, grew up. Her father, the late George Gilmer, planted many of the boxwoods in the garden when she was a girl. Most of these were acquired directly from Mr. Henry Hohman of Kingsville Nurseries outside of Baltimore. Mr. Hohman was noted as a gifted plantsman and was responsible for introducing some of the finest boxwood cultivars we have today, including specimens resulting from Dr. Edgar Anderson's expedition to the Balkans in 1934 in search of hardy

boxwoods. Therefore it was a great pleasure to see in the Treacle Garden a number of specimens of *B. sempervirens* 'Vardar Valley' that were close

to sixty years old and probably among the largest in this country.

Another Hohman introduction, *B. microphylla* 'Compacta', is represented



*At the Woltz garden Registrar Lynn Batdorf and Mr. Charles Whelan are dwarfed by specimens of *B. sempervirens* which had been reduced by about 3 feet!*



*ABS Treasurer Katherine Ward walks between rows of *B. sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa' which have been clipped into a formal hedge. Above are two rows left unclipped which serve as a backdrop for annuals and perennials.*



Beyond a boxwood hedge, this attractive building in the Woltz garden is a tribute to Mr. Charles K. Woltz's skill. He did all the brick work himself. (Photo: Scot Butler)

in the garden by several plants of considerable size despite the very slow growth of this cultivar. Also seen were two very large specimens of another less common boxwood that Mr. Gilmer planted, *Buxus harlandii*. This plant is not always hardy in this climate zone so it was a pleasure to see specimens that had achieved maturity.

A number of large trees, including some magnificent old hollies, added to the interest of the Treacle Garden



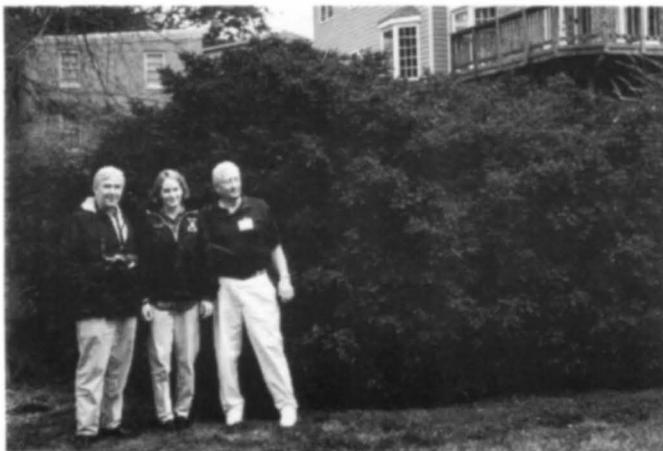
*At the Treacle Garden, ABS Director Sigrid Harriman stands beside one of the mature plants of *B. harlandii* as a comparison.*



*In the 1920s the entrance walk to the Treakle home was edged with *B. sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa'. In the 1960s they were being replaced with *B. sempervirens* 'Vardar Valley'. Now there is a combination of the two along the walk.*



*Standing in front of a mature *B. sempervirens* 'Vardar Valley' in the Treakle garden are, left to right, Ms. Regina Boehm, Mrs. Edward Weber and Mr. Wolfgang Kohnert. The low-growing plant on the extreme right is a mature *B. microphylla* 'Compacta'. (Photo: Scot Butler)*



Mr. K. Lee Hahn, Miss Eliza Hahn and ABS Director Richard D. Mahone are dwarfed by a clump of 'Vardar Valley'. (Photo: Scot Butler)



Melinda Frierson and Ellen at McIntyre Park for lunch under cover.

Frierson Garden

The luncheon scheduled for the Frierson's garden was held instead in a pavilion at nearby McIntyre Park because of the threat of rain. Box lunches featuring a choice of turkey or roast beef sandwiches were enjoyed at tables in the pavilion or outside. But the chilly air prompted a request for the bus to return to The English Inn for additional clothing.

While the bus passengers went to the Inn and from there directly to the first country garden those in cars used the time to visit the garden that Henry and Melinda Frierson have created in just ten years. Availing themselves of several good groupings of large boxwoods (both *B. sempervirens* and *B. sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa') already in place, the Frierson's have developed and added to what they found. They have lined their front walk on either

side with *B. microphylla* var. *japonica* 'Green Beauty', one of the boxwoods introduced by Sheridan Nurseries at Ontario, Canada.

