

January 1985

The

Boxwood Bulletin

A QUARTERLY DEVOTED TO MAN'S OLDEST GARDEN ORNAMENTAL



Photo: Robert L. Frackelton
Courthouse and grounds, Centreville — one of the visits on the ABS spring tour of Maryland's Eastern Shore. (See Page 65.)

Boyce, Va.

Vol. 24, No. 3

Edited under the Direction of

THE AMERICAN BOXWOOD SOCIETY

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The Editor solicits and will welcome contributions of articles; news; notes; photographs, suitable for reproduction, of boxwood specimens, gardens, and plantings; and other items of probable interest to readers.

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Vol. 24, No. 3

Editor — Scot Butler
Co-Editor — Joan Butler

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Sixth ABS Garden Tour

Eastern Shore of Maryland

Saturday and Sunday, May 4-5, 1985

Decca G. Frackelton

Enjoy the charm and mystique of spring on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, the locale for the Sixth American Boxwood Society Tour. Lodging will be at the Tidewater Inn, itself a landmark, in Easton, Maryland.

On Saturday, May 4, our bus will depart promptly at 9:00 a.m. for Chestertown which began in 1707 as a port of entry for Cecil, Kent and Queen Anne's counties and had its own "tea party" in 1774. Washington College was founded here in 1782. We will visit several notable places, open for the Maryland House

and Garden Pilgrimage, which feature boxwood. Lunch will be served at the Old Wharf Inn, overlooking the Chester River.

In Queen Anne's County, near Centreville, we will see an abundance of stately old boxwood and interesting forms of *Ilex* on land steeped in history. The Honorable and Mrs. B. Hackett Turner have graciously invited us to enjoy their grounds at Poplar Grove. Judge Turner also maintains a large vegetable garden.



Photo: Robert L. Frackelton

Mature boxwood at Maplehurst, home of Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Stanley, Jr., on Town Creek, Oxford, Maryland.



Photo: Robert L. Frackelton

Myrtle Grove, home of Mrs. John F. Donoho. Oldest part of the house dates from the 1730s.

Our last stop before dinner will be at the quarters of the Historical Society of Talbot County where we will view an exhibit, "Survey of Talbot County Gardens," opening that week-end, and visit the Society's walled garden.

At 6:30 p.m. we will have cocktails and dinner at the Tidewater Inn.

On Sunday, May 5, our bus departs from the Tidewater Inn at 9:15 for Myrtle Grove, the ancestral home of Mrs. John F. Donoho, a longtime member of the American Boxwood Society. The oldest part of the house was built in the 1730s. We will tour the grounds where there are box-bordered allées, one of which leads to the remains of a venerable oak that was on the National Register and pictured in the April 1976 issue of *American Forests* magazine before a storm destroyed it. Among other interesting plants is a large variegated weeping box of which there once was a pair.

In Oxford, we will visit the garden at Maplehurst, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edmund A. Stanley, Jr. Maplehurst was built on Town Creek in 1880 by Edward John Stevens. The grounds boast large old boxwoods. Maplehurst is the home of the original Nellie R. Stevens holly and a very old *Cladrastis lutea* (yellowwood tree).

Lunch will be served at the Inn at Perry Cabin in St. Michaels, overlooking the Miles River.

After lunch we will see some of the highlights of St. Michaels. Our tour will conclude with a visit to nearby Conifer Point, home of the Reverend and Mrs. Francis Hayes. The bus will return us to the Tidewater Inn at mid-afternoon.

In addition to thanking those who are graciously opening their gardens for our pleasure, we would like to acknowledge the invaluable help of the following in planning this

New Boxwood Cultivar Registered

Buxus Sempervirens 'Joy'.

Registered by the Boxwood Society of the Midwest, St. Louis, Missouri.

Gamble, Mary A. "Introducing *Buxus sempervirens* 'Joy'. *The Boxwood Bulletin*. Vol. 24, No. 1:12-13. July 1984. Herbarium specimens have been deposited at the Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, Missouri and with the American Boxwood Society.

Bernice M. Speese, Registrar

Question Box

On a trip to Mexico last spring we saw many lovely boxwood hedges. I was assured that they were not *Buxus sempervirens* var. *suffruticosa* though they certainly looked like it. When I asked where they came from, the only answer I got was a vague reply, "from a nursery in Mexico City." I am certainly curious about them, and wonder if some knowledgeable member of the American Boxwood Society who may have lived or traveled in Mexico would know what they are. Unfortunately, we no longer take a camera on our trips. —Pamela Plater.

tour: Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Armistead, Dr. Virginia Collier, and Mrs. Samuel C. Loveland, Jr., a life member of the ABS. We appreciate the cooperation of the Historical Society of Talbot County and the Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage.

* * * * *

NOTE: Reservations are limited to 40 and will be accepted in the order received. The cost of \$62.00 includes bus transportation, two lunches, Saturday night dinner, and admissions where required, but not lodging nor breakfasts. No reservations can be accepted and no refunds can be made after March 8,

1985. Please use the form below or a facsimile in registering.

The Tidewater Inn, Dover and Harrison Streets, Easton, Maryland 22601 will be our headquarters. Each registrant will be responsible for making his own reservations. The charge is \$56.00 per room per night. A block of rooms is being held for the ABS until March 15, 1985. The management requires an ADVANCE DEPOSIT for one night's lodging when the reservation is made. Should you require only one night's accommodation, please notify the Inn when making your reservation and so note on the registration form below.

Registration Form for Sixth ABS Tour

May 4-5, 1985

Mrs. Robert L. Frackelton
1714 Greenway Drive
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
(703) 373-7975

Enclosed please find my check in the amount of \$_____, made payable to Decca G. Frackelton, to reserve place(s) for _____ person(s) at a cost of \$62.00 per person for the ABS Tour, Saturday and Sunday, May 4-5. I understand this payment covers bus transportation Saturday and Sunday, two lunches, Saturday night dinner and admissions were required. Lodging and breakfasts are not included. I enclose names, addresses and telephone numbers of persons covered by this reservation. I (we) will _____ will not _____ arrive by Friday evening, May 3.

Dedication of the Helen H. Whiting Boxwood Garden, Winchester, Virginia



Photo: Harrison Symmes

On a lovely sunny Saturday, October 20, the boxwood garden at the Handley Library in Winchester was dedicated as a memorial to Helen Hudson Whiting.

When a new wing was added to the Library a raised plant bed was built. The Winchester-Clarke Garden Club asked to plant a garden there in memory of their longtime member, Mrs. Whiting, who was also a longtime and valued member of the Library Board. It seemed appropriate to create a boxwood garden as Mrs. Whiting had been a Board member of the American Boxwood Society as well as Editor for many years of *The Boxwood Bulletin*.

