

The

JANUARY 1979

Boxwood Bulletin

A QUARTERLY DEVOTED TO MAN'S OLDEST GARDEN ORNAMENTAL



Reynolda's Formal Gardens, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. English Boxwood, bordered by Liriope "Majestic" at the walk. Japanese (red-blossomed) flowering cherries in the left background, flanked with tall Cryptomeria japonica trees to both left and right, in background of picture. In the foreground, on either side are Saucer Magnolias (X Magnolia Soulangeana) in flower.

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The Boxwood Bulletin

January 1979

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EDITOR — MRS. CHARLES H. DICK

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REYNOLDA GARDENS OF WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

Walter S. Flory

The land in these Gardens was transferred to Wake Forest University by the Mary Reynolda Babcock Foundation in four different gifts dating from 1958 through 1964.

Nucleus of the present Reynolda Gardens is a four-acre formal garden designed for Mrs. R. J. Reynolds in the early 1920's. The designer was Thomas W. Sears, landscape architect of Philadelphia. The formal garden is distinguished by stately *Cryptomeria* (Japanese cedars), and fine Japanese weeping cherry trees, the latter bordered by flowering hybrid (*Soulangiana*) magnolia. Old boxwood hedges, extensive *Liriope* borders, *Wisteria* and rose standards, and both shrub and tree peonies are among other features. All are well balanced and in interesting arrangement. Grassed centers are bordered by attractive paving stone walks. Small open garden houses, protecting the tables and chairs beneath their roofs, lend their note of fascination to the design. The accompanying line drawing shows the overall plan of this formal garden.

Originally, only the four acres of the formal garden were included in Reynolda Gardens. Three subsequent gifts of adjacent land areas, however, have resulted in these Gardens having a present extent of about 110 acres. This area is of irregular shape, extending entirely around one plot of extraneous land, and in long, rather narrow, projections in several directions. The Gardens are adjacent to the University campus.

The Garden area offers a variety of environments. Lake Katherine, formed by damming Silas Creek about 1920, originally covered eleven acres. At this writing, the lake has become much decreased in surface area following extensive silting. The silted areas have given rise, among other 'features,' to several acres of cat-tails (*Typha*), which provide cover and at least some food for migrating geese and similar water fowl. In present condition the lake offers several different biological environments and niches of value for education and research studies. Plans are to improve this area esthetically by some dredging, the possible throwing up of an island in the center, the planting of weeping cherry and willow trees on its banks and on the projected island, etc.



Photo: Walter S. Flory
An artist has her class painting the bridge, and dam for Lake Katherine, Reynolda Gardens.

Below the dam which forms Lake Katherine from Silas Creek may be seen an attractive waterfall, produced by the dam, and a pool to which rather steeply sloping banks lead. Plantings which graced these slopes in past years have largely disappeared, but some of these will be replaced with azaleas of various types. The original walks, of rough granite stones, still serve this area. The dam, its waterfall, the slopes and the woods surrounding make a pleasant area of this spot at the present time. Additional color will expand its beauty.

About sixty per cent of the total Garden area is covered by natural woodland. Lake Katherine is surrounded by such woodland along much of its shoreline. Sawdust nature trails, edged with uniform sized "treated" logs, wind from a parking lot through much of the woodland, providing easy and interesting access to a variety of native trees and environments. One of the tributaries to the lake, a small 'run' or creek, forms a shallow ravine in which several different species of ferns grow lushly, and into which such introduced plants as horse-tails and *Shortia* now occur. One of the nature trails closely borders this ravine.

Most kinds of native trees and shrubs along the nature trails have been labeled for easy identification. The common name and also the generic and

specific names are given for the various species. With one type of hanging label the family name is added to the back, for the information of botanists. Trees of the native dogwood, *Cornus florida*, as they occur through the woodlands and along the trails of Reynolda are probably not excelled throughout their natural distribution area for diameter of trunk, overall size, and profuseness of flowering. Seven different species of oak (*Quercus*) and five species of hickory (*Carya*) are present. Other native species of special interest or attractiveness are the sourwood (*Oxydendron arboreum*), the native redbud (*Cersis*), tall and stately tulip trees (*Liriodendron*), the yellow pine — with its bark divided into segments like armored plate, American holly, the Virginia persimmon, and a number of others.

Plantings of hollies grouped according to geographical origin have been arranged along the nature trails. There are several varieties of the English holly, *Ilex aquifolium*, including the species type, and its variety *altaclarensis*. Among the American hollies are *Ilex glabra*, the Inkberry; *I. opaca* together with its varieties Croonenberg, East Palatka, and *fosteri*; *I. verticillata* or Black-Alder; and the Yaupon, *I. vomitoria* and two of its dwarf varieties *compacta* and *nana*. With the Chinese hollies are plants of *I. ciliopinosa*, *I. cornuta*, *I. cornuta burfordi*, *I. cornuta* dwarf, *I. pedunculosa* and *I. pernyi*. The present Japanese holly collection is made up of *Ilex latifolia* plants, and of representatives of *Ilex crenata* and a number of its varieties, including *vompacta*, *convexa*, *fastigiata*, *Helleri*, "Maxwell," *microphylla nigra*, *repandens*, and "Willow Leaf."

Among the exotic plants found on lawns near the nature trails are many mature specimens of deodar (*Cedar deodara*), a large bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*), plants of the smoke tree (*Cotinus coggygia*), the Phoenix-Tree (*Firmiana simplex*), large stately specimens of the glossy evergreen Bull Bay (*Magnolia grandiflora*), of the weeping willow (*Salix Babylonica*), and of the long leafed pine (*Pinus palustris*). The Chinese dogwood, *Cornus Kousa*, may be seen producing its plentiful flowers with characteristic sharp bracts several weeks after the native dogwood bloom is past. Close by are several other dogwood trees with double-bracted 'flowers' of rare beauty.

Another significant area of the Gardens is a rather flat, grassed expanse of about thirty acres which is heavily bordered by woods on one side and lightly bordered by native trees, as well as some exotic plant material on the other. Various additional, mostly exotic, trees and shrubs will be placed in this area for an extension of the natural arboretum of the present woodland areas, and a supplement of them with exotic material. These botanical relationships involved, as well as of the added plants will be placed with thought to the overall landscape effect. A beginning has been made here by placing a number of local white pines

to hide traffic flow areas, and by moving in of a number of trees of *Ginkgo*, as well as plants of such flowering and/or fruiting shrubs and small trees as crab apples, fringe-tree (*Chionanthus*), *Rhododendron rosea* varieties *elegans* and *superbum*, Mountain Ash (*Sorbus*) — both American and European, etc.

Ranged around the high Central Conservatory, which opens into the Formal Gardens, are the greenhouses. These are of the utmost importance to Reynolda for horticultural research. Formerly carried out by individuals, this research has increasingly become the province of the University staff. In two of the large greenhouses, plant propagation and research projects are developed, both for the Gardens and for the University.



Photo: Walter S. Flory
By the Reynolda Gardens Conservatory. A *Buxus sempervirens suffruticosa* border, under Japanese flowering cherries, to the right.

Ample greenhouse facilities are available, immediately adjacent to, and fitting in with, the formal garden area. These are comprised of several ranges of houses, a central high conservatory opening directly into the formal garden, and a head house and service room. Two of the houses are used by the Gardens and by the botany unit at Wake Forest for propagation, research projects, teaching materials, etc. The remainder of the greenhouse complex is used in connection with a commercial florist business.

