

The *Boxwood* Bulletin

A Quarterly Devoted to Man's Oldest Garden Ornamental



The attendees at the ABS Annual Meeting in Williamsburg photographed in front of the John T. Baldwin Memorial Garden across from the College of William and Mary. See story on page 3. (Photo: Decca Frackelton)

IN THIS ISSUE

44th Annual ABS Meeting: Report from Williamsburg, <i>Sigrid Harriman</i>	3
The Writing of <i>Boxwood: An Illustrated Encyclopedia</i> , <i>Lynn R. Batdorf</i>	13
Symposium Marks Publication of <i>Boxwood Encyclopedia</i> , <i>Scot Butler</i>	16
News of the Society	22

The American Boxwood Society

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

For information about boxwood and the Society, refer to www.boxwoodsociety.org.

Officers:

PRESIDENT:

Mr. Charles T. Fooks Salisbury, MD

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

Mr. Clyde Weber Bentleyville, PA

SECRETARY:

Mrs. Laurie Jamerson Madison Heights, VA

EXECUTIVE TREASURER:

Mr. McHenry Stiff, III Round Hill, VA

REGISTRAR:

Mr. Lynn R. Batdorf Washington, DC

DIRECTORS:

Mr. John W. Boyd III (2007) Roanoke VA

Mr. Walter S. Carell, Jr. (2007) Millington, NJ

Mrs. Robert L. Frackelton (2006) Fredericksburg, VA

Mr. W. Edward Goode, Jr. (2005) Richmond, VA

Mr. Kenneth Lee Hahn (2005) Califon, NJ

Dr. Maury Hanson (2006) Madison, VA

Mr. Clifford Hoffman (2007) Flemington, NJ

Dr. Gary Richardson (2006) Annapolis, MD

Mr. Alan Willemsen (2005) Mendham, NJ

EX-OFFICIO:

Dr. Michael Bowers Boyce, VA

BULLETIN EDITOR:

John S. McCarthy St. Louis, MO

Memberships:

Memberships for the year May 2004 through April 2005 include \$16 for four quarterly issues of *The Boxwood Bulletin*:

Individual	\$35	Sustaining	\$100
Family	\$50	Life	\$500
Contributing	\$75		

Non-member subscriptions for groups and institutions, such as botanic gardens and libraries, are \$35 by the calendar year if established or current year for new subscriptions.

Available Publications:

Boxwood: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*	\$110
Back issues of <i>The Bulletin</i> (through Vol. 43 (each)	\$ 4
<i>Boxwood Handbook: A Practical Guide (Revised)</i>	\$ 18
<i>Boxwood Buyer's Guide (5th Edition)</i>	\$ 8
<i>International Registration List of Cultivated Buxus L.</i>	\$ 3
<i>Index to The Boxwood Bulletin 1961-1986</i>	\$ 10
<i>Index to The Boxwood Bulletin 1986-1991</i>	\$ 4
<i>Index to The Boxwood Bulletin 1991-1996</i>	\$ 3

* For price, see box, page 12.

Publications may be ordered from ABS Treasurer, Box 85, Boyce, VA 22620-0085.

Contributions:

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

Boxwood Memorial Garden Fund
Boxwood Research Fund

Correspondence:

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

Treasurer, The American Boxwood Society
P.O. Box 85, Boyce, VA 22620-0085

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

Mr. Charles T. Fooks
31106 Johnson Rd.
Salisbury, MD 21804

Call for Papers:

Technical articles, news, history, lore, notes, and photographs concerning boxwood specimens, gardens or plantings are solicited for possible publication in *The Boxwood Bulletin*. Material should be submitted to:

Chairman, *Bulletin* Committee
1714 Greenway Drive
Fredericksburg, VA 22401-5209

44th Annual ABS Meeting: Report from Williamsburg

Sigrid Harriman

The American Boxwood Society decided to revisit Williamsburg after an absence of ten years for the 2004 annual meeting. It was held in the Conference Center of the Woodlands Inn on May 6-8, 2004. The days were filled with boxwood-related activities, related talks, tours and the annual boxwood auction. The meeting was well attended. Members came from California, Washington State, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, Tennessee, Georgia, South Carolina and Indiana.