Mrs. Ridgely White opened the program at noon and introduced Mrs. Gerald Gildersleeve, President of the Winchester-Clarke Garden Club. She, in turn, introduced Mrs. Whiting's son, Judge Henry Whiting, who presented other members of his family: three brothers, a sister, a sister-in-law, several grandchildren, and a very active and charming great-grandson. Mrs. Gildersleeve then asked Mrs. Richard Plater to describe the planting in the garden. Mrs. Plater said that the raised bed, measuring 11' 8" x 16' 3", was planted with 23 boxwoods of 9 varieties, all either dwarf or slow-growing. In addition, 4 dwarf boxwoods,

Buxus sempervirens var. *suffruticosa*, are planted against the outside wall of the garden facing Braddock Street. (The 9 varieties and their locations are identified in the sketch of the garden.)

The cultivar 'Helen Whiting,' of which there are two, was propagated by Mrs. Whiting's good friend, Dr. John Baldwin of William and Mary College. The 'Memorial' cultivar was also propagated by Dr. Baldwin from an old plant he found in the cemetery at Williamsburg. Mrs. Plater explained that she had visited the cemetery with Dr. Baldwin and Mrs. Whiting some years ago when attending a Garden Symposium in Williamsburg, and this plant was grown from a clone given her by Dr. Baldwin at that time.

Also planted in the garden are daffodils, an edging of *sternbergia lutea*, and a ground cover of *vinca minor*. The marker installed by the Garden reads:

THE HELEN H. WHITING BOXWOOD GARDEN

PLANTED IN HER MEMORY BY
THE WINCHESTER-CLARKE
GARDEN CLUB

Richard Miller, Director of the Handley Library, accepted the gift with pleasure, and called it a fitting tribute to Mrs. Whiting.

The program was closed by Dr. David Knight, Rector of Christ Church, Winchester, with a prayer: "Almighty God, we thank Thee for the joy and wonder of thy creation, for the beauty of this garden, and for the vision and inspiration of thy servant Helen Whiting."

An informal reception followed.



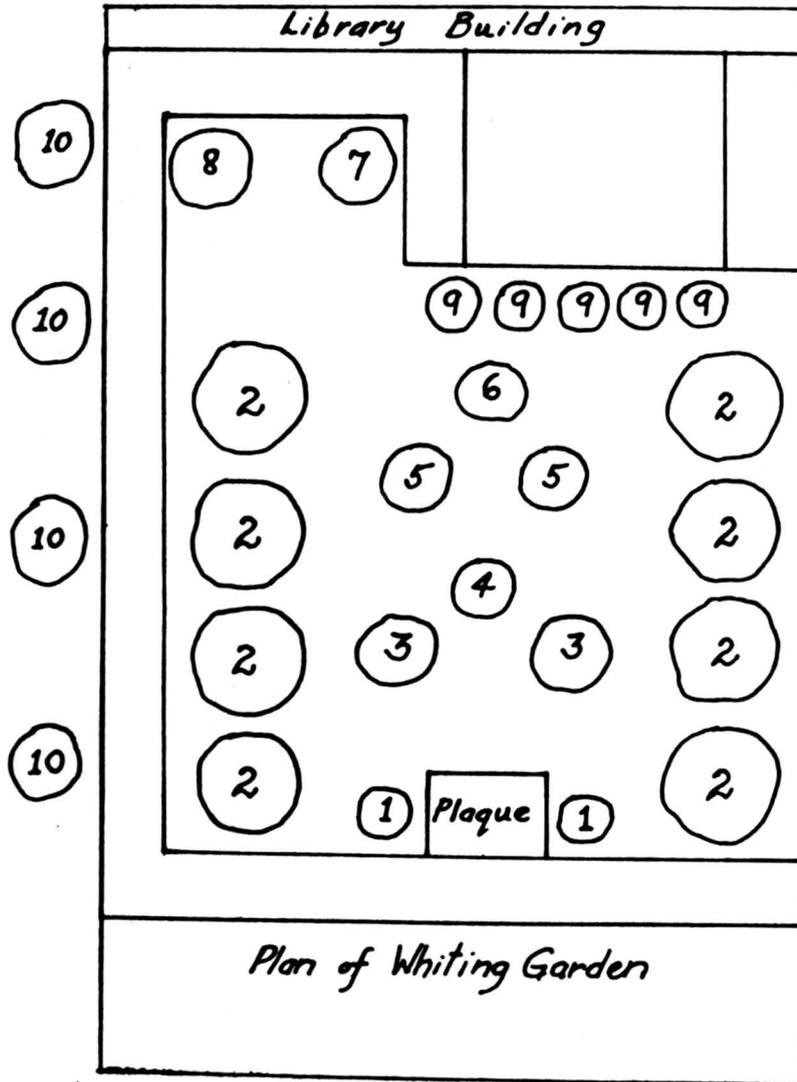


Photo: Harrison Symmes

Key to Plan of Whiting Garden

- 1 *Buxus microphylla* var. *compacta* 'Kingsville Dwarf'
- 2 *B. m.* var. *koreana* 'Garden Variety'
- 3 *B. m.* var. *compacta* 'Helen Whiting'
- 4 *Buxus sempervirens* 'Elegantissima'
- 5 *Buxus harlandii*
- 6 *B. s.* 'Memorial'
- 7 *B. s.* 'Hardwickensis Fastigiata'
- 8 *B. s.* 'Vardar Valley'
- 9 *B. s.* 'Graham Blandy' (columnar)
- 10 *B. s.* var. *suffruticosa*

ABS SPONSORS RESEARCH TASK AT UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

William A. Gray

As reported earlier in *The Boxwood Bulletin* of July 1984, page 25, the Society is sponsoring a new boxwood research task by Dr. James W. Hendrix at the University of Kentucky. The objective of this research is to study the possible relationships between mycorrhizal fungi and boxwood. At this time, the effort is concentrated on *Buxus sempervirens* var. *suffruticosa*. Although the role of mycorrhizal fungi in the growth of many woody and herbaceous genera has been investigated in recent years, this will be the first such study of boxwood.

Background information and a discussion of research plans were published in Dr. Hendrix's article "Mycorrhizal Fungi—Friends or Foes of Boxwood" in the July 1984 *Bulletin*. It is probable that very few of us had heard previously of mycorrhizae. Nevertheless, it is apparent that these ubiquitous organisms play an important environmental role.

Following discussions at several ABS meetings, the following letter was sent to five selected universities in December 1983.

Proposed Research Task on *Buxus*

Dear _____:

One important mission of the American Boxwood Society is that of encouraging research on the genus *Buxus* and of assisting in the dissemination of information thereby acquired through publication in the Society's *Boxwood Bulletin*.