As Reynolda Gardens has become a vital part of the life of the University and nearby communities, it has continued to grow since its founding a little over a decade ago. At first there was only the four acres of Formal Gardens. Subsequent gifts of adjacent land have resulted in the garden's growth to its present size of more than one hundred acres. Most of this is natural woodlands which now make up about sixty per cent of the total area. Laced with streams and with occasional ponds, the woodlands are a beautiful environmental foil to the formal and research areas.

Further, it was the purpose and the desire of the Grantor that the Gardens enhance the research and educational programs - especially in botany - of Wake Forest University, as well as that "open space areas of pastoral beauty may be maintained in perpetuity within the City of Winston-Salem." These purposes well cover the chief roles of a botanical garden in a present day university — the goals of (1) furthering basic research; (2) aiding university teaching; and (3) not least, that of rendering public service, especially to the constituents of the area. It is believed that Reynolda Gardens are beginning to play a vital role in each of these areas.

In the deed of gift of Reynolds Gardens to Wake Forest it is recognized that "there is an ever-growing need (in Forsyth County) for land areas to be set aside, preserved and enhanced in the beauty of their natural state, which land area can become a refuge for relaxation and contemplation and a haven for reflective outdoor leisure to all mankind." A chief objective is to perpetuate and augment the Gardens with the foregoing statement preeminently in mind.

An included asset which is not part of — but is entirely surrounded by — the Gardens, is Reynolda House. "The Bungalow," as the house was originally called, was designed by Charles Barton Keene of Philadelphia for Richard Joshua Reynolds. Completed in 1917, it was lived in by three generations of the family over a period of fifty years. Reynolda House, Incorporated, now maintains and preserves the house, its furnishings, and a collection of art, for the cultural enjoyment of the public. A modest admission charge is made. Many visitors to Reynolda Gardens also tour Reynolda House.

In addition, the Winston-Salem Nature-Science Center, founded in 1964, is housed in buildings belonging to Wake Forest, and is immediately adjacent to the Gardens. This Science Center offers much of interest pertaining to the animals, the plants, the rocks, and the other natural assets of North Carolina.

The Gardens are open from sunup to sundown the year raound, except in rare times of exceptional snowfall, or of icy conditions. There is no admission charge at the present time. The person in charge may be contacted by calling (919) 725-9711, extension 459.



Photo: Walter S. Flory

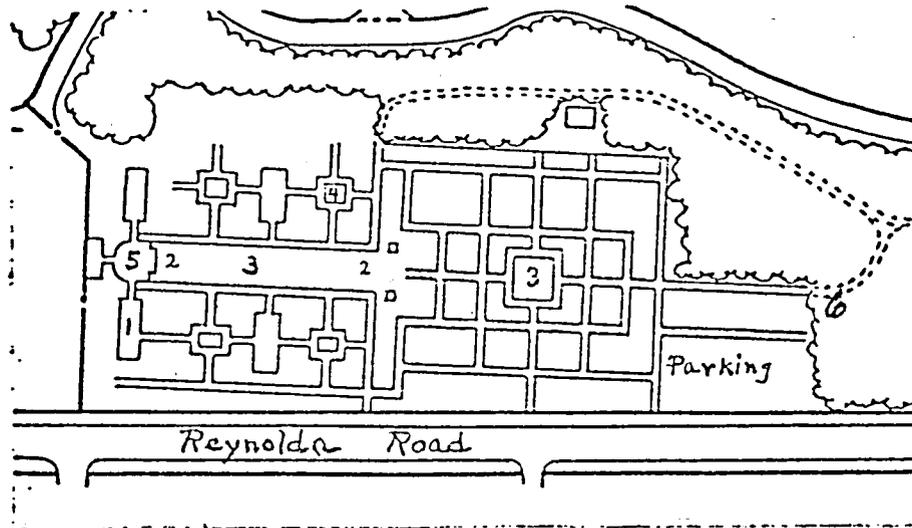
A statue at rest beside pool near Reynolda House.

Society of the Midwest Bulletin

JANE PENHALE and MARY GAMBLE visited Bill and Mary Harrison of Hermann in early summer to see how the beautiful boxwoods of "Harrison's Hill" had come through the past winter. There was some damage, of course, but not enough to be discouraging. Bill, who is a meticulous gardener, had not felt well enough to prune to his satisfaction, but he had the mites under control! He showed us how mites attack new growth and can damage a plant fatally in a very brief time unless the plant is sprayed. Bill recommends Keldane. He also showed us that you need spray no deeper into the plant than new surface growth. He also repeated his advice to us to learn about mite control. "If you don't have 'em yet, you will," he warned us.

Design Plan Of The Formal Garden

REYNOLDA GARDENS



1. Greenhouses
2. **Cryptomeria** avenue
3. Cryptomerias
4. Small garden houses
(pagoda-like "tea rooms")
5. Conservatory
6. Beginning of sawdust Nature Trail

IN MEMORIAM

HELEN HUDSON WHITING

Editor The Boxwood Bulletin 1966 - 1976

Editor Emeritus November 1976 - December 1978

Helen Hudson Whiting's death at 86 is a severe loss of a most valued member of The American Boxwood Society and of the many organizations and friends she cherished. She was fully active in the production of The Boxwood Bulletin for 13 years, 10 of those years as Editor. On November 10, 1976 she resigned because of ill health, and was immediately named Editor Emeritus by the American Boxwood Society Board of Directors.

When she spoke to her class at the time of her 50th class reunion of Oberlin College her own words speak of Mrs. Whiting:

"There is never time enough for all the things I would like to do, but I enjoy what I can, and like the feeling of being still some use in this world."

As Editor, until her retirement in November 1976, she prepared forty-four issues and, from 1963 until she became Editor she assisted in the preparation of twelve other issues.

The fifty six issues of The Boxwood Bulletin are proof of her devotion to the American Boxwood Society. She served as Assistant Editor to Dr. Walter S. Flory and Mrs. Eugene B. Casey and as Co-Editor with Mrs. Chester L. Riley. From 1966 she was named Editor with full responsibility for The Boxwood Bulletin.

Mrs. Whiting had a strong love and sense of the historical beauty of boxwood all over the world. She searched far and wide for articles which would please and educate others about man's oldest ornamental. Many are the lovely box-filled gardens that she gathered between the covers of The Boxwood Bulletin for the enjoyment of the American Boxwood Society members and their friends.

During Mrs. Whiting's editorship she maintained a balance between original articles and equally valuable reprints of material first published elsewhere. Also, there was a balance between exper-

enced advice on boxwood culture for the more serious boxwood enthusiast and for the beginning grower. Many of the scientific articles that have appeared are extremely valuable reference material.

The pictures accompanying many articles depict beautiful and unusual gardens throughout the world, and present details of the use of boxwood in garden designs. Among the pictured gardens are historical gardens of our country as well as some international gardens.

Mrs. Whiting was ever alert when it came to seeking material for The Boxwood Bulletin. When it was announced in 1970 that Dr. Henry T. Skinner, of the National Arboretum in Washington, D. C., would be attending an International Conference in Tel Aviv, Israel, she wrote Dr. Skinner, asking that he provide the Bulletin with a story on boxwood gardens in Israel. In response there appeared in the January 1971 issue, Vol. 10, No. 3, an article Dr. Skinner entitled "A Boxwood Grows In Israel".

Mrs. Whiting will long be remembered for her prize winning needlework which include the needlepoint seat on the Bishop's Chair in Christ Episcopal Church in Winchester, Va., and a kneeler done upon request for The National Cathedral, Washington, D. C.

At the age of 66 she was appointed to the Handley Library Board. In the Library she helped with every project from book sales, pasting labels, cleaning shelves of obsolete materials, to state library conferences, to being a strong voice in support of the value of the Library. She often spoke of the moves she made with her career army husband, and that the first place she sought for herself and her children was the library.