The much-awaited wine and cheese party on Thursday evening was held on Woodlands terrace overlooking woods and the waterfall. Mr. Wesley Greene, garden historian of Colonial Williamsburg, was the evening's speaker. He gave a thoroughly-researched introduction to the first settlements of today's Colonial Williamsburg.

The first settlers arrived in 1620 and had to overcome unbelievable adversities that our generation can neither imagine nor master. They established a colony in less than one hundred years. Today we admire an almost perfectly-recreated town. This town is the destination of many tourists each year. Mr. Greene's lively presentation was accompanied by good slides showing well-restored gardens and their respective houses. The governor's garden (Governor's Palace Garden) is the best example of garden restoration work.

Friday morning started with a brief business meeting. All attendees were welcomed by President Charles T. Fooks who also introduced ABS Director W. Edward Goode, Jr. who was in charge of the program development for this year's meeting. All boarded the bus and were taken to tour the William and Mary College

campus. This campus is rich with large trees and boxwoods. The overall design is easy-flowing and seems uncomplicated. Some of the older boxwood stands looked somewhat neglected. The walking tour included the boxwood garden, presented by the Williamsburg Garden Club in memory of the late Dr. J. T. Baldwin and the original *Buxus microphylla* 'John Baldwin', which was named for him. Each attendee received a gift plant of *Buxus microphylla* 'John Baldwin', donated by Paul Saunders. The bus brought all back to town and an arranged lunch in the historic Shields Tavern on Duke of Gloucester Street. It was wonderfully cool in the downstairs dining room where colonial-attired waiters brought large lunch servings for all.

After lunch it was off for the walking tour of the Colonial Area with two Colonial Williamsburg guides. Early afternoon's sun was very bright and quite hot and shade under large trees and towering hedges was welcome. Most impressive was the governor's formal garden design

with a central axis and flanked by tall tower-shaped evergreens. The design reflects on European gardens of that time and has parterres on either side of the axis. Perennial borders weave in and out of boxwood hedges. The left and right outer edges are tall espaliers formed by hornbeam. The governor's vegetable and fruit gardens were also beautifully restored and provide an insight to how the early settlers fed themselves. The walk led past and into a few more colonial gardens with large boxwood hedges. The bus took all back to the Conference Center to attend the much-awaited boxwood auction. The auction is one of the highlights of the meeting and this year's was not disappointing.

Friday's banquet was much appreciated and so was the after-dinner speaker, Mr. Brent Heath, co-owner of Brent and Becky's Bulbs. They are located on the Northern Neck area of Virginia where three generations of the family have been raising bulbs. His presentation included the description of their



Wesley Greene, Garden Historian Colonial Williamsburg was the Thursday evening speaker.



Paul Saunders (l.), speaker, and Charles Fooks, ABS President, at the podium Friday morning.

cooperation with large dutch growers in the Netherlands. As a matter of fact, Mr. Heath spends two to three months each year in the Netherlands, working with the growers. His presentation then concentrated on companion plantings to various bulbs. The talk was also accompanied by many good slides of our favorites.

Saturday morning started with Mr. Paul Saunders reporting on his "National Boxwood Trials." Although not a very scientific survey, the fact that he amassed so much data in his passionate pursuit of the species *Buxus* gives increasing importance to his survey. He is an engaging speaker and clearly so involved in his pursuit to find the best, most suited boxwood that his enthusiasm becomes contagious.

Mr. Lynn Batdorf, registrar for the ABS which is the International Cultivar Registration Authority for *Buxus* spoke on the "Knowing and

Growing of Boxwood". His talk was as always informative and lively and imparted many useful tips to boxwood growers. A number of questions followed his presentation. He also gave an update on the status of the *Boxwood Encyclopedia* a 350-page volume describing about 300 cultivars of the genus. Last minute obstacles such as mailing boxes seem to have delayed the promised publication date.

Mr. Don McKelvey, garden historian for Colonial Williamsburg, has been in this position for the last 15 years. He spoke to the attendees Friday afternoon at the demonstration vegetable garden, showing tools, etc., on Saturday gave an overview of the history, development and regeneration of colonial gardens. Slides illuminated his presentation. Clearly this is a man who thoroughly enjoys his work and as a matter of fact does not seem to feel that he is working in

earnest. His talk was a good ending to three days of "being into boxwood."

Mrs. Harriman is a former ABS Director and has served as ABS Secretary.