The Society's Research Committee believes that it is now timely to propose a research task directed at studying the possible beneficial symbiotic association between mycorrhizal fungi and *Buxus* roots. It is our understanding that the investigation of mycorrhizal-root relationship has been extended in recent years to cover many woody plants, including forest trees and ornamentals. In the case of *Buxus* ornamentals, ultimate objectives hopefully would be to provide insight into the 'weak root' syndrome and the boxwood decline problem.

If a research task of this nature were initiated, the American Boxwood Society would be supportive thereof and be prepared to provide some degree of funding.

The Society's Board of Directors has requested me, as Chairman of its Research Committee, to advise your establishment of our intent to support such a research task, if the task seems feasible. We would greatly appreciate comments and advice on this matter and, if appropriate, some sort of preliminary proposal.

In order to simplify communications, please address any reply to my home. Thank you kindly for your interest. For your information, I enclose a brief statement describing the purposes and activities of the American Boxwood Society.

Sincerely,
William A. Gray

The following favorable response was received from Dr. Hendrix in January 1984.

Mycorrhizal Fungi in Relation to Growth and Decline of Boxwood

A Proposal for Consideration by
The American Boxwood Society

James W. Hendrix
Professor of Plant Pathology
University of Kentucky

January 1984

Introduction — All woody perennial plants are thought to be micorrhizal. Mycorrhizae are of several types. Ectomycorrhizae occur on only a few families, but these are important: pines, firs, hemlocks, oaks, birches, and a few other families of trees. Ectomycorrhizae are formed primarily by fungi of the Basidiomycetes, the puff balls and mushrooms. Ericoid mycorrhizae occur on ericaceous plants, such as *Rhododendron*. These are formed by fastidious, pigmented, non-sporulating fungi. The most common mycor-

rhizal type is the endogonaceous, or "vesicular-arbuscular," type. These mycorrhizae, which occur on over 90% of plant genera, are caused by members of the Phycomyete family Endogonaceae. These fungi are obligate parasites of roots.

Little, if any, research has been done on the mycorrhizal status of boxwood. Probably, boxwoods form endogonaceous mycorrhizae.

Endogonaceous mycorrhizal fungi have been known since the beginning of the century. In the past 20 years, experimental evidence has been accumulated indicating that they are beneficial (mutualistic symbionts), but this concept of endogonaceous fungi as being benevolent is based on research on fewer than ten plant species. I have obtained extensive evidence that one of the fungi, *Glomus macrocarpus*, causes an important disease of burley tobacco, and I suspect they are involved in decline and replant diseases of a number of plants, including strawberry, peach, grape, and boxwood.

Hosts of endogonaceous mycorrhizal fungi include grasses, small grains, legumes, most other crop species, and most weeds. Thus, arable soils contain these fungi, which apparently have extremely broad host ranges. We commonly find over a dozen species representing four genera in a single soil sample.

Boxwood is, therefore, likely to be invaded by these fungi, but its response may be positive, neutral, or negative, depending on its degree of mycorrhizal dependency and on inherent properties of the fungi present. The overall effect on a plant transplanted into natural soil may depend on the presence or absence of beneficial or pathogenic strains, or on the relative population of the two. Some plants, such as citrus root stocks, peach, and Southern magnolia, are heavily dependent on mycorrhizal fungi; and these are the ones which led to the reputation of these fungi as mutualistic symbionts. One hypothesis is that plants with "magnolioid" feeder roots (large, coarse, relatively unbranched, few root hairs) are heavily dependent on these fungi for sufficient uptake of phosphorus for adequate growth, while those with "graminoid" roots (fine, prolifically branched, numerous long root hairs) are not. Mycorrhizal dependency really must be determined experimentally, and this information for boxwood is an object of this project.

Our research on tobacco is the only demonstration of pathogenicity of mycorrhizal fungi. The techniques we developed in the

tobacco research are applicable, however; and we propose to seek mycorrhizal fungi pathogenic to boxwood as causes of decline as the second part of this project.

Proposal

Mycorrhizal dependency — Rooted cuttings will be inoculated upon transplanting into a suitable growing medium with one of three isolates, a *Glomus fasciculatum*, a *G. mosseae*, and a *G. epigaeum*. The first two have been shown to be more beneficial to several hosts than other isolates by us and other scientists. *G. epigaeum* is of interest because of its prolific sporulation and its great capacity to spread in soil free of other mycorrhizal fungi. If beneficial, it may be suitable for commercial use.

The plants will be grown in containers in our greenhouses and evaluated. If the results warrant, the plants will be shipped to a commercial grower for transplanting into fumigated soil in the field and further evaluation.

Role of mycorrhizal fungi in decline — Soil samples from diseased boxwoods will be obtained from Society members and used for isolation of mycorrhizal fungi. Spores will be sieved from the soil and used to inoculate rooted cuttings. The plants will be grown and evaluated. If results warrant, the plants will be shipped to a commercial grower for field evaluation.

Suggested funding and financial considerations

An initial grant of about \$500 for supplies is suggested.

The limiting factor for us in a project like this is trained assistants. A postdoctoral fellow trained in mycorrhizal fungi would cost \$16,000 per year, and this amount probably is beyond the budget of the American Boxwood Society. Thus we propose research which can be done with the personnel we have on hand. Care and evaluation of field-grown plants is also expensive to us and requires us to become expert in boxwood culture. This aspect of the research must, therefore, be done by a Society member. Cash outlays by both the Society in grants to us and by cooperating growers is minimized in this approach, and the research is kept realistic by grower participation.

Grower contributions needed

1. Rooted cuttings periodically.
2. Containerized plants for us to establish in our greenhouse and in the field as a source of

cuttings. If we can generate our own cuttings, we may be able to relieve growers of this need eventually.

3. Field planting and evaluation of experimental plants generated in this research.

At the Society's Annual Meeting in May 1984, formal action was taken to fund this research proposal and President Mahone so informed the University.

Professor James W. Hendrix
Department of Plant Pathology
University of Kentucky
Lexington, Kentucky 40546-0091

Gentlemen:

Confirming prior discussions, enclosed please find our check in the amount of \$500, payable to the University of Kentucky.

This grant from the American Boxwood Society is to be used by Professor James W. Hendrix in support of the research project 'Mycorrhizal Fungi in Relation to Growth and Decline of Boxwood'.

Very truly yours

Richard D. Mahone
President, ABS

Dr. Hendrix has provided the following initial report on progress as of August 1, 1984:

Prior to the meeting of the ABS in May, 1984, soil samples were collected from healthy and declined English boxwood from two sites in eastern Virginia with the assistance of President Mahone and Vice-President Frackelton. These soil samples are being saved for use to isolate beneficial or pathogenic mycorrhizal fungi as soon as we have rooted boxwood cuttings, but we have picked out and stained fine roots from these samples. We expect to submit a brief report on this study to *The Boxwood Bulletin* soon.