Her Clifford Street neighbors will forever be in her debt for the epic fight she waged to retain the residential atmosphere of their neighborhood when they stood off those who wanted to rezone the area for doctor's offices.

She was a charter member of the Winchester-Frederick Historical Society. A living memorial of a row of boxwood stands in the front of "Abrams Delight", the earliest historical home in Winchester. It was through her efforts that plantings were preserved or replanted on historic sites as "Abrams Delight".

Mrs. Whiting was honored with the naming of a *compacta* cultivar for her. Dr. J. T. Baldwin, Jr., announced in April 1974 that he had propagated a sport of *Buxus microphylla var. compacta* which he had named "Helen Whiting", and would register as a new cultivar.

Upon her retirement as Editor The American Boxwood Society honored her at the 17th Annual Meeting with a bound collection of all past issues of The Boxwood Bulletin along with a polished boxwood trivet.

Mrs. Whiting was born March 22, 1892 in Pitts-

burgh, Pa., a daughter of the late James and Ina Burt Hudson.

Her husband, Edgar Mason Whiting, Sr., preceded her in death in 1938.

Surviving are one daughter, Mrs. Meta W. Lytle of Seattle, Wash.; six sons, Carlyle F. Whiting of Rochester, N. Y., Henry H. Whiting of Winchester, Edgar M. Whiting, Jr., of Charles Town, W. Va., William H. Whiting of Washington, D. C., James H. Whiting of Richmond, and Francis B. Whiting of Norfolk. 18 grand children and 7 great-grandchildren. One son, Richard D. Whiting preceded her in death in 1949.

She was interred at Ivy Hill Cemetery, Alexandria.

A donation was made to the Helen Whiting Library Book Fund by the American Boxwood Society, and Mr. Richard Miller, Librarian, informed the ABS that there would be a small boxwood garden planted in the Library area in her memory.

Following are some letters from our files which are indicative of her activities in the American Boxwood Society and as Editor of the Boxwood Bulletin.



Photo by Hank Ebert

Helen Whiting, left, receives a book dedicated to her on behalf of the American Boxwood Society from Albert Beecher, right, of Blacksburg, President of the Society. A special meeting of the Boxwood Society was held Wednesday at Blandy Experimental Farm at Boyce with Tom Ewert, director of Blandy.

Letters To And From Mrs. Whiting

October 25, 1965

November 15, 1966

Dear Mrs. Whiting,

I am delighted with the Bulletin. It came this morning, and I have gone through it rather thoroughly. You did a superb job of laying it out and of catching the errors and of getting it in the mails on time. The Society should be especially proud of this number, though for some of the membership it will be fairly technical.

As I indicated earlier, I would like twenty copies for which I shall send a check

Now, for you, the next number. Editing is like washing dishes: endless. I don't think I should send in material too frequently, but whenever you are short please let me know; I think I can usually get together a page or so.

It has been a pleasure to work with you on this special number.

Sincerely yours,
J. T. Baldwin, Jr.

Mr. H. T. Woodland
Middleburg, Virginia
Dear Mr. Woodland:

On behalf of the American Boxwood Society, I wish to thank you for the brilliant and scholarly job you have done in compiling the INDEX of the first 20 issues of the Boxwood Bulletin.

Under the inspired editorship of Mrs. Whiting, the Bulletin has become an important part of current horticultural literature. Your compilation of the Index has added greatly to the stature and the value of the Bulletin.

Our sincere thanks.
Neill, Phillips, President
American Boxwood Society

CC: Officers, Directors, Advisory Board

THE BOXWOOD BULLETIN

Official Publication of The
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BOYCE, VIRGINIA

July 22, 1966

Dear Dr. Baldwin,

I have sent the October 1965 Bulletin to Drs. Fernandes, Howard and Phillips. Did you want me to send one to Dr. Matusima? Your letter to him sounded as if you had sent it yourself, but I can send one if you did not. I hope they will contribute, it would add variety and international flavor.

Thank you for the "Aristocrat" article and the handsome photograph, and also for starting an investigation on the columnar box. It must have been Mr. Crabill who gave me the kodak pictures at the meeting. I have the cuts, which I held out of the July issue (promised to be out this week), and when we get some information on it as I hope we will, it ought to make an interesting feature. The unusual shape would make it an especially useful plant for a garden needing vertical accents, or where space was restricted so that a spreading plant would overflow it.

I am always thanking you for the trouble you take for the Bulletin; you may get tired of being thanked, but you do go on helping, so thank you again.

Sincerely,
Helen Whiting

COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

Founded in 1693

WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA 23185

August 29, 1968

Dear Mrs. Whiting,

I always marvel at the boxwood Bulletins that you put together, and the one that just came is a credit to your imagination and energy.

I wonder who introduced you to Vernon Quinn: I had never heard of her. The section reprinted is most appropriate.

I shall write Vida Kenk in a few days, but I can not promise quick delivery of her heraldic piece — though I know that both she and her mother have given it attention.

I hope that I shall have a few ideas for the Bulletin, but at the moment I have nothing in mind.

My best wishes, as always.

Sincerely,
J. T. Baldwin, Jr.

November 15, 1966

Mrs. Edgar M. Whiting
415 West Clifford Street
Winchester, Virginia 22601

Dear Mrs. Whiting:

Again let me thank you and compliment you on the high quality of the latest edition of the A.B.S. Bulletin, October, 1966.

You invariably combine erudition, great technical ability (such matters as typography and proof-reading, etc.) and a wide range of interests; both scientific and for the layman. Although you are a stickler for scientific accuracy, a quality that contributes so much to the professional standing of the Bulletin, at the same time your presentation is never dry-as-dust. You are not afraid to make the Bulletin urbane, sophisticated, and interesting. Its value under your editorship is the principal reason for the continuous increase of the A.B.S. membership; both in quantity and in quality.

Yours sincerely and
with deep thanks,
Neill Phillips, President
American Boxwood Society

CC: Officers, Directors, Advisory Board

P. S. In October, I was asked by Mrs. Johnson to represent her on behalf of her Beautification Program, at the convention of the American Institute of Landscape Architects at their 3-day meeting at Hershey, Pennsylvania. You would be very much pleased if you had heard all the things people at this distinguished gathering said about the A.B.S. Bulletin.

N. F.

November 21, 1968

Rear Admiral Neill Phillips
"Heronwood"
Upperville, Virginia 22176

Dear Neill:

Mrs. Whiting has, in my opinion, produced another outstanding number of *The Boxwood Bulletin*. She does a marvelous job, and she is wonderful to work with.

I hope that you will again appoint her as a delegate to the Garden Symposium; she thoroughly enjoyed her last visit, and I am confident that she would like to come again in 1969. The Society can not possibly pay Mrs. Whiting what she is worth; she, as you know, takes great pride in the Society and in the *Bulletin* and gives them an inordinate portion of her time. That she enjoys doing these things is beside the point.

I have a number of articles in mind for the *Bulletin* and will in due time get them done. A paper on Korean box has taken a number of different turns, but I think that at last I know the story rather well. *The American Nurseryman* wants it too: wherever it is first appears, the other journal will reprint it.

I send my best wishes.

Sincerely,ff
J. T. Baldwin, Jr.

AMERICAN BOXWOOD SOCIETY
BOYCE, VIRGINIA 22620

Mrs. Edgar M. Whiting
Editor
415 West Clifford Street
Winchester, Virginia 22601

Dear Dr. Baldwin,

Twenty minutes after I talked with you on the telephone, the postman brought your letter with the pictures and corrected article. The new postal service does seem to be speeding things up.