Along the front of the yard is a hedge *Buxus X* 'Green Gem', also introduced by Sheridan Nurseries. Foundation plantings of box, mostly *B. sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa', surround the house, while the garden behind has become the focal point for specimen plantings of, among others, *B.*



At the front of the Frierson home are Buxus 'Green Gem' and B. microphylla var. japonica 'Green Beauty' along the entrance walk, both introductions of Sheridan Nurseries. The foundation plantings were in place when the Friersons moved in ten years ago. (Photo: Scot Butler)



Sigrid Harriman and Joan Butler enjoy a chat in a sequestered corner of the Frierson boxwood garden. (Photo: Scot Butler)



The north facade of Estouteville built in 1830 for John Coles III and his wife, Selina Skipwith, daughter of Sir Peyton Skipwith and Lady Jean of Prestwold. The south facade is equally impressive. The home is owned by Mr. Ludwig Kuttner and Ms. Beatrice Ost. (Photo: Scot Butler)



Buxus sempervirens 'Suffruticosa' rises above the wall that encloses a garden with a long sweep of lawn edged with borders of trees, shrubs, perennials and ground covers at Estouteville. (Photo: Scot Butler)

microphylla var. japonica 'Morris Midget', B. sempervirens 'Memorial', B. sinica var. insularis 'Justin Brouwers' and the weeping form of B. harlandii. Several of the B. sempervirens 'Suffruticosa' in this area almost alone suffered severe winter damage. The garden includes beds where young boxwoods may be held

and tested until a determination is made of their worth or place in the garden.

Estouteville Garden

The Estouteville Garden was opened for our enjoyment through the courtesy of owners Mr. Ludwig Kuttner and Ms. Beatrice Ost, an

accomplished artist. The estate affords a commanding view of mountains to the west. The present house was built about 1830 for John Coles III by master builder James Dinsmore. Dinsmore had been recruited by Jefferson for work at Monticello and the University of Virginia. He also worked for James Madison at Montpe-



The 1984 swimming pool at Estouteville commands a stunning view of the mountains to the west. Boxwood planting follows the curve of the pool. (Photo: Sigrid Harriman)



At Bundoran Farm a magnificent view of fields and mountains can be seen over the boxwood hedge which separates an expansive lawn from gardens and "rooms" which run the length of the hedge. A tennis court is on a lower level than the gardens.



*A walk at Bundoran Farm cuts through mounding *B. sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa'. The steps were salvaged from Charlottesville's first city hall, an 1850s era building demolished in 1969. (Photo: Scot Butler)*



Heading to board the bus, Mrs. L. C. Powell has just stepped from between two boxwood which conceal a porch with a fine view of the extensive lawn and meadows. (Photo: Scot Butler)

lier. Estouteville is generally considered to be Dinsmore's masterpiece, expressing his understanding of the Palladian architectural principles espoused by Jefferson.

There is an old walled garden on the east side of the house that occupies a lower level from the lawn. It is delineated by a long hedge of century-old *B. sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa'. At the far end is a group of very large American boxwood (*B. sempervirens* or common

boxwood) that now resemble trees. This original garden features many other shrubs and plantings, including what is believed to be the largest living cherry tree in Virginia. On the west side of the house is a swimming pool surrounded by plantings of ornamental grasses and mass sedum.

Bundoran Farm Garden

The final stop on the tour was

Bundoran Farm where we not only roamed through banks of billowing boxwood on a peaceful hilltop but were invited inside by the hostess, Mrs. Frederic Scott, to partake of mint tea (universally acclaimed as the best ever).

Mrs. Scott also invited us to wander through the handsome rooms on the first floor.

The house, built by the Scotts in 1952 in the Georgian Revival style, is

shaded by enormous trees and pervaded by a sense of tranquillity. Over the years Mrs. Scott developed, with limited help from professional landscape designers, the planting plan for trees and boxwood around the house as

well one for the gardens. The many farm buildings visible from the hilltop location of the house were painted barn red and enhanced the impression of bucolic well-being.

The boxwood at Bundoran Farm

was luxuriant and as fragrant as only *B. sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa' can be.

The Friersons deserve unlimited credit and thanks for arranging such a fine tour on the occasion of the 36th ABS Annual Meeting.

Plant List from Auction at ABS Annual Meeting

'Aurea Pendula' (*B. sempervirens*)

'Compacta' (*B. microphylla*) Very slow growing hardy plant selected as a seedling in 1912 by William Appleby of Baltimore, Maryland. 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. 25-year-old plants are about 10" tall and 18" across. Hardy to Zone 5.