Further progress awaits rooted cuttings. In May, we obtained five large potted plants from Saunders Orchard and Nursery, and several hundred cuttings were incubated for rooting in July, after the new growth had hardened. We elected not to accept Paul Saunders' offer of rooted cuttings because his rooting beds may be infested with mycorrhizal fungi, and our research requires that we start with non-mycorrhizal plants. Additional sources of material for rooting are being sought at this time.

Mailbox

October 23, 1984

John Vermeulen & Son, Inc.
Neshanic Station, NJ 08853

Dear Sir:

We sincerely appreciate the eight boxwood plants (two each of four cultivars) which you sent to us for the American Boxwood Society Memorial Garden here at Blandy. We will be pleased to add them to the garden.

The Boxwood Society was interested in any information I could get regarding these plants. Do you have any background on the plants? Do you know where you originally acquired them? (The plants you sent us are: *Buxus microphylla* var. *japonica* cv. Green Beauty, *Buxus microphylla* cv. *Sunnyside*, *Buxus microphylla* cv. Asiatic Winter Gem, and *Buxus sempervirens* cv. Newport Blue.)

Upon arrival, four plants were planted out in a protected location and the remaining four were scheduled to be overwintered in our cold-frame. Later, however, I talked with Mr. Lynn Batdorf at the U.S. National Arboretum. He expressed interest in the second plant of each cultivar for his collection. Unfortunately, before taking them to him, we lost one plant (*Buxus microphylla* var. *japonica* cv. Green Beauty) due to cattle getting loose in our arboretum. Therefore, the National Arboretum received three plants and we have four for our collection.

Once again, we sincerely appreciate your donation.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Ewert
Director, Blandy Experimental Farm



Photo: Jack Horner

Buxus sempervirens 'Hermann von Schrenk', a handsome boxwood of great vitality with dark green leaves, forms the 10-foot-high walls of the secret garden.

THE SECRET GARDEN PRUNED

A Major Project Accomplished with Enthusiasm and Éclat

Mary A. Gamble

In 1984 the fall field trip of the Boxwood Society of the Midwest was a picnic with a purpose. The Society's purpose was to prune the secret boxwood garden at the Henry Shaw Arboretum of the Missouri Botanical Garden (MBG) at Gray Summit, Missouri, some 35 miles southwest of St. Louis. The picnic was to add the dollop of fun necessary to make palatable the downright hard work of pruning a 10-foot-high wall of boxwood. The day chosen was Saturday, October 27, one of the few week-end dates on which the sun shone (most of the time) during a fall that has gone down on record as the wettest in local history.

The secret garden is defined and walled with boxwoods. It is in the shape of a horseshoe; its open end abuts on a sidewall of the Arboretum gate house. Entry is gained through a narrow, unobtrusive gap between boxwood and building. The boxwood is *Buxus sempervirens* 'Hermann van Schrenk'. It is a handsome, arborescent form propagated from cuttings brought in 1937 from Charlottesville, Virginia, by the late Dr. Hermann von Schrenk who served for about 40 years as pathologist (on a volunteer basis) at the MBG. The plant was named for him when it was registered in 1974 by the Boxwood Study Group of the St.

Louis Herb Society (precursor of the Boxwood Society of the Midwest) on behalf of the MBG. We can only estimate the age of the plants which form the secret garden. If they came from the original cuttings, which seems likely, they now would be some 47 years old. We know from observation that the small plants were set out two feet apart. They have long since grown together so that the “wall” is now virtually impenetrable. But not entirely, as the field trip pruners demonstrated!

The proposal to prune the secret garden, as well as a nearby specimen plant of ‘von Schrenk’ which had suffered heavy damage the preceding winter, was made when three society members—Goodrich and Mary Gamble and Jane Penhale — made a special visit to Gray Summit to inspect its various boxwood plantings. The secret garden looked impressive, but the need for pruning was evident. “What would you think of making this our fall field trip?” asked Jane. Later, the idea was welcomed by the Society governing board.



Photo: Jack Horner
A specimen plant of *B. semp.* ‘*H. von Schrenk*’ has dead wood and injured branches removed.

Fall, as every one knows, is a busy season. It is always hard to find even a nucleus of workers with a free Saturday. It was decided that if as few as six would come, we’d accomplish something. When more than 20 pruners said they would be there, we knew much could be done.

Our goal was to remove all the dead branches from the plants. This meant following each major branch from trunk to tip to make sure few—if any—live stems were removed. The plants were so large it took teams of pruners to work effectively. Of course, no foliar pruning was



Photo: Jack Horner
Interior view of a plant that has been pruned from the inside out to remove dead wood.

done as that would have stimulated new growth which would then be susceptible to winterkill in the treacherous late spring freezes that occur so often in the Midwest. We used hand-clippers, saws and a chain saw, which proved invaluable as a time saver. It was handled ably by Bill Dixon, husband of Phyllis Dixon, the Society’s new president. As workers moved from plant to plant and the job neared completion, piles of dead branches filled the center of the horseshoe while more piles accumulated on the outer edge of the garden. These were dragged out of sight of the many sightseers who come each day to enjoy the natural beauties of the Henry Shaw Arboretum where woodland, glade, water and prairie meet.

After the hard morning’s work, the pruners reassembled at “Persimmon Hill,” Mrs. Stratford Lee Morton’s country place only a few miles distant. “Persimmon Hill” is a complex



Photo: Jack Horner
 Dead wood accumulates as pruning progresses.
 This view shows interior of secret garden.

of three houses which Mrs. Morton (a founding member of the Society) and her late husband built to hold their collection of early American furnishings and artifacts. Its acreage adjoins the arboretum on one border and overlooks the scenic Meramec River on another. A social hour, which gave the tired workers time to relax and exchange recent gardening experiences, was followed by a zesty hot luncheon prepared by Society members. The field trip concluded with a slide show reviewing the Society's activities during the past two years. The day, which combined work and pleasure, was instructive, constructive and fun. And it had that elusive quality which the French call *éclat*, and which the dictionaries define as "conspicuous success."



Photo: Jack Horner
 A relaxing hour at "Persimmon Hill".

In Memory

John E. Ford

Bertha R. Friant

Jack Horner

Henry T. Skinner
 (Charter Member)



Please Mark Your Calendar Now

**Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting of
 The American Boxwood Society**

Wednesday, May 8, 1985

Blandy Farm

Boyce, Virginia

*Look for Information on Program and
 Registration in the April Issue*



THE SEASONAL GARDENER

Tips on Winter Care of Boxwood

Albert S. Beecher

Winter time is an excellent period to study what to do to grow good healthy boxwood. Take time to review some of the previous articles in *The Boxwood Bulletin* dealing with cultural instructions.