Photos are by Decca Frackelton.

Dues are Due

A dues notice was recently mailed to all members. Those who do not respond will no longer receive *The Boxwood Bulletin*, beginning with the October issue.

Those who have misplaced the notice and wish to renew should contact Decca Frackelton, 1714 Greenway Dr., Fredericksburg, VA 22401-5209, (540) 373-7975.



Weeping boxwood along the wall near Ewell Hall at the College of William and Mary.



A pair of B. sempervirens on one end of the John T. Baldwin Memorial Garden where they had more space to develop.



These large cylindrically-shaped plants are sometimes said to represent the apostles.



Kitchen garden behind the Geddy (silversmith's) House.



B. sempervirens 'Suffruticosa' behind the Bush-Everard House has completely closed the path.



Another view of the 'Suffruticosa' that closed the path. A new path was developed to the side.



'Vardar Valley' boxwood in the John T. Baldwin Memorial Garden.



A parterre garden along Duke of Gloucester Street representing the British flag



A boxwood parterre garden, with the Governor's Palace in the background.



The large boxwood had overgrown to hide the brick in front, but is now trimmed to expose the brick and to form somewhat of an espalier.



Laura Viancour, Coordinator of Garden Programs, one of two tour guides for the afternoon.



An "eighteenth-century" gardener explains his tools and methods.



Susan, the other guide for the tour of Colonial Williamsburg.



A small garden beside the Governor's Palace. The topiary is a replacement of one that outgrew its space.



*The Sunken Garden at the college where *B. sempervirens* rims the top. It had been cut back to 3'-4' and is developing into a solid hedge again. Formerly it was head-high.*



Henry Frierson (r.) and others identify the boxwood along the triangle at the College of William and Mary.



A boxwood garden beside the President's House at the College of William and Mary.



The Palace Green, looking toward the Governor's Palace.



The 'John Baldwin' boxwood below the Sunken Garden.



A portion of the John T. Baldwin Memorial Garden. B. microphylla 'Compacta' (foreground) and the tall B. Sempervirens 'Hardwickensis'.

Boxwood Auction List

Mrs. K. D. Ward, because of added responsibilities at home, felt she could not continue as Treasurer of The American Boxwood Society. The ABS is most fortunate to obtain the services of McHenry L. Stiff, III.

President Fooks read the following resolution at the Annual Meeting:

RECOGNITION

Whereas, in 1981, working as superintendent of B(andy Experimental Farm, Katherine D. Ward was appointed Treasurer of The American Boxwood Society.

Whereas, she received her early introduction to boxwood while growing up on her mother's family farm which had been in the family since the early 1800s and contained many American boxwood as well as formal boxwood gardens.

Whereas, she studied accounting, salesmanship, marketing and the care of house plants and received practical knowledge working in a family lawn and garden business and later for a nursery.

Whereas, she arrived with an Addressograph file, three sets of index cards (white, yellow and gray) and some of the former Treasurer's account books at the Frackelton residence to sort out the membership data so it could be put on Mr. Frackelton's computer.

Whereas, she continued to serve as Treasurer except for one year until early 2004 and handled the distribution of five editions of the Buyer's Guide, requests for back issues of *The Boxwood Bulletin* and the Index issues, as well as two editions of the *Boxwood Handbook*.

Whereas, she was voted an Honorary Life Member several years ago in recognition of her long and faithful service.

Whereas, seeing the completion and publication of Lynn Batdorf's *Boxwood: An Illustrated Encyclopedia* has been the realization of a long-time wish.

Therefore, be it resolved that The American Boxwood Society, in recognition of her many years of service to the Society, presents this autographed copy of the Encyclopedia to Katherine D. Ward.

(A printed copy of the resolution and autographed copy of the *Encyclopedia* to be presented at a later date.)