'Dee Runk' (*B. sempervirens*) A tall narrow columnar plant, but with soft, loose foliage.

'Elegantissima' (*B. sempervirens*) Grown in Europe in the 1860s. One of the best variegated boxwoods, with no reversion to solid green. Mature size about 7' tall by 7' wide. Will benefit from having tips of new growth pinched to promote denser foliage.

'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 this growth 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, with 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 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 faint yellow border, giving it a glowing halo. Found and named in 1973 by Dr. John Baldwin in Williamsburg. Hardy to Zone 5.

'Inglis' (*B. sempervirens*) An extremely hardy cultivar, which originated in Michigan where it withstood winter temperatures of -20°F for many years.

'John Baldwin' (*B. microphylla*) A seedling selected by Dr. J. T. Baldwin at the College of William and Mary and named for him after his death in 1974. Has a 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*) [Korean] A seedling selected by J. B. Brouwers a nurseryman in Williamsburg, Virginia. 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.

'Nana' (*B. sinica* var. *insularis*) [Dwarf Korean] A spreading plant of willowy or cascading habit, broader than high, seldom more than 18" tall. 60-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.

'Latifolia Maculata' (*B. sempervirens*)

'Morris Dwarf' (*B. microphylla* var. *japonica*) An open-pollinated Japanese boxwood seedling selected by Dr. Henry Skinner at the Morris Arboretum in 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.

'Quiet End' (*B. microphylla*) Developed by Henry Hohman at Kingsville Nurseries, where it was originally labeled 'Kingsville 2A'. A broad spreading plant some 20" high and 5' wide at 16 years of age. A fine low filler plant for garden designs.

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

'Wintergreen' (*B. sinica* var. *insularis*) (Korean] Registered 1963. Distributed by Scarff's Nursery, Ohio. A rather open loose plant, but maintains good winter color.

Registrants for 1996 ABS Annual Meeting

Batdorf, Mr. Lynn R., USNA, Washington, D.C.
Boehm, Ms. Regina, Mettmann, Germany
Kohnert, Mr. Wolfgang, Mettmann, Germany
Boyd, Mr. John W. Jr., Alton, Va.
Boyd, Mrs. (Lib), Alton, Va.
Boyd, Mr. John W. III, Roanoke, Va.
Brambridge, Dr. Mark, London, England
Brambridge, Mrs. Mark (Elizabeth), London, England
Butler, Mrs. Scot (Joan), Winchester, Va.
Butler, Mr. Scot, Winchester, Va.
Chamberlin, Mrs. E. (Kathryn), Purcellville, Va.
DeBell, Mrs. John, Purcellville, Va.
Corey, Dr. R. Reece, Chestertown, Md.
Corey, Mrs. (Jane), Chestertown, Md.
Douts, Mr. John W., Fairfax, Va.
Dykes, Mr. Robert, Delmar, Md.
Dykes, Mrs. (Hazel), Delmar, Md.
Elwood, Mr. William, Charlottesville, Va.
Fooks, Sr, Mr. Charles T., Woodland Nursery, Salisbury, Md.
Fooks, Mrs. (Lucille), Woodland Nursery, Salisbury, Md.
Frackelton, Mrs. R. L., Fredericksburg, Va.
Frackelton Miss Carter, Fredericksburg, Va.
Frierson, Jr. ,Dr. Henry F., Charlottesville, Va.
Frierson, Mrs (Melinda), Charlottesville, Va.
Hahn, Mr. K Lee, Califon, N.J.
Hahn, Miss Eliza, Califon, N.J.
Hanson, Dr. Maury, Washington, D.C.
Harriman, Mrs. Sigrid, Fredericksburg, Va.
Hoffman, Mr. Clifford, Flemington, N.J.
Hoffman, Mrs. (Anne), Flemington, N.J.
Hoffman, Mr. Daniel, Memphis, Tenn.
Hoffman, Mrs. Daniel, Memphis, Tenn.
Kysor, Mr. Harley, Ridgefield, Conn.
Kysor, Mrs. Harley, Ridgefield, Conn.
Mahone, Mr. Richard D., Williamsburg, Va.
McDonald, Thelma, Springfield, Va.
Nichols, Mr. Bernard, Alexandria, Va.
Nilsen, Mr. Donald, Easton, Md.
Plumb, Mr. William, Moorestown, N.J.
Plumb, Mrs. Audrey (Mickey), Moorestown, N.J.
Powell, Mrs. L. C., Alexandria, Va.
Major, Mrs. William, Richmond, Va.
Rankin, Barbara, Springfield, Va.
Richardson, Dr. Gary, Annapolis, Md.
Richardson, Mrs. (Mary), Annapolis, Md.
Saunders, Mr. Thomas, Piney River, Va.
Saunders, Mrs. (Lyn), Piney River, Va.
Schaub, Mr. Robert, Asheville, NC
Schaub, Mrs. (Norma Jean), Asheville, NC