Thank you for correcting the article. I will try to remember to spell out "foot" and "inch" in the future; it does read more easily and is less apt to be misunderstood.

The only disagreement I might have is about the word "vagaries", which seems to me to express the sudden and unpredictable changes in western rivers better than "meandering", which means the slow easy curves of a river bed in very flat country. (From the river Meander, on the plains of Troy.) With your permission, we'll keep "vagaries".

Best regards,

Sincerely,
Helen Whiting

November 9, 1970

Dear Mrs. Gamble,

I thank you for the *Bulletin* that just came, and I want to congratulate you on your excellent paper on box. And I thank you too for the color photograph of 'Agram'.

Surely, you are making good progress with your memorial garden. I shall want to see it in a few years.

I am glad you appreciate Mrs. Whiting's work with the *Boxwood Bulletin*; she is a marvel. In fact, my estimate is that the *Bulletin* has survived largely because of her.

I send you my best wishes.

Sincerely,
J. T. Baldwin, Jr.

NEW CULTIVARS OF THE BUXUS MICROPHYLLA COMPLEX

"Helen Whiting"

J. T. Baldwin, Jr.

1. Published as found in a first draft prepared by Doctor Baldwin in July of 1973. Footnotes and figure legends were added.

The Boxwood Bulletin

January 1976



Photograph, Lyle Rosbotham, 1973

Buxus microphylla Sieb. & Zucc. var. *Compacta* Henry Hohman, 'Helen Whiting' J. T. Baldwin, Jr.

Sixty years ago Mr. Sam Appleby grew boxwood seedlings near Baltimore, Maryland. When Mr. Appleby died in the 1920s, Henry J. Hohman, Kingsville Nurseries, Kingsville, Maryland, bought some of the seedlings and began propagating them. One of the most interesting of all boxwoods was among those plants: it originated in 1912 and came to be known as *compacta*, The Kingsville Dwarf Boxwood. At the suggestion of Donald Wyman of The Arnold Arboretum and with a description by Alfred Rehder, "very compact depressed globose shrub broader than high, the original plant reaching in 25 years, the height of only 10 inches by 19 inches in width," Hohman in 1937 named the plant *compacta* and released it to the trade. This variety of *Buxus microphylla* is now a most significant cultivar.

In 1948 I obtained for the College of William and Mary ten seven-year-old plants: at thirty-one years they are 13 inches tall and 20 inches wide. With too much sun they become bronzed; the stems are exceedingly brittle and easily break; sports occur with amazing frequency and variety and are often so vigorous that they "take-over" the parent and, utilizing the established root system, grow rapidly. That some of the sports fall within the phenotypic range of *Buxus microphylla sinensis* suggests some relationship to that plant. The variety of sports is evidence that *compacta* is a complex periclinal chimera. And the sports themselves sometimes sport. So Mr. Appleby's seedling is a rich source of cultivars.

The most striking sport of *compacta* now in the trade is 'Curly Locks', a Hohman introduction that all lovers of box cherish. Though *compacta* itself does not flower, 'Curly Locks' flowers and fruits profusely but with seed approaching one hundred per cent in abortiveness. I have succeeded in growing two seedlings: one of them, worthless; the other, a most distinctive and valuable plant that I here name 'Locket.'

This plant is now eighteen years old and is fruiting; it is 44 inches tall, 22 inches wide (Fig.). I am hopeful that some of the seed just harvested (July 23, 1973) will germinate. The foliage of 'Locket' is delicate and light green — vastly different from that of any other box that I know. The leaves are narrowly lanceolate (maximum length, $\frac{3}{4}$ inches) with acuminate bases and acute tips. The tips are usually yellowish, perhaps a nutritional condition rather than a genetic one.

Another sport of *compacta*, of 1960 origin, I designate 'Helen Whiting' in recognition of the dedicated editor of The Boxwood Bulletin. This sport, which has not fruited, is 42 inches tall and 63 inches broad as of July 23, 1973. I sacrificed the parent for the much more rapidly growing sport (Fig. 2). The leaves are light green and are lanceolate (maximum length ca. $\frac{3}{4}$ inches) with acuminate bases and tips, which, on occasion, are somewhat cuspidate. This plant, I am confident, will become a much-used cultivar.

American Boxwood Society

January 24, 1979

Word has been received at the Society's headquarters of the death of three of our members:

Mr. David E. Finley
3318 O. Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20007

Mr. A. L. McKnight
8009 Staples Mill Road
Richmond, Va. 23214

Mrs. E. M. Whiting
415 W. Clifford Street
Winchester, Va. 22601

Our deepest sympathy and condolences to their families and friends.

HE'S NEVER LOST A BOXWOOD!

Mary A. Gamble

Richard Buckman, who teaches ceramics at the St. Louis Community College in Florissant, Missouri, is, in his spare time, building a boxwood garden. He has been working at it for five years or more. He has set out — and usually has dug — every boxwood on his grounds. He has never lost a plant.

His success is no accident. Trained in his profession to be a meticulous craftsman, he applies the same care to his gardening. He has a superb vegetable garden which he has designed with both utility and good looks in mind; and he is accumulating a collection of boxwoods which are outstanding in their vigor. He says it all begins with proper planting.

In June 1978 we watched him at work as he prepared to move a number of surplus plants from the nursery maintained at the Missouri Botanical Garden by the Boxwood Society of the Midwest. The plants were an unnamed cultivar of *Buxus sempervirens* which would not be needed for the Edgar Anderson Memorial Boxwood Garden when it is installed at the Missouri Botanical Garden in Saint Louis, Missouri.

Before he left home Buckman had prepared the ground where the plants would be placed. He had spaded and turned it over, worked in cool compost, and reduced any clumps of earth to friable soil. Never use hot or working compost as it will burn the tender feeder roots, he pointed out; and never leave big hunks of soil as they may cause air pockets around the roots. He prepares the soil but he doesn't dig the holes for the plants in advance. Experience has taught him that it is impossible to prejudge the size of the root ball, and also that it takes only a few minutes to dig the right sized hole in ground that has been prepared properly.

He prefers to plant in early morning or late evening so as to avoid the hot sun. If some delay is necessary — and he thinks you should not go beyond a day or so — he sets the balled plant in the shade and spreads more burlap over the ball. He then sprinkles the plant lightly with water, being careful not to soak the ball as that may cause it to fall apart.

Back to digging.

The first thing Buckman did was to clean his already immaculate tools — one long, narrow spade and one wedge-shaped spade, the latter convenient for handling smaller plants. Clean, sharp tools do the best job, he commented. He then took a pair of hedge clippers and cut back all the plants he intended to move. He pruned quickly, removing uneven growth and shaping the plant roughly. This, he said, gave him an accurate measure of the plant's true perimeter.

His next step was to examine the base of the plant to determine the location of the main stem. This told him where to make his thrust into the soil around the base of the plant. If you just dig around the plant without locating the main stem, he pointed out, you easily can end up with a lopsided ball. The main stem should be centered in the ball.



Photo by Mary A. Gamble

Buckman, having located main stem of plant, uses long, narrow spade to make first of two deep encircling cuts.

When you have centered the trunk, he continued, take (for a medium-sized plant) your long, slim spade and go around the perimeter of the plant to outline the ball. Insert the spade at an inward angle of about 30 degrees. Never make a second cut following the line of the first. Loosen the soil as you cut. If you meet resistance, dig a little deeper to avoid injury to the tap root. And never stresses Buckman, *never* sacrifice the ball for something a little easier.