If you are seeking specific suggestions for winter care, refer to the January 1984 *Bulletin*, pages 64-65. For a very comprehensive article on the growing of boxwood consult the article, "Boxwood in Virginia," that appeared in the very first issue dated October 1961, Vol. 1, No. 1.* Any Society member having trouble growing good healthy boxwood should study this article. A copy (or photocopy) of this *Boxwood Bulletin* may be obtained by sending \$2.50 to the American Boxwood Society, Box 85, Boyce, Virginia 22620.

One of the highlights of the article is the pinpointing of the major troubles that may cause damage to the roots, leaves and branches and the entire plant. Reproduced below are some of the reasons for boxwood problems that Professor Smith outlined:

I. Damage to the roots by:

1. Digging in the root area by man or animals.
2. Planting too deeply or subsequent settling.
3. Applying excessive amount of fertilizer or manure.
4. Making a cone of soil or mulch around the plant.

*This article was written by Professor A. G. Smith, Jr., who was one of the founders and an early Director of the Society and is also one of the living Honorary Life Members. He also authored a book entitled, *The Boxwood at Stratford Hall*, which is an important source of information on boxwood culture. It was published by the Robert E. Lee Memorial Foundation, Stratford, Virginia.

5. Setting plants in holes in tight soil with no drainage provided from bottom or side.
6. Soil washing away from roots, thus exposing them to the elements.
7. Mulching too heavily.
8. Too much peat or manure in fill-in soil.
9. Heavy soil which does not allow water to move away from roots. Poor preparation.
10. Excessive watering.
11. Matting of ivy in and under plant.

II. Damage to leaves and branches by:

1. Leaf miners.
2. Accumulation of soot and dust on foliage; effect of smoke and gases.
3. Crowding by other plants or buildings.
4. Chemical sprays.
5. Dead leaves accumulating in dwarf plants.
6. Clipping alone to maintain formal effects instead of cutting out weak top branches to admit light and air.
7. Winter-killing.
8. Sunscald and browning on weak plants.
9. Injury from sleet or snow bending or breaking the branches. (Frost killing tender tips does more good than harm.)

III. Damage to entire plant by:

1. Total lack of water.
2. Too much shade.
3. Wet feet.
4. Salt from coastal storms or from well water.

Elsewhere in the article is information on pruning, thinning, transplanting, soil, symptoms of weak boxwood, propagation, insects and feeding.

Serious study by the fireside this winter will help to prepare you for the coming growing season.

August Crabtree — Master Carver in Boxwood of Miniature Ships

Connie Sage

(Extracts from “Small Ships,” an article appearing in the March 1983 issue of *Country magazine*, reprinted with permission of the author and the magazine.)

August F. Crabtree’s hands are immense. Yet with them Crabtree has delicately sculpted, molded, and shaped intricate details of a score of miniature sailing ships, each crafted the same way their full-size counterparts were built. Wooden hair rails, figureheads, stern lanterns, oars, wooden wreaths, soldiers, horses, and musical instruments are painstakingly carved—as tiny as 3/64 inch—under a magnifying glass with specially made tools.

He has spent little time on the world’s oceans. Yet the 77-year-old Hampton, Virginia, man has created miniature sailing masterpieces unequalled in craftsmanship and historical detail.

As a young man, Crabtree set out to tool 16 miniature models depicting the evolution of water transportation. It took 28 years of nearly full-time work to reach his goal.

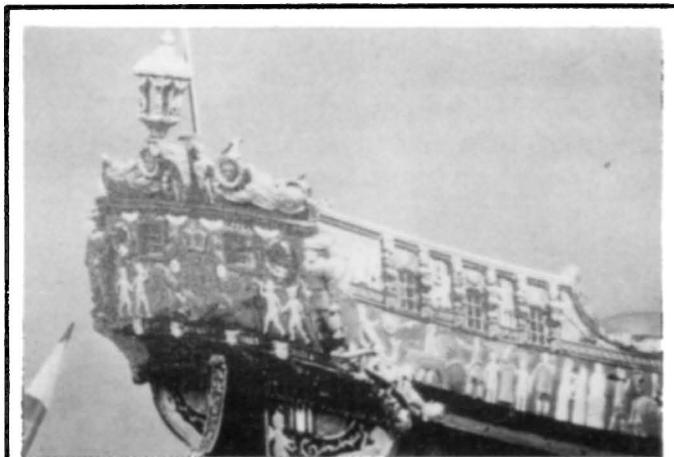
The collection, which Crabtree calls “the project,” is on display at the Mariner’s Museum ((804) 595-0368) in Newport News, Virginia, an easy stop off I-64 for visitors traveling to Williamsburg or the beaches of Virginia or North Carolina.

Crabtree began carving when he was a boy in Washington state. When his primary school class was told to whittle a pelican, he made his twice as small as anyone else in the class.

By the time he was 21, Crabtree had “gotten serious about the project.” He was on his way—a man gauging his progress in life by his ships.

“I picked out interesting types of ships that are seldom seen. I was a lot like an overly enthusiastic kid. I was sure I could do it.”

Using pearwood and boxwood, he began crafting the models with tools he made himself, some from discarded dentist’s implements. He checked out books and plans about each vessel from university archives and public libraries. And with the experience of having worked in a shipbuilding company during World War I at



August Crabtree’s model of a Dutch state yacht of the mid-seventeenth century. They were the most ornate vessels ever built and there would be only one of them at any given time; it was for the exclusive use of the Monarch and his family. This reproduction is on a scale of 1/4 inch to the foot.

the age of 14 (“I exaggerated my age a little bit and saw first-hand how the wooden ships were built”), Crabtree painstakingly began his project.

He headed south to California and worked full time on the carvings, earning money by working part time for Paramount and MGM movies shaping miniature wooden figures.

When World War II broke out, Crabtree’s knowledge of boat building was enlisted. With

half of his collection completed, he went to work for a Washington shipyard, helping to build full-size ships seven days a week.

When the war ended, Crabtree finished the collection. It included a primitive raft and a dugout, an Egyptian seagoing vessel of the XVII Dynasty of about 1480 B.C., a 50 A. D. Roman grain ship, the 1066 *Mora* of William the Conqueror, the *Pinta* and the *Santa Maria* from 1492, and a 1650 Venetian galleass. He also carved miniatures of a 1660 Dutch yacht, a 1674 English Royal yacht, a 1687 British 50-gun ship, a 1690 French galley of Louis XIV, a 1692 Venetian gondola, the 1775 American brig *Lexington*, the 1805 *British East Indiaman*, and the *Britannia* of 1840, which was the first Cunard liner.