'Newport Blue'
'Latifolia Maculata'
'Fiddlandbo'
'Memorial'
'Dee Runk'
'Fastigiata'
'John Baldwin'
'Grace Hendrick Phillips'
'Jensen'
'Vardar Valley'
'Jim Stauffer'
'Green Mound'
'Elegantissima'
Sport of 'Compacta'
'Nana'
'Argentea '
'Compacta'
'Route 50'
'Green Beauty'
'John Boyd'
Tide Hill'
'Schmidts'
'Aurea Marginata '
'Green Pillow'
'Curly Locks'
'Green Mountain'
'Chicago Land Green' ('Glencoe')
'Peaceful Valley'
'Gaither College'
'Justin Brouwers'
'Arborescens'
'Morris Midget'
'Faulkner'
'Pendula'
'Aurea Pendula'
'Green Velvet'
B. harlandii
'Belleville'
'Rotundifolia'

Non-plant Sale Items

Rhododendron: 'Yaku Princess'
Books: First edition, *The Boxwood Bulletin*, Vol. 1, No. 1
Two copies of "Caring for BOX," by Lynn Batdorf
Afghans: White and blue
ABS emblem

Annual Meeting Attendees

Lynn R Batdorf, *Registrar*
Washington, DC

John W. Boyd, III, *Director*
Roanoke, VA

Walter S. Carell, Jr., *Director*
Alexandra, Carell.
Millington, NJ

Reece Corey
Jane Corey
Chestertown, MD

Bernie Cross
Nan Cross
Waterford, VA

Charles T. Fooks, Jr., *President*
Lucy Fooks
Salisbury, MD

Decca Frackelton, *Director*
Fredericksburg, VA

Henry. F. Frierson, MD
2nd Vice President
Charlottesville, VA

William E. Goode, Sr.
Eleanor M. Goode
Richmond, VA

W. Edward Goode, Jr., *Director*
Manakin-Sabot, VA

Constance Gray and Mr. Gray
Winston-Salem, NC

K. Lee Hahn, *Director*
Califon, NJ

Maury Hanson, MD, *Director*
Madison, VA

Sigrid Harriman
Alexandria, VA

Clifford Hoffman, *Director*
Flemington, NJ

Edna H. Hoffman
Memphis, TN

Ross S. Hotchkiss
Richmond, VA

Laurie Jamerson, *Secretary*
Madison Heights, VA

Edward Kelly
Patricia Kelly
Taneytown, MD

John Lockwood Makar
Atlanta, GA

Tom Patrick
Greenville, SC

Barbara Peters, *Guest*
Charles Whelan
Potomac, MD

Bill Plumb
Moorestown, NJ

Adrienne Phillips, *Guest*
Paul Saunders
Tatum Saunders
Piney River, VA

Gary Richardson, MD, *Director*
Mary Richardson
Annapolis, MD

George Schumacher
Dea Anna Schumacher
Turlock, CA

J. K. Shumaker
Jean Shumaker
Stephen Southall
Lynchburg, VA

Louise Taylor Smith
Fishers, IN

Mac Stiff, *Treasurer*
Anne Stiff
Round Hill, VA

Sally Todd
Clark Todd, *Guest*
Mount Vernon, WA

Betty M. Walker
Del Rio, TN

Clyde Weber, *1st Vice President*
Betty Weber
Bentleyville, PA

Auction Donors

The ABS extends its thanks to those who so graciously donated auction items for sale:

Lynn Batdorf
John Boyd
Charles Fooks
Henry Frierson
Hildebrant Nursery
Clifford Hoffman
John Makar
Saunders Brothers
Betty Walker
Betty Weber
Clyde Weber

Boxwood Encyclopedia

The long-awaited Encyclopedia began to arrive after the ABS Annual Meeting.

Books may be ordered from:

*The American Boxwood
Society
P.O. Box 85
Boyce, VA 22620-0085*

The cover price is \$110.

ABS members may order one copy for \$99.

Anyone may buy 10-19 copies at a 20% discount, or 20 or more copies at a 40% discount.

For all orders, shipping and handling is \$10 per book. U.S. currency only.

Note: Virginia residents must also pay a sales tax of 4.5% based on the discounted price of the books. (Beginning September 1, 2004, the tax will be 5%.)

The Writing of *Boxwood: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*

Lynn R. Batdorf

The inspiration for writing the book, *Boxwood: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*, came to me slowly, the result of several events that began nearly 20 years ago. The first was my appointment as the boxwood registrar in 1985. *Buxus sempervirens* 'Graham Blandy' had been awaiting registration and this task immediately fell to me as the new registrar. Completing this registration led me to examine the work of the two previous registrars. "Registration Lists of Cultivar Names in *Buxus* L." was published in 1965 by Dr. Burdette Wagenknecht, the first registrar, who documented 179 boxwood cultivars. By 1973 Wagenknecht had published five addenda that included 15 cultivars. Then Dr. Bernice Speese, the second boxwood registrar, registered six cultivars between 1978 and 1985.