Photo: Mary A. Gamble

Completion of second encircling cut leaves ball free of surrounding soil. Note inward slant of ball.

Now, lift out the plant with ball which should, if you dug deeply enough, remain intact. Place it on the burlap which you have prepared. Buckman usually uses a square but sometimes has a bag which can be ripped down one side to make a sort of basket or sling. He pulls the burlap up around the ball and crosses the ends over. He then wraps them around the stem trying to make a collar. If it is necessary to use cord to fasten the collar, he makes sure the cord is not in contact with the bark as it may injure or break it. He wraps the cord firmly but not tightly around the ball to make it more secure. The plant is now ready to be set in place.

The hole for the plant should be four to five inches wider than the ball and slightly deeper. Buckman fills the bottom of the hole to about one-



Photo: Mary A. Gamble

Ball is centered on burlap square. Opposite corners are pulled to main stem and wrapped to form collar.



Photo: Mary A. Gamble

Ball is crisscrossed lightly but firmly with twine to secure burlap. Balled plant weighed about 70 pounds.

quarter its depth with a mixture of cool compost (he suggests peat moss if compost is not available) and loose soil. After loosening the burlap and

lifting the plant from it, he gets the pants in the hole which he then fills halfway with more loose soil. This will allow the roots to spread and grow. He then fills the hole with water which he lets soak in. When the water has sunk about halfway he adds still more loose soil to bring it level with the top of the ball. He then uses excess soil to make a well around the perimeter of the plant. For follow-up care, Buckman soaks a plant when needed. He does not feed until the second or third year after planting.

Is it any wonder his boxwoods prosper?

Note:

*We noted in the July 1978 Boxwood Society Bulletin (page 2) that "The planting or moving of boxwoods is best accomplished in late fall before the ground freezes." We accept this as good practice for Virginia and the Tidewater Country in general. But in Missouri our experience has been that our losses are appreciably higher from fall planting than from spring. This has been exceptionally evident following our recent severe winters. Only when we have a mild winter followed by a benign spring do we feel confident with fall planting. And since this is necessarily retroactive, we urge gardeners in the Midwest to take the safer course and plant in the spring (in March or April, if possible) and thus give their boxwood time to establish itself before winter sets in.

Society of the Midwest Bulletin

THE 1978 ANNUAL FIELD TRIP of the Boxwood Society of the Midwest took the form of a delightful neighborhood walk in Ferguson. The date was Saturday, September 30. The weather was variable, cool following a late night rain. The autumn sun broke through scattered clouds as a light wind continued. In short, it was a perfect day to walk through four neighboring gardens in which boxwood is used to enhance a wide range of plant materials from groundcovers through ornamental perennials and annuals to vegetables.

Jane and George Penhale and Claude Badeusz, all charter members of the Society, were our hosts at a mid-morning "coffee" held at the Penhale's home. About 20 Society members and other boxwood enthusiasts came for the walk. We began at the Penhales where all were especially interested in seeing the site of the Penhale's future boxwood garden for which they are assembling plants in their nursery area. They expect to start planting next spring.

The next two gardens are in a row with the Penhale's. The fourth garden was that of Richard Buckman whose planting technique is described in this issue. The only planting more impressive in his garden than his boxwoods was his vegetable garden. "We never buy a vegetable," he said; and he still has yet to lose a boxwood. Together, these four gardens afford an inspiring illustration of what good gardeners mean to a neighborhood, and of what boxwood means to a garden.

MAILBOX

Mrs. Charles H. Dick, Editor
The Boxwood Bulletin
514 Amherst Street
Winchester, Va. 22601
Dear Mrs. Dick:

After reading Harrison Symmes' article in the October Bulletin, I was compelled to make some notes as a sort of follow-up comment.

MORE ON WINTER DESSICATION

Ambassador Symmes' thorough and most pertinent review in the October 1978 Boxwood Bulletin is recommended reading for all growers of boxwood. Most evergreens and broadleaf species in particular are prone to foliage discoloration during the winter season when growing in direct sun. In the case of boxwood, this condition, unless unusually severe, is more a cosmetic problem than a source of major damage. On the other hand, stem and bark splitting that can occur when plants are not tremely damaging to boxwood and can be fatal to smaller single-stem specimens. Therefore, it is most unwise to take extreme measures aimed at avoiding winter bronzing, if such measures could encourage active top growth during the winter.

On two occasions I have used antitranspirants on English boxwood in nursery fields, with the object of reducing winter injury caused by dessication. The second and last trial was done on October 25, 1975 and, for comparison, two rows were not treated. No effects of spraying, either good or bad, were observed after both tests. I certainly do not recommend this practice as winter protection, exactly for the reasons stressed by Mr. Symmes.

I do find antitranspirants useful for two other purposes. Boxwood clippings taken for use in Christmas decorations are more glossy and last longer indoors if coated. The spraying of B&B nursery plants dug for sale is probably worthwhile as insurance against subsequent improper handling.

For the past five years and for reasons unrelated to winter injury, I have spread pulverized dolomitic (high magnesia) limestone on all boxwood nursery fields, at some convenient time between December and March. Since then, the incidence of winter bronzing on healthy plants growing in full sun has dropped significantly. Such winter damage was minimal in early 1977 and not a single plant had bronzed foliage in the spring of 1978. This rather subjective observation is offered for information only, without implying any rationalization or firm conclusion.

In closing, I wish to state my strong personal objection to the use of fall fertilization as a measure to avoid winter foliage dis-coloration in broadleaf evergreens. Although a desirable and possibly necessary technique in nursery container production, I believe it requires too much skill and luck for application to landscape plantings. Too much available nitrogen at the wrong time in late fall is almost certain to insure stem and bark splitting during a sudden deep freeze — a form of winter damage more disastrous to boxwood than almost any degree of winter dessication. For plants growing in full sun, it is better to enjoy the bronze foliage than to engage in a two or three year program of major surgery.

Very truly yours,
William A. Gray
Brecknock Nursery
Charlottesville, Va.
November 1978

MINUTES:

A. B. S. BOARD MEETING

Oct. 3, 1978

The Fall Board of Director's Meeting of the American Boxwood Society was held Oct. 3, 1978 at Mount Vernon. Officers and Directors in attendance included: Prof. and Mrs. Beecher, Mr. Mahone, Dr. Speese, Dr. and Mrs. Skinner, Mr. Hallowell, Mr. Symmes, Mrs. Dick, and Mr. Ewert.

The meeting was called to order by President Beecher who thanked Ambassador Symmes for his generous hospitality in providing the Board with such delightful accommodations in which to hold their Fall Meeting. Pres. Beecher then welcomed Mr. H. Thomas Hallowell to the Board. Mr. Hallowell was elected to the Board at the May 1978 Annual Meeting.

Mr. Ewert was asked to read Mrs. Jones' Secretary's Report and Mrs. Ewert's Treasurer's Report, since they were unable to attend the Meeting. Questions from Dr. Skinner concerning to what extent contributions received for Research had been expended and concerning the cost of producing the Bulletin, as well as a question from Mr. Hallowell concerning the Societies current situation in regards to receipts vs. disbursements were answered by Mr. Ewert to the extent possible based on the information at his disposal in terms of the Treasurer's Report. He said he would relay these questions to Mrs. Ewert so that they could be discussed in more detail at the next Board Meeting. (Copies of the Secretary's Report and the Treasurer's Report appear at the end of these Minutes.)