Crabtree's miniature English gun ship contains 270 human, animal, and mythological figures. The model's interior has a carved belfry. Crabtree says that elaborate decoration was not uncommon on gun ships of this period and often cost a quarter of the construction price. And Crabtree spared himself no trouble to do these ships justice. The model of the Venetian galleass, with its 359 figures and scroll-work on each of 48 oars, took nearly four years to carve.

Each Sunday afternoon, Crabtree lectures at the museum. During the week he still carves in his cluttered basement, lighted with a dangling bare lightbulb. A Dutch state yacht, gingerly lifted from a fireproof storage case, rests on a workbench stacked with needle-thin files, chisels, pasted-up pictures of presidents, and a plastic model of a horse.

"This is my masterpiece," he said, examining the Dutch yacht. It is 16½ inches long. Low relief carvings taken from Dutch paintings were patiently handpainted in blues, reds, and pinks on the sides and bow. Roman egg-and-leaf moldings were painstakingly chiseled. The carved figure-head is a woman holding two cherubs. The infants are not much bigger than the head of a straight pin.

Next to the ship, in two long narrow cases are busts of all the presidents, the carvings that Crabtree says mean the most to him. One set is one-half of an inch high, the second is a quarter of an inch high.

Crabtree says that when he dies there will be no one to follow immediately in his footsteps. Past apprentices quit "when they found out

the work goes so slow. They can't see spending all that time."

"The secret is...you just relax. You're carving 'one of a kind,'" he says. "You can't stamp them out."

* * * *

Editor's Postscript. After reading Connie Sage's article and obtaining permission to reprint portions of it, we contacted Mr. Crabtree to see if he would comment on his choice of boxwood as the preferred wood for executing the fine, delicate details of his miniature ships. We were rewarded with a letter, parts of which follow, as well as the featured pictures.

Dear Mr. Butler,

Yes, boxwood is a unique wood. It was the wood used by the miniature carvers of the Renaissance and no doubt, earlier. I had learned very early, as a teenager from reading and working with wood, that boxwood was the one wood that could not be beat for very small work. I was fortunate to come into contact with a man residing in South Africa who was interested in my work and visited me here. He told me they are limited in the number of boxwood trees that can be cut each year there. Soon after he returned to South Africa he very generously sent me a small log of boxwood and the next year, another, both gratis.

I did experiment with many woods in those early years. Apple wood that has grown slowly is quite hard and dense but is not equal to box. Years ago I discovered a small tree that occurs very much as a lone tree in the Cascade mountains in Oregon. It is the closest to boxwood of any wood I have tried.

A few years ago a man from West Virginia brought me a chunk which he said was boxwood and grew on his land. It was very hard and heavy and was just a little darker than the boxwood I have. It was meaner to work and was rather brittle, much like carving *lignum vitae* or ebony. I would never attempt to use it for small carvings.

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely
August F. Crabtree, L.H.D.
Miniature Carver

Fall Workday at Blandy Attracts Nine Volunteers



Photos: Tom Ewert

September 24, 1984 — Action at Pea Hill (alias Box Hill). Clockwise from upper left: 1. Ruth and Joseph Showalter and Joan Clement study the situation; 2. Harrison Symmes and Ruth Showalter adopt pruning tactics; 3. Joseph Showalter and “Swede” Larson cut off enemy vines; 4. Earl Stansfield and Ray Lazarchic attack weeds and brush.

On Wednesday, September 26, nine zealous boxwooders gathered at Blandy Farm to participate in the second annual boxwood workday. In addition to Blandy Director Tom Ewert, the participants were: G. A. Beadles, Joan Clement, “Swede” Larson, Ray Lazar-

chic, Ruth and Joseph Showalter, Earl Stansfield and Harrison Symmes.

Following a get-together in the Dining Room, where people from points as distant as Richmond, Virginia and Scientists Cliffs, Maryland had a chance to introduce them-

selves and discuss their boxwood interests, the group went through the Boxwood Memorial Garden. Led by Tom Ewert, they stopped to note differences in the plants and to look at the results of last year's workday. (See *The Boxwood Bulletin*, January 1984, Pages 71-72.)

Then they went to Pea Hill (alias Box Hill) where they set to work on the large boxwoods growing there since the 1930s and 1940s. Equipped with proper equipment they cut out dead wood and removed weeds for several hours. A pick-up truck later removed 3½ loads of brush for what Director Ewert termed "a very good day's work"!

It had been planned to have another workday on Saturday, September 29, for five members who were unable to come during the week. Although this event was rained out, "Swede" and Bev Larson showed up with a friend from Washington, D. C. and proceeded to weed Blandy's herb garden, a job which Director Ewert appreciated having done.

On behalf of Blandy Farm and the American Boxwood Society sincere thanks go to all who gave up their time to come and help maintain the boxwood collection. This collection is now too large to be fully cared for by the small grounds staff at Blandy, so it is hoped that we can continue to set aside one day or more each year for member participation in a clean-up. Those who have attended say they derived much satisfaction from the experience. We hope to see even more volunteers next year.

Plan to attend the 52nd
**HISTORIC GARDEN
WEEK
IN VIRGINIA**

April 20 through April 28, 1985

Details will be published in the April 1985 issue of *The Boxwood Bulletin*, or contact Historic Garden Week Headquarters, the Garden Club of Virginia, 12 East Franklin Street, Richmond, VA 23219, Telephone (804) 644-7776.

Painted Boxwoods in the Landscape or What Is a Boxwood?

A Novel Solution to the Boxwood Decline Problem

ABS members Mr. and Mrs. M. K. Haithcock of Delaplane, Virginia were kind enough to call our attention to an article entitled "Garden Madness" that appeared in a recent issue of *House and Garden*. It concerns Tori Winkler Thomas, a landscape architect, who bought sixty acres of country property outside of Millwood, Virginia containing large old boxwoods in poor condition. She took an innovative approach to her boxwood problem, which she describes in the article.

'When I bought this property the boxwood was a very strong geometric form, but it wasn't on axis with anything. Several bushes of it were dead, and I thought, "Well, I'll replace these two." But there was a boxwood blight—hundred-year-old boxwoods all over Virginia were dying, it was really a terrible tragedy—and it wouldn't have done any good for me to just replace a few. Still, they were such a strong feature, I thought, "What can I do other than tear them out?" So, in a blaze of glory, I painted them.'

Thomas chose paint in 'worn out' colors ('tattered lilac,' 'old basket blue') because the house is early-nineteenth century and therefore, she thought, called for an oldish-looking garden. The latex-embalmed bushes were to become the clear focus of a larger design tying the immediate landscape to the house as well as to the topography of the rest of the property—stream, woods, fields.