I then realized that many boxwood cultivars were not being registered as they were introduced. Also, the nomenclature was greatly confused and interested parties lacked any general boxwood reference with definitive descriptions. This led me to begin a four year examination of all the prior boxwood registrations and several dozen new, unregistered boxwood. The results of this effort appeared as an article titled, "Checklist of *Buxus* L." published in *The Boxwood Bulletin* volume 28, number 3, pages 43 to 49, in 1989. It was the first comprehensive examination of boxwood cultivars in 24 years and resulted in dozens of changes as some cultivar names were reduced to synonyms and others were registered and documented for the first time.

My quest to better understand boxwood was furthered in 1985 by Elizabeth Braimbridge, founder of the Langley Boxwood Nursery in England. Elizabeth kindly invited me

to visit her nursery so that we could talk about boxwood. This unique opportunity also allowed me to spend four days at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew, studying its comprehensive, world renowned collection of herbarium specimens and living plants. I also traveled to the Royal Botanical Gardens, Edinburgh, to study the boxwood planted there. The information I collected during this first trip was some of the most important I had ever accumulated, as it was not available to me in the United States.

As I began to acquire important information on boxwood cultivars, I started to realize that I was going beyond the responsibilities of a registrar. I was beginning something that could not stop as an article, and it would require something far larger and more complete—I had committed myself to a book. As I began to research boxwood species and cultivars, I obtained hundreds of original articles, some more than 150 years old. Collecting this information was the beginning of an exciting two-decade quest for original descriptions. My intensive journal search took me to the National Agricultural Library (NAL) in Beltsville, Maryland, the largest agricultural library in the world, containing a wealth of scientific information. NAL also has ties to other important libraries worldwide with botanical holdings. As each journal or monograph I requested arrived, I gained additional descriptions and references, many of them leading me to discover other important sources of information. It is still easy to recall the thrill I experienced when first seeing the photocopies of complete monographs from such botanical giants such as Dr. M. H. Baillon and Dr. Therese Mathou from France, Dr. Sumihiko Hatusima from Japan and Dr. M.

Cheng from China. Other treatises and articles followed, each adding important detailed information on the many species and cultivars of boxwood. Over the years, as my pursuit of articles continued, I was forced to purchase a bookcase just to store all the material.

From 1989 to 1991, I methodically compiled this historical information I had gathered into one document. Concurrently, I took measurements, made observations and wrote descriptions from living boxwood at major gardens in North America and western Europe to add accurate data to the manuscript. Soon, the manuscript became hundreds of pages of detailed information on all the known boxwood species and cultivars. It had become so large that, I was becoming overwhelmed and uncertain about the best manner in which to proceed.

Then, another opportunity presented itself. For many years, the American Boxwood Society had been envisioning a handbook about boxwood culture. In the early 1990s, this effort had stalled and the society was looking for someone to complete the project. I was enjoying my work on the *Boxwood Encyclopedia* and didn't want the distraction of a new book project; however, I knew there was a need for good cultural information on boxwood, so I agreed to take on the project. From 1991 to 1995, work on the *Boxwood Encyclopedia* halted while I wrote the *Boxwood Handbook*. Published in 1995, the *Boxwood Handbook* was so popular that it was reprinted in 1997. While writing the *Boxwood Handbook* I learned the many and often complex steps necessary to publish a book. While I possessed a good technical knowledge of the subject matter, I had never proceeded through all of

the hurdles encountered in the course of writing a book.

In 1995, after neglecting the manuscript for four years, I again turned my attention to the *Boxwood Encyclopedia*. The experience I gained from writing the *Boxwood Handbook* gave me a more mature perspective for the *Encyclopedia*. Immediately, I removed a majority of the species information and focused on the cultivars. My sights had been widened by nursery professionals, catalogs and internet searches. I realized that there were many unique boxwood cultivars in western Europe that were essential to include to make a complete encyclopedia. Elizabeth and Mark Braimbridge generously offered to organize a trip that allowed me to visit Boskoop where important nurseries held many new boxwood cultivars. The information I gathered from this trip was extensive and significant. This exciting information took years to analyze properly and incorporate into the manuscript.