Prof. Beecher called for a report on the 1978 A.B.S. Tour which was held May 14-15, 1978. Mr. Ewert said that the Tour had been put together by Mrs. Ewert working from Virginia with a great deal of help and cooperation from Mr. Hallowell in the Philadelphia area. He said he could see the tremendous amount of work which went into the project on the part of both of the organizers. He said, speaking for Mrs. Ewert, the work was justified by the fun everyone seemed to have, and that he, personally, would add that he felt the Tour was 100% successful. Mr. Hallowell said he thought that Mrs. Ewert had done a great job, and then, Mrs. Dick, who had taken part in the Tour and had reported on it for the Bulletin, expressed her feelings about the Tour and related some of the highlights which she particularly enjoyed.

Mr. Symmes noted the apparent good health of the boxwood in the Delaware-Pennsylvania area, and wondered if the Society shouldn't encourage membership and possibly research in that area.

The subject of a 1979 Tour was introduced for discussion. It was noted that having an ambitious, competent individual, familiar with the area chosen, and willing to act as liaison for the Tour Committee, was essential for developing a successful Tour. (This was the role which Mr. Hallowell so ably handled for the 1978 Tour.) During a discussion concerning the difficulty in finding such an individual, Mr. Hallowell suggested a local garden club might be encouraged to serve in that capacity since they are usually proud of their community, and knowledgeable about the existing gardens. Mr. Mahone suggested the Eastern Shore of Maryland as a site for the Tour; Mr. Symmes mentioned the Tidewater Inn might be considered as a Meeting Center. He also suggested that a trip to Delaware and the Brandywine Valley be considered for the future.

Mr. Mahone made the motion to ask Kay Ewert to assume the role of Tour Leader and give her the authorization to form a Committee. Mr. Symmes seconded the motion, which was unanimously accepted. Mr. Ewert said he would take the request of the Board to his wife.

Mr. Ewert reported on the Society's participation in the 1978 Metropolitan Horticulture Show where a combined ABS/Blandy exhibit was on display. Prof. Beecher served on the VPI panel of experts who fielded questions during the Show. Mr. Symmes asked about the possibility of the Society taking part in the Spring Flower Show in Washington.

Prof. Beecher reported on the Boxwood Workshops scheduled for Oct. 10, Oct. 11, and Nov. 1, 1978. Mr. Mahone suggested that the Workshops might be excellent places to publicize the Tour.

Mr. Symmes asked where questions about Boxwood should be sent. Prof. Beecher said questions could be sent to ABS Headquarters at Blandy and they would then be channeled to the appropriate person for answering, or they could be sent to the Extension Service. Mr. Symmes suggested that we might follow up on questions from non-members by sending them information about membership in the Society.

A report on the progress of the Memorial Garden was given by Mr. Ewert who said the Garden had been re-mulched over the summer and that the plants had been sprayed with insecticides at the appropriate times. He said most of the cuttings which had been received from the National Arboretum and Colonial Williamsburg had rooted, and he solicited suggestions from the Board as to how to handle the small rooted cuttings from the time they can be taken from the mist bench until they are large enough to be set in place in the Garden. The Board generally agreed it would be easiest to set them out in nursery rows temporarily rather than handle them as container stock, and most felt the small plants would look out of place if they were set directly in their permanent location in the Memorial Garden at this time.

The mention of the additional varieties for the Garden led to the subject of Registration, and Dr. Speese reported on the work she is doing. Mrs. Dick said she is working with Dr. Speese on stories for the Bulletin which will help the membership understand the problems of Boxwood nomenclature and registration.

Mr. Symmes reported that he had talked with Mrs. Kenneth Gilpin, Sr., and later with Mr. and Mrs. Richard Plater concerning a Memorial for Admiral Phillips. He said one consideration was to purchase a piece of topiary from the Admiral's collection, but he said he had checked with the new owners of Heronwood who told him most everything from the Admiral's nursery had been sold or moved.

Mrs. Dick reported on her activities as Editor and Mr. Symmes praised Mrs. Dick on the job she is doing with the Bulletin. His comments were strongly supported by the rest of the members of the Board.

Prof. Beecher reported on the VPI & SU Special Committee which studied the question of the existence of "Boxwood Decline". Mr. Mahone gave his observations as a member of the Committee, and the Board was given copies of the correspondence which was produced by the Committee.

Prof. Beecher brought to the Board's attention a proposal which had been submitted to the ABS by Dr. Robert Lambe for funding of a project to be undertaken by the VPI Pathology Dept. The Board discussed many of the possible areas where Research is needed, and decided more study should be made of the potentials before they could recommend funding in any specific area. It was suggested that letters be written to Dr. McCombs of the Horticulture Dept. at VPI encouraging more Research in his Dept. on Boxwood and their culture.

Prof. Beecher then opened discussion on the establishment of several Special Committees which were proposed by the Executive Committee. The proposed Committees are as follow:

Membership — Harrison Symmes
Nominating — Ralph Singleton
Research — Alden Eaton & Henry Skinner
Education & Publicity — Albert S. Beecher
Memorial Boxwood Garden — Richard Mahone
Boxwood Registration — Bernice Speese
Finance — Thomas Hallowell
Hospitality — Kay Ewert
The Boxwood Bulletin — Tom Ewert

Mr. Symmes strongly agreed with the proposal and said he would continue to work privately to encourage new memberships, and if the Directors agreed with the overall committee approach, he would be pleased to work with the Membership Committee. The Board suggested an additional committee be established — a Boxwood Manual Committee.

Mr. Symmes made a motion to authorize the President to establish the proposed committees. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ewert, and unanimously approved by the Board.

Prof. Beecher asked for opinions on the subject of imposing a registration fee for the Annual Meeting. It was noted that in the past, the Society had been unable to reimburse the fine speakers at the Annual Meetings for their expenses, and that a small registration fee would enable them to at least pay for the speakers expenses and provide them with lunch. Mr. Symmes and Mr. Hallowell expressed the opinion that they felt this was justified. The Board left the matter for more consideration.

The President reminded the Board that the Spring Board Meeting would be held at Blandy in March, and the Annual Meeting will be in May. He again thanked Mr. Symmes for his hospitality.

The Meeting was adjourned and the Board was invited to take part in a special tour of the Main House and Gardens which was provided by the staff of Mount Vernon.

Society of the Midwest Bulletin

MARY LANSING set four small plants of *Buxus sempervirens* 'Herman von Schrenk' on the east side of her house where they received morning sun and considerable shade. She set four more in open garden area which serves as a nursery. Those by the house did appreciably better so she moved the others to that location. All eight plants are now doing well. Mary thinks the sun may have been too intense for small plants in the nursery area.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT TO THE
FALL BOARD MEETING OF
THE AMERICAN BOXWOOD SOCIETY**

October 3, 1978

This past Spring and Summer of 1978 numerous ABS members attended and participated in the following activities:

The Spring Garden Tour to Philadelphia. The trip was a success financially and was enjoyed by everyone. Mrs. Dick submitted a lovely account of the tour activities which was published in the July Bulletin.

On behalf of the Society, Tom Ewert took our traveling exhibit to the Metropolitan Horticulture Show at Montgomery Mall (Montgomery County Maryland) in August. The exhibit was manned by Tom Ewert and members of the Blandy Staff. A similar exhibit was on display at the Winchester (Va.) Flower Show.

On September 21, President Albert S. Beecher and Tom Ewert attended a Workshop at the National Arboretum on behalf of the Society.

ABS members whose dues are in arrears will be contacted by letter in October for payment. Failure to respond will result in cancellations of said members.

Since May 1978, we have increased the membership with 67 new members. (50 new regular members; 8 new contributing members; 2 new sustaining members; and 7 new Life members)

Contributors to date to the Admiral Neill Phillips Memorial Fund are as follows: Mrs. Duncan H. Read, John A. Brass, Mrs. Forrest E. Mars, Mary Taylor Robertson, Harrison Symmes, and Mrs. Alice S. Achison. A Committee is studying potential ideas for a fitting memorial.