Schumacher, Mr. George, Turlock, Cal.
Schumacher, Mrs. (Dea Anna), Turlock, Cal.
Shelton, Charlotte J., North Garden, Va.
Shumaker, Mr. Kenneth
Shumaker, Mrs. (Jean)
Southall, Dr. Stephen, Lynchburg, Va.
Smith, Mrs. Larry (Louise), Fishers, Ind.
Taylor, Mr. Donald R., New Bern, N.C.
Taylor, Mrs. (Johanna), New Bern, N.C.
Walker, Mr. J Ward, Del Rio, Tenn.
Walker, Mrs. (Betty), Del Rio, Tenn.
Ward, Mrs. Katherine D., Deerfield, Va.
Weber, Clyde, Bentleyville, Pa.
Weber, Mrs. (Janet), Bentleyville, Pa.
Weber, Mr. Edward, Annapolis, Md.
Weber, Mrs. (Ethyl), Annapolis, Md.
Whelan, Mr. Charles N., Potomac, Md.
Whitaker, Mr. Chance, Newnan, Ga.
Willis, Mr. Lloyd, Crozet, Va.
Willis, Mrs. (Margaret), Crozet, Va.
Zapton, Steve, Port Republic, Va.

Thanks to Tom Saunders of
Saunders Bros. Nursery, each
attendee at the Annual Meet-
ing received a gift plant of *B.*
sempervirens 'Elegantissima'.

PLEASE check your name
and address on this *Bulletin*
and send in any corrections to
Mrs. Robert L. Frackelton,
1714 Greenway Drive,
Fredericksburg, VA 22401-
5209. Also, please send the
extra four digits of your Zip
code if you haven't already
done so. Thank you.

Boxwood Leafminer ABS Research Progress Report

In the past two years I have accomplished a great deal of research on the boxwood leafminer. As you may well recall, my research has three main objectives: development of a growing degree day model, testing the efficacy of various pesticides, and investigating resistant cultivars.

The growing degree-day model is finished with two years of data. I have been documenting leafminer development for the past two years both in Washington, D.C., and at Longwood Gardens. It appears that growing degree-day 380 is the critical developmental point. This is the average first day of adult emergence. This is also the best time to apply a chemical control.

For the past two seasons I have conducted pesticide trials at numerous locations, including Longwood Gardens, Pa., and Dumbarton Oaks in Washington, D.C. It appears that the timely application of a systemic such as Avid (avermectin) at the first sign of adults gives excellent control. This tends to be in late April at GDD 380. A good control season will reduce the population to such low levels that control may not be necessary for the next couple of years.

The third and most important objective is to test and document any resistant cultivars. Fortunately, the National Arboretum has a very diverse collection of boxwood cultivars. In the summer of 1995, I caged adults on the branches of many different cultivars of box and allowed them to oviposit.

In December 1995, I presented a ten-minute talk before the national convention of the Entomological Society of America. The talk was

titled "Evaluating Chemical and Non-Chemical Control Tactics For the Boxwood Leaf Miner." I presented preliminary data similar to that presented above about pesticide efficacy and cultivar resistance. I also presented a growing degree-day table of leafminer development.

I have two goals this year, the first of which is to perform a preference test to see if the adults select oviposition sites based on host plant suitability. This will be accomplished by caging emerging adults with branches from two different cultivars, and comparing the oviposition and survival rates for both varieties.

The second goal for this year is to extract various fractions from masticated boxwood leaves and test the material's toxicity to leafminer larva. This will be accomplished by applying the extracts topically to the larva. The extracts will also be analyzed using HPLC to see if there are any obvious chemical differences between resistant and susceptible cultivars. If there is a clear difference, then there may be a simple chemical assay to determine possible resistance.