Traveling in search of boxwood information was always an exciting yet challenging event. Briefly, I have visited more than one hundred botanic gardens from Montreal to Orlando, St. Louis, Denver and Vancouver to Los Angeles as well as many locations in-between. Some gardens I visited once, some several times, and still others I have visited dozens of times. Elizabeth and Mark Braimbridge in London were very instrumental in assisting with my six visits to Europe. Because of their efforts, I visited Kew and Edinburgh repeatedly, as well as Cambridge, Oxford, Cumbria, Surrey, Birr, Boskoop and Berlin. A three-week boxwood expedition to Azerbaijan and Georgia also resulted in significant information. The encyclopedia could never have been written without including information gleaned from these trips.

Finally, I believed that a compre-

hensive treatment of boxwood cultivars was at hand. The manuscript had become so large that it had to be divided into six partial documents to keep the computer from "locking up." It included more than 1,000 boxwood names and nearly 4,000 photographs. The bookcase of catalogs, copied monographs, articles, notes, drafts, and photographs was now so great that it was overflowing the bookcase into boxes on the floor. Its scope and volume was so great that its physical management was becoming a burden.

To organize the great quantity of material in the manuscript, I had written seven complete progressive drafts. The need to write so many drafts became apparent when the information had become so large that overall comprehension was lost. In these drafts I reviewed and analyzed the technical information and organized the plant descriptions, filling in the numerous gaps. Synonyms and omissions slowly become apparent and were researched before making final decisions about them.

At times, the sources I used presented conflicting data or opinion. For example, in researching original descriptions and herbarium specimens and comparing them with subsequent descriptions and living plants in various locations I discovered numerous discrepancies. A boxwood cultivar grown in Seattle, Philadelphia, London, Boskoop, Berlin and Tbilisi could exhibit somewhat different characteristics due to a variety of biotic and abiotic influences; this variation resulted in new names being given to previously named plants. Only through a comprehensive study, such as I was able to do, could these discrepancies be discovered and corrected.

There were other surprises. In reviewing information from various authors writing over a 150-year period, I discovered more than one author had faithfully repeated the description of another, while others would be in

direct conflict with what had been previously published. It took me many years to sort out the truth.

As I continued my research, I came across interesting information about boxwood that did not fit neatly into the enumeration of cultivars that I had decided would be the primary format for the encyclopedia. The distribution, phylogeny, chemotaxonomy, uses of the wood, fragrance, cultivation, topiary, history, customs and lore were all topics that I believed gave true purpose and understanding to boxwood. This information was pulled together and made into the first chapter of the encyclopedia. However, there were still more facts about boxwood that did not work well in the first chapter and it was grouped into ten appendices. These contain the many organizations, books, gardens and people that have greatly improved our understanding of boxwood. Comprehensive lists of common names, germplasm from collecting expeditions, cultivar names and species are all included in the appendices.

After 15 years of effort, I and many others began to wonder if the boxwood encyclopedia would ever be finished. I was continuously tempted to wait to add one more boxwood cultivar that was being introduced. Eventually, the desire to see the existing information in a finished form won out. I was ready to prepare the manuscript for publication, but this in turn presented another unexpected issue. After so many years of writing, rewriting, going back to research a particular detail, printing a new draft, I had lost perspective to many of the passages. At this point, peer reviews are necessary to shape the final product.

In 2001, two colleagues, both with excellent writing skills and horticultural knowledge, reviewed the manuscript. They were honest and comprehensive in their criticisms, and

later I realized, exceptionally diplomatic. Both diligently read through the first half of the manuscript, identifying numerous and reoccurring errors. Rather than continuing, they gently recommended a re-write. In truth, the errors were so numerous that it took nine months of reworking the text to make the corrections. To my delight, both reviewers volunteered to re-review the revised manuscript. Two months later, I discovered I still had another eight months of revisions to do. But finally, after these two major revisions, I believed that the manuscript was correct and complete, and publishing seemed only weeks away. Subsequent events quickly demonstrated how premature any celebration at that point would have been.