We regret that we cannot reproduce the color photographs of these bushes, for the results of Tori Winkler Thomas' experiment are quite striking. As one picture caption notes, "In their shrouds of blue and lilac paint, dying bushes take on a new flat patina and substantial sculptural quality, which, hopes Winkler, prompts the question, 'What is a boxwood?'"



Photo: Scot Butler
Officers and Directors at Fall Board Meeting. Front row, from left: Mays, Symmes, Beecher, Batdorf, Holekamp, Mahone. Back row, from left: Ewert, Frackelton, J. Butler, S. Butler.

Minutes of the Fall Meeting of ABS Officers and Directors

October 18, 1984

The Fall Meeting of the Officers and Directors was held at Kenmore in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Present were President Richard D. Mahone, First Vice President Mrs. Robert L. Frackelton, Second Vice President Mrs. Malcolm L. Holekamp, Secretary Harrison Symmes, and Directors Lynn Batdorf, Albert S. Beecher, Scot Butler, Thomas E. Ewert and William N. Mays. Present as auditors were *Bulletin* Co-Editor Joan Butler and Mrs. Albert S. Beecher. President Mahone reported that Treasurer Kathy Ward, Registrar Dr. Bernice M. Speese and Directors Dr. Walter S. Flory, William A. Gray and James A. Faiszt had notified him that they were unable to attend.

President Mahone called the meeting to order shortly after 10:00 a.m. In Mrs. Ward's absence, Mrs. Frackelton gave the Treasurer's Report, which showed a balance in the checking account of \$4,681.67 as of October 12, 1984 and a balance for invested funds (certificate of deposit and savings account) of \$11,346.57. (The itemized report follows these minutes.) In discussing the Treasurer's Report it was

pointed out that the Board at previous meetings had requested information on the several different funds and accounts of the Society, in addition to the summarized receipts and disbursements. Some of this information is still not being reported.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Memorial Garden

Mr. Ewert reported that the glue on some plant labels was giving way and the labels were coming loose from their stakes. He said that it may be necessary to use screws or rivets to fasten the labels securely. 'Joy', the new cultivar presented by Mary Gamble, has been planted. The Society has received four new cultivars as a gift from Nurseryman John Vermeulen of New Jersey. Mr. Vermeulen had sent two of each cultivar, and one of each has been given to Mr. Batdorf for the National Arboretum collection. (See Mail Box, Page 72.)

Nine people attended the second annual workday on September 16 and did some pruning and clean-up at Pea Hill as well as in the

Memorial Garden. Another workday scheduled for September 19 was rainy, but a few who came regardless worked in the Herb Garden. (See "Fall Workday at Blandy Attracts Nine Volunteers," Page 79.)

Mr. Ewert estimated that he would need about \$200 next year for mulch, labels and fertilizer for the Memorial Garden. Action was postponed until the Spring 1985 Board Meeting.

Registration

President Mahone said that Dr. Speese is in the process of registering *Buxus sempervirens* 'Joy'. Mr. Ewert inquired about the status of registration of *Buxus sempervirens* 'BEF 35' as 'Graham Blandy'. The President said that he would check with Dr. Speese.

There was a discussion of whether herbarium specimens are now required for registration of new cultivars. It was recommended that germ plasm should be preserved for all cultivars at Blandy, the U.S. National Arboretum and other locations. President Mahone requested Mary Holekamp to ask Dr. Wagenknecht if he has any herbarium specimens and records for the registrations made during his tenure as Registrar. Mrs. Holekamp offered to send the St. Louis herbarium specimen list to Mr. Batdorf, and President Mahone said he will send Mr. Batdorf the William and Mary College list, this information being useful to the National Arboretum.

Research

The President stated that Mr. Gray had nothing to report but wanted to stress the importance of publicizing ABS research activities. Mr. Mays reported that Dr. Hendrix had requested 700 or 800 *suffruticosa* cuttings to use in his research project. These had been supplied and set out. Mr. Ewert said he had sent cuttings to Dr. Banko for the Virginia Beach field study of boxwood. Mr. Butler has research information scheduled for publication in the January issue of *The Bulletin*. (See "ABS Sponsors Research Task at University of Kentucky," Page 70.)

Workshops

President Mahone expressed hope that there will be a spring workshop at Stratford Hall. The Boxwood Society of the Midwest is having a workshop this fall in the secret boxwood

garden of the Missouri Botanical Garden Arboretum at Gray Summit. Mrs. Holekamp said that she would see that an article on this workshop is prepared for *The Bulletin*. (See "The Secret Garden Pruned," Page 73.) It was suggested that some boxwood workshops be scheduled in Maryland.

Buyer's Guide and Boxwood Handbook

Professor Beecher asked for advice on whether the *Buyer's Guide* should be reproduced by printing or photocopying. Various suggestions were made. It was then moved and passed that \$100 be allocated to Professor Beecher for secretarial and pre-publication expenses of the *Buyer's Guide*. Professor Beecher said that he had reached a point in preparation of the *Boxwood Handbook* where he needed to review what he had prepared with the President. He would then like to circulate the draft handbook for a critique and to solicit photographic suggestions. President Mahone said he would fix a time to meet with Professor Beecher in the coming weeks.

Spring Tour

Mrs. Frackelton reported that she had recently visited the Maryland Eastern Shore to line up gardens for the Spring Tour, scheduled for May 3-5, 1985. Tentative plans call for staying at the Tidewater Inn in Easton and visiting gardens in Easton, Oxford, Chestertown and Talbot County. It is necessary to coordinate the tour with the Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage.

Publicity

Mrs. Ward had suggested that we thank *Country Magazine* for the boxwood article and ABS publicity appearing in its October issue. Mr. Butler said that he would be doing this in the course of his correspondence with the author, who had drawn heavily on material that we had sent her. President Mahone said that he had received a number of letters with boxwood queries following publication of the article and Mrs. Frackelton reported that the article had also resulted in a number of new members.

President Mahone requested the Secretary to write a letter to former *Bulletin* Editor Lu Dick expressing the Board's condolences on the recent death of her husband. Professor Beecher urged that the dates of the ABS An-

nual Meeting be sent well in advance to selected magazines. The Annual Meeting this year is scheduled for May 8, right on the heels of the Spring Tour.

Membership

Mrs. Frackelton discussed membership statistics. The current membership is 637. She had contacted about 80 people concerning renewal; 30 or more remain to be contacted. A list of 43 prospective members had been received from Director Will Mays.

Bulletin

President Mahone and others complimented Co-Editors Scot and Joan Butler on the excellent July issue. A number of people had called the President to praise it. The cover photo by Robert Frackelton was especially appreciated. Mr. Butler read a letter from Dr. Henry Skinner expressing his pleasure at the write-up concerning his receipt of the Veitch Memorial Award. Mr. Butler said the October issue of *The Bulletin* would be out in a few days.