I plan to finish my fieldwork by late August or early September and I look forward to publishing in *The Boxwood Bulletin* as soon as I have finished my thesis. My publications are currently limited by the fact that I cannot publish my data in *The Boxwood Bulletin* before I publish it a refereed journal.

Gabe de'Eustachio
Graduate student
Dept. of Entomology
University of Maryland

Boxwood Evaluation Program Chicago Botanic Garden

The Chicago Botanic Garden (USDA Hardiness Zone 5b) initiated a hardiness evaluation project with the American Boxwood Society in 1995. This is actually the second cooperative venture between the Society and the Garden. The first trial began in 1990 and was terminated in the spring of 1994 because the majority of the plants were killed during the winter of 1993-94. Only 'Green Velvet' and some plants of 'Vardar Valley' were uninjured in the trials. In fact, boxwoods in general were severely injured or killed throughout northeastern Illinois that winter. Of special note was the lack of winter injury on the Sheridan Nursery cultivars ('Green Mound', 'Green Mountain' and 'Green Velvet') and the Chicagoland Grows selection, *Buxus* 'Glencoe' (Chicagoland Green™ Boxwood).

The new project began with the receipt of boxwood cuttings from the U.S. National Arboretum in August of 1995. This project will test the winter hardiness of ten boxwood selections, including:

B. 'Green Gem'
B. microphylla 'John Baldwin'
B. sempervirens 'Inglis'
B. sempervirens 'Myrtifolia'
B. sempervirens 'Newport Blue'
B. sempervirens 'Northern New York'
B. sempervirens 'Welleri'
B. sempervirens 'Woodland'
B. sinica var. *insularis* 'Tide Hill'
B. sinica var. *insularis* 'Wintergreen'

Most of the cuttings have done well in our production facilities. *Buxus sempervirens* 'Welleri' is the most robust and vigorous of the

plants at this time, with 'Inglis' and 'Northern New York' close behind. The plants of *Buxus* 'John Baldwin' are healthy and particularly well-branched, and already uniform in habit. The littleleaf Korean boxwood cultivars, 'Tide Hill' and 'Wintergreen', are the least successful in production. Both cultivars are small and weakly developed with sickly, yellow-green foliage. At this rate of

development we anticipate planting out the project in 1998.

This spring we also began the evaluation of five locally selected cultivars. These boxwoods are currently under review by the Chicagoland Grows Plant Introduction Program for possible introduction into the nursery trade. The group includes both small- and large-leaved selections. The Chicago Botanic

Garden is dedicated to evaluating and recommending plants for the Chicago area. Boxwood continues to be a desired plant for our area and with that in mind, we will continue searching out additional boxwood cultivars suitable for northern climates.

Richard Hawke
Plant Evaluation Coordinator

NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

Spring Board Meeting Minutes

The spring meeting of the American Boxwood Society Governing Board was held on Friday, May 24, 1996 in Charlottesville, Virginia. In attendance were President Dr. Stephen Southall; Vice President Thomas Saunders; Secretary Mrs. Scot Butler, Executive Treasurer; Mrs. Katherine D. Ward, Registrar; Lynn R. Batdorf; Directors Charles Fooks, Mrs. Robert L. Frackelton, Dr. Henry Frierson, Mrs. Sigrid Harriman, Richard D. Mahone, Steve Zapton, and ex-officio, Dr. Edward F. Connor, Director of Blandy Experimental Farm.

The meeting was called to order by the President at 8:00 a.m. He expressed the thanks of all members to Mrs. Frackelton for a most wonderful evening on Thursday. The minutes of the Winter Board Meeting were approved as printed in *The Boxwood Bulletin*, Vol. 35, No. 4, p. 76.

The Treasurer reported balances of \$17,923.59 in the checking account and \$14,032.56 in a certificate of deposit. Only 1,360 *Handbooks* remain to be sold out of the 4,000 originally printed.

The proposed budget for 1996-97 was discussed. It was agreed that the

Handbook account would be removed from the budget. Dr. Connor presented a request for an expenditure of \$2,028 for The American Boxwood Society Memorial Boxwood Garden, \$918 for labor and mulch, and \$1,110 for additional plants for the three new boxwood beds. He noted that with limited funds, the State Arboretum is trying to shift maintenance costs by requesting support from organizations which are centered at Blandy Farm. The Board noted the need to revise the master plan of the ABS Memorial Garden to avoid crowding. It was agreed to meet with architect Nancy Takahashi and Dr. Connor during the summer, including Mrs. Butler, Mrs. Frackelton and Mrs. Harriman. The budget request of \$2,028 was approved as a maximum, with the hope that some plants will cost less than estimated. It was felt that since only eleven trees are needed and some are Virginia natives, perhaps nursery growers would donate some of them. An attempt will be made in the fall to draw up the following year's expected expenditures for the ABS Memorial Garden. It was agreed that Mrs. Butler would revise the proposed budget and circulate it to all Board members.