The first problem became finalizing illustrations for the encyclopedia. Throughout the years of collected data, I was also taking and cataloguing thousands of illustrations. I knew that using as many illustrations as possible would bring the book alive with impressive visual information. But choosing just the right photograph, the one that best represents the characteristics typical of each cultivar, proved to be extremely challenging and time consuming. Even the seemingly innocent effort of cropping the photographs required a full week of work, while writing appropriate captions proved to have its own unexpected challenges.

In 2003 it was finally time to merge the manuscript, the electronically scanned photographs, and the captions together into one document. Until this time, each had been a very separate endeavor. Although these efforts portend a final product, a variety of unexpected typographical and format errors occurred leading to the correction of errors that had been fixed many times before.

The important issues of book size, number of photographs and number of pages had to be decided. Then details

such as cover and page layout, paper and font characteristics and time schedule for typesetting, production and binding had to be agreed upon by both the printer and the author. For example, I spent almost two full weeks sorting out the problems associated with formatting fractions. Finally matters such as printing options and costs, the selling price, storage and distribution of the book had to be addressed. Nearly one year was spent interacting with the printer and company staff who were exceptionally helpful and kind. Additionally, The American Boxwood Society allowed me to decide nearly all of the various publication issues. This amount of freedom is highly unusual for an author and for that I am extremely grateful. The high printing and binding costs, was a challenge for the Society, but response by its board members and interested individuals was strong and immediate, resulting in substantial and numerous donations.

While no effort has been spared to ensure the correctness of the text, undoubtedly errors will be found. Indeed non-fiction writers spend the majority of their time correcting and removing errors. This has certainly proved to be the case with *Boxwood: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*. Even with these unintentional errors, it is my fervent hope that this book will be judged as having made a contribution to science and to the world of boxwood. To present definitive and comprehensive boxwood cultivar information in one easy-to-use book has been my only goal.

For the most part, creating *Boxwood: An Illustrated Encyclopedia* was a very solitary experience that involved a great deal of typing and researching each winter, then traveling to document or photograph plants through the other seasons. However, a great many intelligent, caring and dedicated individuals were always only a phone call, letter, or plane trip away.

While only one name appears on the cover of the book, it is in fact, an effort of many. It is virtually impossible to convey the debt I owe to those who have freely given such tremendous knowledge and incalculable hours of their time to this encyclopedia.

This nearly two decade effort to research, write and publish *Boxwood: An Illustrated Encyclopedia* has presented many great and unexpected challenges; surmounting them proved to be my greatest reward. While it is not possible in this short article to relate the many other experiences I had during my long and eventful journey, I can summarize by saying that it was the ride along the way that was the most enjoyable, not necessarily the arrival at the final destination. Most of all, this book was an exciting intellectual challenge requiring great perseverance and a rich variety of resources. Halfway through the writing of this book, its challenges led me to believe that I would never write another one; however, surprisingly, now that it's complete, I can't resist another. This time, a comprehensive treatment, with botanical descriptions and photographs, of all known boxwood species is envisioned. With progress well underway, hopefully this one won't take quite as long to complete as *Boxwood: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*.

Lynn R. Batdorf is the Boxwood Registrar for The American Boxwood Society (ABS), which is the International Cultivar Registration Authority for Boxwood. He is the Curator of the National Boxwood Collection at the United States National Arboretum in Washington, D.C. In addition to Boxwood: An Illustrated Encyclopedia, he has authored two other popular books and over 50 technical articles on various boxwood topics. He has been awarded Honorary Life Membership in both the ABS and the European Boxwood and Topiary Society.

Symposium Marks Publication of Boxwood Encyclopedia

Scot Butler

A highly-successful symposium was held on Saturday, April 3, 2004, to mark the completion and advance publication in notebook form of a new monograph, *Boxwood: An Illustrated Encyclopedia* by Mr. Lynn Batdorf. The symposium took place at Blandy Experimental Farm under the auspices of the Foundation of the State Arboretum of Virginia (FOSA).