Mr. Symmes raised the possibility of microfilming *The Bulletin*. A member had recently suggested microfilming as a means of increasing interest of libraries and similar institutions in subscribing to *The Bulletin*. The President asked Mr. Symmes to look into the costs of microfilming.

Lynn Batdorf reported progress in preparing an up-to-date Index for *The Bulletin*. He has finished collating Volumes 13 to 23. He hopes to review the earlier Indexes and recommends separate publication of an index of Volumes 1 through 25 in 1986. The President expressed the Board's deep appreciation of Mr. Batdorf's work.

Annual Meeting (Education)

Mr. Mays presented several ideas for the educational program at the Annual Meeting and asked the Board for other suggestions. These included a possible color slide tour of the White House gardens; slides on the use of boxwood in the landscape; a discussion of how new cultivars might be introduced into the commercial nursery trade; an auction or another exchange of boxwood plants; a presentation by members of the Boxwood Society of the Midwest on their Japanese Garden. Mr. Mays will follow up on these proposals.

Mary Holekamp suggested holding an annual meeting in Missouri, possibly combining our meeting with a tour of St. Louis and nearby horticultural sites. The idea was well received.

President Mahone raised the idea of holding the Annual Meeting on the weekend with the aim of enabling more members, especially younger working members, to be present. No action was taken.



Photo: Scot Butler

Kenmore (east front), site of 1984 Fall Board Meeting.

New Business

The Secretary was asked by the President to get an opinion from John Ariail as to whether the sale of small ads in *The Bulletin* (requests for boxwood sources or information on availability of plants, for example) would compromise the section 501(c)(3) status of ABS or pose any financial reporting problems.

A motion for adjournment was voted at 3:00 p.m. after appreciation was expressed to Mrs. Frackelton and Mrs. Beecher for arranging the meeting and the lunch. Group photographs were taken by Mr. Butler and Mrs. Frackelton.

Respectfully submitted,
Harrison Symmes, Secretary

Treasurer's Report, Board Meeting October 18, 1984

Checking account balance, May 7, 1984	\$ 4,237.53
Receipts	
Memberships	2,671.00
Gifts and donations	460.00
Handbook	\$235.00
Research	\$135.00
Memorial Garden	\$90.00
Sale of <i>Boxwood Bulletin</i>	247.50
Interest income, checking	122.61
Secretary's Fund	31.03
Workshop, May 24	521.00
Spring Tour, Raleigh, NC	117.03
Total Receipts	\$ 4,170.17
Disbursements	
Annual Meeting	537.86
James W. Hendrix (Speaker)	212.20
University of Kentucky	500.00
Printing	1,851.00
Telephone	19.63
Postage	216.24
Safe deposit box rent	15.00
Treasurer's salary	374.00
Total disbursements	\$ 3,726.03
Checking account balance, October 12, 1984	\$ 4,681.67
Certificate of deposit #007-0023966	7,694.81
Balance in savings account #8-621-578	3,651.76
Total assets	\$ 16,028.24

All accounts are deposited in the Farmers and Merchants National Bank, Winchester, Virginia.

Respectfully submitted,
Katherine Ward, Treasurer

John E. Ford

1914-1984

It is with regret that we announce the death of John Edgar Ford, Curator of the Secret Arboretum of the Ohio State University from 1968 until his retirement on February 28, 1984. He was stricken with a fatal heart attack on May 17, 1984 while working on the grounds around his home.

During his years as curator Mr. Ford contributed numerous articles to *The Boxwood Bulletin* reporting on the hardiness of various boxwood cultivars, under generally adverse weather and soil conditions, at the Secret Arboretum.

John Ford's credentials as an arboretum curator and forester were impressive. A native of New York State, he received his B.S. degree in forestry from Syracuse University. He served in several forest management positions in North Carolina and Kentucky before joining the faculty of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center at Wooster, Ohio. In 1976, at the time of the American Bicentennial, Ford was one of 200 U.S. citizens selected by the Royal Horticultural Society of England to receive a Fellowship in the Society. He was active in professional organizations, including the Society of American Foresters, American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta, Ecological Society of America, and National Parks and Conservation Association, to name but a few.

John Ford started publication in 1972 of the quarterly *Secret Arboretum Notes* and wrote 49 issues before his retirement. Some of the material was based on the meticulous records he kept of the performance of woody plants in the Arboretum. He wrote numerous articles for professional publications and was contributing author for the just published *Golden Book of Gardening*, all of which earned him international recognition. His contributions were representative of his careful, sensitive and devoted nature and the vast knowledge which he had acquired about plants. We shall greatly miss his informative observations on boxwoods.

FOR YOUR ADDRESS BOOK

THE AMERICAN BOXWOOD SOCIETY

INFORMATION

Address: Box 85, Boyce, Virginia 22620

DUES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Regular (individual) membership dues of The American Boxwood Society are now \$10.00. This includes \$8.00 for a subscription to *The Boxwood Bulletin*.

The Boxwood Society membership year runs from May of one year through April of the following year. Dues are payable in advance of each membership year. New members who join the Society at intervening times of the year are sent all four issues of *The Bulletin* for that membership year and then, like other members, pay dues in advance of the next membership year.

Non-member subscriptions are for groups and institutions such as botanic gardens, libraries, etc. Subscriptions are \$10.00 per year, and run by the calendar year.

At the present time all back issues of *The Boxwood Bulletin* are available except Vol. 22, No. 1, July 1982 (photocopy can be supplied, however). Price per single copy of any and all issues is \$2.50.

The present classes of membership are:

Category	Annual Dues
Individual	\$ 10
Family	15
Contributing	25
Sustaining	50
Life	250
Patron	500 or more
Institutional	
Subscriber	10

Gift memberships are announced to the recipients by boxwood-decorated cards which state that four issues of *The Boxwood Bulletin* are included in membership.

Contributions are welcome for the Research Fund, the Boxwood Memorial Garden and the Boxwood Handbook.

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.

If your letter is concerned with:

- Change of address
- Membership: new, renewal or gift
- Dues
- Donations to research programs or memorial gifts
- Ordering back issues of *The Bulletin*
- Ordering List of Registered Boxwoods

Write to:

Treasurer
American Boxwood Society
Box 85
Boyce, VA 22620

If your letter is concerned with:

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

Write to:

American Boxwood Society
Box 85
Boyce, VA 22620

Your request will 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 directly to the President of the American Boxwood Society:

Mr. Richard D. Mahone
P. O. Box 751
Williamsburg, VA 23185

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

Mr. Scot Butler, Editor
The Boxwood Bulletin
P.O. Box 190
Bluemont, VA 22012



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issues of *The Boxwood Bulletin*. Send your gift request
to the Treasurer, American Boxwood Society, P. O. Box
175, Boyce, Virginia 22620.