Mr. Batdorf displayed a draft of the newest 5-year *Index* to *The*

Boxwood Bulletin. He reported that the leaf miner study at the University of Maryland is progressing; an article will be written to appear in a future *Bulletin*. Saunders Brothers Nursery has very generously given 200 plants of four box cultivars which will be tested in an inclosed environment to learn which are more sensitive to leaf miner and which might be more resistant. Mr. Batdorf also showed sketches of the new Collections signs which are being installed at the U.S. National Arboretum. The sign for the boxwood collection has not been fully funded; an expenditure for it may be included in the revised budget. He is continuing the revision of the draft *Manual on Buxus*, and is also planning to attend the 1998 International Conference on Nomenclature of the International Society for Horticultural Science, to be held in Edinburgh, Scotland. We will need to include this important trip in our budget for 1997-98.

Mrs. Frackelton reported that there are 697 members of the Society, including 24 charter members who joined in 1961, 67 life members and 1 patron, covering 25 states and several foreign countries. A request had been received from Wisley in London for a complimentary membership and all back issues (139). It was decided to agree to this request if they will pay

the cost of mailing the back issues.

Mrs. Butler reported that the ABS Memorial Garden is progressing, with many plants of the *B. microphylla* and *B. sinica* species now in their permanent locations. The inclusion of small white-flowering trees (fringe tree and shad blow) has made an attractive addition. Dr. Connor reminded the Board of previous discussion about a screening hedge between the box garden and the road; suggestions included yew or dwarf conifers. No decision was reached, but Dr. Connor was referred to David Thompson at Foxborough Nursery in Street, Maryland, for suggestions.

Mr. Zapton reviewed the Nominating Committee's slate of Officers and Board Members to be elected at the Annual Meeting later in the day, noting that one newly-elected member will serve for only two years if the amendments to the By Laws are adopted by the members.

The dates for the 1997 Annual Meeting at Blandy Experimental Farm in Boyce, Virginia will be Thursday through Saturday, May 15, 16 and 17. The planning committee for this meeting includes Mrs. Butler, Mrs. Frackelton, Mrs. Harriman, Mrs. Ward and Mr. Zapton.

Dr. and Mrs. Braimbridge are organizing a European Boxwood and Topiary Society and are hopeful that an arrangement can be worked out to share in the publication of *The Boxwood Bulletin*. They expect to develop interesting articles on boxwood from their membership, to be submitted for the *Bulletin*. A method will be explored to transmit texts on computer discs. Dr. Braimbridge will submit a written proposal to President Southall. The Board expressed its strong support for cooperation with this new society.

Mr. Saunders suggested a new section might appear in *The Boxwood Bulletin*: a Bulletin Board containing an Idea Exchange, describing such

things as a new growing technique or a new way of designing a box garden. The awarding of a free year's subscription might be offered as a prize for the most novel idea.

At the auction after the Annual Meeting, Mrs. Butler will ask purchasers who take home plants, both last year and this year, to make written observations about their cultivars, such as the vigor they have shown, what conditions seem to affect them (soil characteristics, location in sun or shade, susceptibility to wind damage, insect attacks, response to copious moisture or lack of it). Remarks would be welcome, sent to Mrs. R. L. Frackelton, 1714 Greenway Drive, Fredericksburg, VA 22401, or shared at the 1997 Annual Meeting.

President Southall noted the possibility of establishing a "Home Page" on the Internet for the ABS. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Joan Butler, Secretary

Annual Meeting Minutes

The ABS held its 36th annual meeting on May 24-25 at The English Inn in Charlottesville, Virginia. Registrants began arriving the evening of May 23, and members of the Governing Board (officers, directors, registrar) dined at the Clifton Country Inn a few miles outside of Charlottesville. On Friday morning, May 24, the ABS Board met from 8 to 10 a.m. (see minutes of the meeting on p. 16) and members registered, picking up program packets as they did so, between 9:30 and 10:30.