Workshop preparations are underway for Oct. 10 at Blandy Experimental Farm (Boyce), Oct. 11 at Gunston Hall (Fairfax) and Nov. 1 at James City County (Williamsburg).

A special thanks is to be extended to President Albert S. Beecher and Tom Hallowell for all of their co-operation and kindness in preparation for the Garden Tour.

Respectfully submitted,
Executive Staff
Linda G. Jones and
Kathryn M. Ewert

AMERICAN BOXWOOD SOCIETY

Treasurer's Report — Fall Board Meeting

October 3, 1978

<i>Checking Balance</i>	April 29, 1978	\$1,051.49
<i>Receipts</i>		
Memberships	2,996.50	
Bulletin Sales	325.75	
Gifts and Donations	701.00	
Annual Meeting		
Luncheon	163.00	
ABS Spring Garden		
Tour	1,250.00	
Memorial Fund		
(Amiral Phillips)	225.00	5,661.75
<i>Total Funds Accountable</i>		\$6,713.24
<i>Disbursements</i>		
The Boxwood Bulletin		
Printing	1,394.00	
Cuts	169.50	
Copies	.30	
Copyrights	48.00	
Photos	27.34	
Envelopes	139.70	\$1,778.84
Stamps	35.00	
Telephone	33.27	
Mail Box Rent	8.00	
Safe Deposit Rent	8.50	
Filing Fees	13.00	
President's Expenses	25.00	
Editor's Expenses	50.75	
Executive Treasurer	106.50	
Executive Secretary	21.00	
Annual Meeting	108.72	
ABS Spring Garden		
Tour	1,606.64	2,016.38
<i>Total Expenditures</i>		\$3,795.22
<i>Balance in Checking Account</i>		
	October 3, 1978	\$2,918.02
Savings Account		2,171.77
Certificate of Deposit		4,146.32
<i>Total Assets</i>	October 3, 1978	\$9,236.11

All accounts are deposited in the Farmers and Merchants National Bank, Berryville, Va.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathryn M. Ewert
Treasurer, ABS

DAWN REDWOOD PLANT WITH MYSTERIOUS BACKGROUND

By THOMAS EWERT

Few people would deny the importance of plants in our daily lives. It is common knowledge that without plants, this world, as we know it, would not exist.

Some people are keenly interested in plants and spend much of their time planting, caring for, or studying plants and their environment. Others go about their lives with nary a thought about the "world of green" around us.

The intention of those articles is to point out a few of the many, varied facets of the world of plants. The plants featured each month can be seen growing on the grounds of the Orland E. White Arboretum at the Blandy Experimental Farm in Boyce.

Readers are encouraged to come out and see the plants so that they may become more aware of the "world of green" around them.

The featured plant this month is the Dawn Redwood, *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*. This is a plant with a mysterious background. Fossil remains pointed to the existence of a plant much like the Sequoia. From these remains, scientists surmised the existence of a Sequoia-like plant which they named *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*.

The plant was thought to be extinct. Then in the early 1940's, in the Szechwan region of China, at an Altitude of about 3500 feet, a number of living *Metasequoias* were found. The people of the region used the trees to feed their cattle.

Specimens were studied extensively and it was determined that the trees were, in fact, living examples of *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*. Later in that decade seed was brought from China to the Arnold Arboretum in the United States. From the Arnold Arboretum, plants and seeds were widely distributed.

Metasequoia glyptostroboides, or Dawn Redwood as it is commonly called, has therefore only been growing in the U.S. for about 30 years. Already there are specimens well over 50 feet in height. (One individual which was observed grew to a height of 50 feet in 15 years from seed.)

A member of the family Taxodiaceae, the Dawn Redwood is a deciduous tree. Its leaves are soft textured and lacy in appearance; green in summer, they progress through subtle changes from creamy orange to amber before falling from the plant in the fall.

Possibly because of the tenderness of the leaves, the Japanese Beetles are fond of the plant and the trees should be sprayed if a build up of this pest on the leaves is observed.

Winter hardiness does not seem to be a problem. The young plants at Blandy came through last winter in good condition.

The form of the trees as it grows in the United States is pyramidal. The older specimens, growing in their natural habitat, are more open at the top. This is probably indicative of the trees mature shape.

The bark is reddish orange when young, becoming more gray on older branches. The base of the trunk tends to enlarge as the plant gets older and the gnarled appearance at the base gives the trunk a certain character which makes the tree look older than it really is.

The cultivar *Metasequoia glyptostroboides* cv. National was selected from a group of 200 seedlings grown at the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington, D. C. It was chosen for its narrow-pyramidal habit.

The Dawn Redwood can be easily propagated from seed or cuttings.

Although it has a fine texture, it is too large a tree for many home landscape situations. Given a place where it has room to grow, it is an excellent selection. A particularly beautiful way to display the Dawn Redwood is a grove planting. This can be seen at the U.S. National Arboretum where they have planted clusters of 20 to 25 trees in naturalistic settings.

SPRING IS DELIGHTFUL IN VIRGINIA

by

Charlotte Taylor Massie

Historic Garden Week

Spring comes to Virginia with almost overwhelming beauty. In April its hills and meadows suddenly brighten with swirls of colorful wildflowers. Surrounded by lush green carpets, the patches of yellow, pink and blue are shaded by flaming redbud trees and flowering dogwood. There is probably no other spot in the country where such a lavish display of springtime beauty occurs simultaneously with the coming of soft spring traveling days.

Historic Garden Week in Virginia reflects the enthusiasm of the members of The Garden Club of Virginia, sponsors of this annual event for 46 years. Each spring the club invites 200 owners to open their homes and gardens to visitors during the last week in April — this year April 21 through April 29. Many are historic; all are outstanding in architecture, furnishings and landscaping. There is a block ticket, for a modest fee, that enables you to visit each of the houses on a tour. Single admissions are available if time does not permit making the complete round. It is impossible to visit all the tours in one week as they are scattered across the state in 34 areas. They are easy to locate as information centers are placed at convenient sites and the club publishes a 144 page guidebook, free of charge, giving detailed descriptions of each of the homes and gardens. The State Highway Department provides a special edition of its highway map showing the exact locations and posts Green Arrows to direct the visitors. The homes and gardens are strictly private but take on an air of hospitality for all during Garden Week.

History is inescapable in Virginia. In Williamsburg, it is told better than the history books. The early life there is reconstructed in the restored areas. Homes, not usually open to the public, are opened for a Garden Week tour one day only — this year Tuesday, April 24. Before his death in 1799, George Washington had traveled extensively throughout the Old Dominion so he did sleep in many of the spots the hostesses show and tell about.

There is something in Virginia for everyone. Students of architecture can trace the art of building through three centuries. Homes represent ear-

ly construction, the Georgian period, the Palladian style made popular by Thomas Jefferson, the Greek Revival, and the perfection of the Gothic. It is believed the earliest frame house and also, the earliest brick residence in America are to be found in the Tidewater area.

Homes representing the Early Georgian period will be open on the James River Plantations. Mansions, fabled in story and song, reflect an early period of gracious living. In many the original furnishings highlight the handsome and lofty rooms. Excellent examples of the less pretentious but charming early Virginia plantation homes are open in some sections as well as contemporary houses of unusual design.

The gardens are star attractions. They date from the Revolutionary period, as found on the Eastern Shore and in the boxwood splendor of Gunston Hall, to the carefully restored ones at Morven in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Albemarle County. The more recent gardens have been landscaped to harmonize with the building design.