Business Meeting

ABS President Dr. Stephen D. Southall called the annual business meeting to order at 11 a.m. with a

word of thanks to the Program Committee for making the arrangements for the meeting and the tour afterwards.

The minutes of the 1995 annual meeting were approved as published in *The Boxwood Bulletin*, Vol. 35, No. 1, pp. 11-12. The Treasurer reported balances of \$17,923.59 in the checking account and \$14,032.56 in a certificate of deposit.

The President welcomed the 65 attendees who traveled to Charlottesville for the meeting, and noted those who came from a distance: Ms. Regina Boehm and Mr. Wolfgang Kohnert (Germany), Dr. and Mrs. Mark Braimbridge (England), Mr. and Mrs. George Schumacher (California) and Mrs. Larry Smith (Indiana).

Boxwood Bulletin and Membership

Mrs. Robert L. Frackelton said that she would appreciate it if members would send articles and photographs for publication in *The Boxwood Bulletin*, whether experiences in growing box, visits to boxwood collections or whatever. She reported that presently there are 697 members of the Society, 24 of whom are charter members. This latter group includes the Woltzes, whose garden is on our Saturday tour. Other categories of membership include 67 life, 24 foreign, 22 complimentary and 1 patron. At the conclusion of Mrs. Frackelton's report Mr. K. Lee Hahn rose to commend Mrs. Frackelton and express the Society's appreciation of her years of service to the Society. This was greeted with a round of applause.

Handbook; Manual, Index, Buyer's Guide and Registration

Registrar Lynn R. Batdorf reported that about two-thirds of the 4,000 copies of the *Boxwood Handbook* that were printed have been sold. He noted that the twelve

chapters of The Manual on Boxwood which he is preparing are in draft form; the manual will be about five times the size of the handbook and will include all 94 known species (450 names). Indexing of the *Bulletin* for the last five years has been completed. Four editions of the *Buyer's Guide* have now been published but the most recent one already needs to be updated because of the ephemeral character of the boxwood nursery trade. Mr. Batdorf reported that there were no new registrations of boxwood during the past year.

Memorial Garden and Research

Mrs. Joan Butler commented on progress at Blandy Farm in replanting the boxwood collection. She praised the good design and its contribution to scientific study of species and varieties. Work should be completed by the time of our annual meeting at Blandy in 1997. With respect to boxwood research, the 13 specially selected cultivars which Mr. Batdorf sent to the Chicago Botanic Garden for hardiness testing were rooted in the greenhouse last winter and are doing well this spring. Meanwhile a grant from the ABS for controlled experiments on leaf miner in the choice of boxwoods on which they prefer to feed is going forward at the University of Maryland using four

cultivars supplied by Saunders Brothers Nursery.

By-Laws

Mrs. Frackelton presented the proposal for amending the ABS By-Laws, a copy of which had been sent to all members with a proxy statement. Changes are to increase the number of Directors from eight to nine to permit more regularity in the turnover of directors each year. The proposal defined the Governing Board consisting of the five Officers, the Registrar, nine Directors and, ex-officio, the Director of Blandy Experimental Farm. The proposal was moved, seconded and approved.

Nominations

Mr. Steve Zapton introduced the current Officers and Directors to the audience, then presented the slate of the Nominating Committee for elections as follows: President: Dr. Stephen D. Southall; Vice-President: Mr. Thomas Saunders; Second Vice-President: Mrs. Malcolm L. Holkamp; Secretary: Mrs. Joan C. Butler; Executive Treasurer: Mrs. Katherine D. Ward; Directors (reelection): Mr. Charles T. Fooks (1999) and Mrs. Sigrid G. Harriman (1999); Directors (new election): Mr. John Boyd III (1998, replacing Mr. Batdorf (who, as Registrar, is a member of the Board) and Mr. Clyde Weber (1999), making

the ninth Director). The slate was unanimously approved.

Program

Dr. Henry Frierson of the Program Committee outlined the schedule for the tour on Saturday, with 47 persons designated to go by bus and the others in five or six private cars. The President concluded the session by reviewing the schedule for the remainder of Friday. The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m. and a special Board meeting was held immediately afterward to name one member to serve on the Executive Committee with the President, First Vice President, Secretary, and Executive Treasurer. Dr. Henry Frierson was named. The Executive Committee then named Mr. Steve Zapton to head the Nominating Committee.