To take back home are mental pictures of hand-carved woodwork at Old Virginia in Staunton, the Tuscan columns at Belvidere, the beautifully pillared portico and handsome dental molding at Courtfield, the home of Virginia's senator in Winchester, and the history of Cleridge that has descended through the same family since 1789. Maybe you will be inspired to plant a Victorian garden like the one you found at the Woodrow Wilson Birthplace, have oyster-shell paths like those at Stratford, the ancestral home of The Lee's, or put a pineapple on your gate post that is the symbol of hospitality in Virginia.

DAILY CALENDAR OF AREAS OPEN FOR HISTORIC GARDEN WEEK 1979

Saturday, April 21

Albemarle-Morven

Charlottesville-U. Va.

Alexandria

Hanover

Portsmouth

Richmond

Roanoke

Staunton

Winchester-Clarke

Sunday, April 22

Charlottesville-U. Va.
Chatham
Leesburg
Richmond
Roanoke
Staunton
Winchester-Clarke

Monday, April 23

Albemarle-Morven
Charlottesville-U. Va.
Leesburg

Tuesday, April 24

Albemarle-Morven
Charlottesville-Pavillion Homes
Brunswick Tour
Fredericksburg
Lexington
Lynchburg
Richmond-1.Fan & West End
 2.Candlelight Tour Cheswick
Virginia Beach
Williamsburg
James River Plantations

Wednesday, April 25

Albemarle-Morven
Charlottesville-Pavillion Homes
Fairfax
James River Plantations
Harrisonburg
Martinsville
Newport News-Hampton
Norfolk
Northern Neck
Richmond-1.Church Hill
 2.Candlelight Tour Wilton
Warrenton

Thursday, April 26

Albemarle-Country Homes & Gardens
Morven
Charlottesville-U. Va.
Danville
James River Plantations
Princess Anne-Virginia Beach Resort Area
Richmond-1.Far West End and Cherokee Road
 2.Candlelight Tour Cheswick
Suffolk
Warrenton

Friday, April 27

Albemarle-Country Homes & Gardens
Morven
Charlottesville-U. Va.
Eastern Shore
Gloucester
James River Plantations
Richmond

Saturday, April 28

Albemarle-Morven
Charlottesville-U. Va.
Eastern Shore
Gloucester
James River Plantations
Orange
Richmond
Warren County

Sunday, April 29

Orange
Warren County

A 144 page guidebook giving detailed information on the private homes and gardens and historic sites that are open during Garden Week may be obtained, free of charge, after March 1 from the Historic Garden Week Headquarters, 12 E. Franklin St., Richmond, Va. 23219.

Editor's Note:

Many of the houses have historic gardens noted for their boxwood and traditional formal plantings.



BLANDY

BLANDY has been busy with garden clubs and school tours this spring. As summer approaches the pace usually slows a little and so this is a good time to arrange for a meeting or a tour of the Arboretum grounds for your group.

Scheduled activities at Blandy this summer include two classes being sponsored by the Department of Continuing Education at the University of Virginia. The first is to begin on June 6 and runs through June 25.

Designated "Folklore in America," the class is described as "an intensive three-week summer seminar" and is presented in cooperation with the National Folk Festival Association. The director of the seminar will be Dr. Charles L. Perdue Jr. Students who satisfactorily complete the course requirements will receive six semester hours of graduate level credit through the University of Virginia.

Beginning June 26, Ray Yoder will present his painting workshops at Blandy. Yoder described the workshops as "Painting Vacations."

The first session lasts through July 2. The second session is scheduled July 3-9. Participants may register for either or both sessions. Class days are spent painting in interesting settings all around the area.

Under Yoder's guidance, both amateur and experienced painter are given the opportunity to express the beauty of the area as they see it. An exhibit of some of Mr. Yoder's paintings is on display in the Blandy Library. For more information about either of these classes, contact me at Blandy.

Readers are reminded to send their gardening questions to: "Valley Gardening," c/o Blandy Experimental Farm, Box 175, Boyce, Va. 22620.

BEQUEST

The American Boxwood Society has been the recipient of 45 books from the estate of the late Rear Admiral Neill Phillips. The books are going to be catalogued according to subject — boxwood, gardening, etc. They will be placed in the Library at Blandy Experimental farm, the home of the American Boxwood Society.

19th Annual Meeting

The American Boxwood

Society

May 16, 1979

at

Blandy Experimental Farm

Boyce, Virginia

HELP!!

The American Boxwood Society will be on display at the 1979 edition of "The Flower and Garden Show of the Nation's Capital" which will be held March 2 through 7, 1979 in the D. C. Armory/Starplex.

The Blandy Experimental Farm, our headquarters, in Boyce, Va. will construct the exhibit, set it up, and return it after the Show.

Would YOU like to help us man the exhibit? If you could only give us an hour or so it would be a big help to the Society! Contact Tom Ewert at Blandy for more details. (Box 175, Boyce, Va. 22620 (703) 837-1758.)

THE AMERICAN BOXWOOD SOCIETY

INFORMATION

Address: Box 85, Boyce, Virginia 22620

DUES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Regular membership dues of The American Boxwood Society are now \$5.00. This includes a subscription to *The Boxwood Bulletin*.

Non-member subscriptions are for groups and institutions such as botanic gardens, libraries, etc. These are \$6.00 a year, and run by the calendar year.

The Boxwood Society year runs from one Annual Meeting to the next; from May of one year to May of the next year. Those joining the Society at other times are sent all the *Boxwood Bulletin* issues for the current Society year, beginning with the July number. Their dues are then again due and payable in the following May. This was voted by the Society in order to lighten as far as possible the heavy work load of our busy Treasurer.

At the present time any or all *Bulletins* are available, back to Vol. 1, No. 1 (Vol. 1 consists of three issues only, there was no Vol. 1, No. 4.) Price per single copy is \$1.50.

Besides regular membership dues at \$5.00 per year, there are other classes of membership available: Contributing, \$10.00; Sustaining, \$25.00; Life, \$100.00; and Patron, \$500.00.

Gift memberships are announced to the recipients by boxwood-decorated cards which carry the information that *The Boxwood Bulletin* will come as your gift four times a year.

Members of The American Boxwood Society are reminded of the 1968 IRS decision that contributions to and for the use of the Society, are deductible by donors as provided in Section 170 of the Code.

FOR YOUR ADDRESS BOOK

If your letter is concerned with

- Membership, new or renewal
- Payment of dues
- Donations to research programs
- Change of address
- Gift Membership
- Ordering back issues of the *Bulletin*
- Ordering Dr. Wagenknecht's List

Write to:

Mrs. Thomas E. Ewert
American Boxwood Society
Box 85
Boyce, Virginia 22620

If your letter is concerned with:

- General information about the Society
- Advice concerning boxwood problems or cultural information
- Boxwood selection

Write to:

Mrs. Linda G. Jones
American Boxwood Society
Box 85
Boyce, Virginia 22620

In some cases depending upon the nature of your request, your letter may be forwarded to a member of the Board or another appropriate member who can provide the help you have requested.

You are also welcome to write direct to the President of the American Boxwood Society:

Professor Albert S. Beecher
Department of Horticulture
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

If you have contributions for the *Boxwood Bulletin* - articles, news notes, photographs, suggestions of anything of probable interest to boxwood people, it saves time to direct them to the Editor:

Mrs. Charles H. Dick, Editor
The Boxwood Bulletin
514 Amherst Street
Winchester, Virginia 22601



BOXWOOD—

A heritage from Yesterday

A privilege for Today

A bequest for Tomorrow