Joan Butler, Secretary

In Memoriam

Mr. Carl Campbell
Member since 1977
Dr. Albert T. Dawkins, Jr.
New member
Mrs. Richard Ebersbach
Member since 1975
Mr. Eugene H. Ralston
Member since 1963

Seasonal Gardener continued...

placing the the container where it can be easily viewed and the boxwood can be fully appreciated.

What about watering a container plant?

Boxwoods, or any plants for that matter, placed in a container are subject to a higher level of cultural stress than a similar plant in the ground. Beginning in early spring and continuing

through late fall the containerized boxwood needs regular watering. During the hot weather, it may be necessary to water it daily.

There is no firm guide for the amount of water necessary, other than checking the soil and the plant itself. While watering, spray a fine, hard mist of water through the foliage of the plant to wash off dust, cobwebs, and to reduce the red spider mites. Early morning is the best time to water.

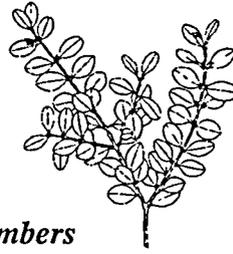
What happens in winter?

Boxwoods left in wooden tubs will do fine outside in Zone 8 and areas warmer. Plants in cast stone or clay pots in a freezing climate need protection to keep the container from cracking.

Putting the container into a trench with straw or leaves packed around will provide sufficient protection for boxwoods growing in Zone 5 to 7.

The Seasonal Gardener

Practical tips for boxwood enthusiasts from Society members



Container Use

Which boxwoods will grow in containers?

A container-grown boxwood provides unique interest in a garden. Depending on the desired effect, either a dwarf or medium-sized boxwood can be placed in a container. Suitable dwarf boxwoods include: *B. microphylla* 'Compacta', 'Grace Hendrick Phillips' and 'Green Pillow'; *B. microphylla* var. *japonica* 'Morris Midget'. Dwarf boxwoods have an advantage because they do not require pruning in order to keep a proper scale with the container. These plants naturally grow slowly, stay small and possess thick full branchings.

There are many medium sized boxwoods suitable for containers; these include: *B. microphylla* 'John Baldwin', *B. microphylla* var. *japonica* 'Morris Dwarf', *B. sempervirens* 'Graham Blandy', *B. sinica* var. *insularis* 'Justin Brouwers' and 'Tide Hill'.

What is the best container?

In residential situations, there are numerous types of attractive containers to select from. Materials include redwood, oak, fir, cedar, cypress, cast stone and clay. Depending on boxwood selection, the dimensions of the container may vary. Consider using more than one container, or different sizes and types of containers which will highlight the individual characteristics of the boxwood. If the container is to be constructed of wood, there should be 8 to 12 drain holes $\frac{3}{4}$ " in diameter, in the bottom panel. The container should have 1" to 2" legs at the bottom of each corner to allow for water drainage and provide air circulation.

How is the container planted?

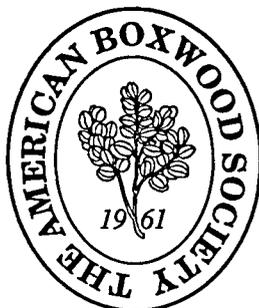
Early spring or mid-fall is the preferred season to plant the container. The soil should be a light, loamy soil mixture with generous portions of humus. Use enough soil so the top of the rootball will be 3" to 4" below the top of the container. Remember that the soil will settle slightly after planting. To compensate for this, the boxwood should be planted slightly higher than the final, desired level. Do not place coarse gravel or rock in the bottom of the container. Gravel in the bottom actually reduces both the area for root growth and drainage.

Before the boxwood is placed in the new container, remove any plastic container or synthetic burlap. Natural burlap can remain around the rootball if loosened at the top. Check the rootball for exposed roots at the edge of the ball. If many are visible, use a soil knife and cut the roots and soil ball in several places. This is necessary to permit the roots to grow into the new soil in the container. After the boxwood has been placed in the container, add soil around the rootball, then water generously. Finally, add 2" mulch to conserve moisture and to reduce soil temperature fluctuations.

Where can I put containerized boxwood?

Containerized specimens are best placed in a site that has some shade, away from strong winds, water dripping from the eaves of the house and where the container will not sit in water. Ideally, the container should be periodically rotated by a half turn to equalize the exposure and keep the plant healthy on all sides. Certainly an important consideration is

(...continued on page 18)



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(A list of Officers and Directors is published at the beginning of each fiscal year.)