Mr. Batdorf has served for many years as Horticulturist for the U. S. National Arboretum's national boxwood collection in Washington, DC. In addition, he is Registrar for the ABS International Cultivar Registration Authority for *Buxus* L. The encyclopedia represents many years of painstaking research, evaluation and organization of data on boxwood from all available sources. The encyclopedia runs to more than 350 pages and is enhanced with color photographs of many boxwood specimens. Binding of the encyclopedia is expected to be completed shortly, and attendees at the symposium were given the opportunity to place an advance order after examining the loose-leaf copy. ABS members who were not present at the symposium will be able to order the encyclopedia- through instructions to be included with the July 2004 issue of *The Boxwood Bulletin* (Volume 44, Number 1)

Mr. David Carr, Curator of the Orland E. White State Arboretum of Virginia opened the symposium with a welcome to those present, and Mr. Charles Fooks, President of The American Boxwood Society, remarked on the significance of the occasion. Mrs. Joan Butler, ABS boxwood information reference agent, invited members of the audience to examine the sample copy of the new encyclopedia and submit

orders to ensure mail delivery as soon as bound copies are available.

Mr. Batdorf then presented a color slide lecture on a boxwood-collecting expedition in 2002 to the Caucasian republics of Azerbaijan and Georgia. (For Mr. Batdorf's description of this trip, see *The Boxwood Bulletin*, Volume 43, Number 1, Page 8.) This eye-opening presentation of native boxwood forests was of special interest to many in the audience who were unaware of the *Buxus sempervirens* subspecies *hyrcana* and *colchica* that grow profusely in this area of the world. Some of the age-old specimens pictured in the slides had attained fifty feet in height.

For his part of three concurrent boxwood sessions that followed the slide lecture Mr. Batdorf spoke on the care and maintenance of boxwood under the rubric "Easy Does It." Because of his expertise in this field Mr. Batdorf played to a full house and continued to answer questions from his audience well into the lunch hour that followed the morning program.

Mr. Clyde Weber, First Vice-President of the ABS, addressed the second of the concurrent sessions on "Boxwood on the Northern Fringe of Zone 6." For his talk Mr. Weber drew on his experience in growing boxwood on his farm/nursery at Bentleyville (near Pittsburgh), Pennsylvania, where winter temperatures can drop well below freezing. Consequently his interest is in boxwood types that are hardy in this fringe area. Not only does he test established varieties but he also seeks to discover newly introduced varieties that might withstand the rigors of winter in his area. He has had mixed results which were recorded on information sheets that he distributed

along with color photographs keyed to the types recorded.

Among six categories of winter hardiness, Mr. Weber places at the top: 'Winter Gem', 'Green Beauty', and 'Jim's Spreader'. (Here and following, the species of these plants have been omitted to avoid clutter and save space.)

Next among the hardiest were four of the northern hybrids of boxwood developed by the Sheridan Nurseries in Ontario, Canada: 'Green Velvet', 'Green Mountain', 'Green Mound', and 'Green Gem'. Also in this group is 'Glencoe' (first patented as 'Chicagoland Green').

Described as "hardy and distinctive" are 'Justin Brouwers' (recommended as a northern substitute for 'Suffruticosa'), 'Vardar Valley', 'Agram', 'Inglis', 'Dee Runk', 'Rotundifolia', 'Fastigiata', and 'Elegantissima'. A few plants qualify as "hardy but only in protected locations": 'Compacta', (perhaps) 'Green Pillow', and (possibly) 'Morris Dwarf' and 'Morris Midget'.

A long list of plants categorized as "distinctive varieties but with problems" includes: 'Graham Blandy', 'Handsworthensis', 'Belleville', 'John Baldwin', 'Curly Locks', 'Tide Hill', 'Tall Boy', 'Latifolia', and 'Latifolia Marginata'.

A category, "nice but not enough data yet" includes 'Grace Hendrick Phillips' and 'Ste. Genevieve'. Several newly-introduced boxwood show promise of winter hardiness in Mr. Weber's climate: 'Northern Emerald', 'Green Prince', 'Route 50' and 'Andy Tarnik'.

The third concurrent session consisted of a guided tour through the ABS memorial boxwood garden by Joan Butler, Chairman of the Boxwood Garden Committee. She was

accompanied by Mr. Bob Arnold, Arboretum Superintendent, and Mr. Mac Stiff, ABS Director and newly appointed Executive Treasurer of the ABS as well as Treasurer of FOSA. Although cold, rainy weather discouraged many of those attending the symposium from the walking tour, those who did participate found it rewarding.

Approaching the garden, Mrs. Butler noted extensive deer damage to old *Arborvitae* trees but none to the boxwood plants surrounding them, suggesting that the apparent resistance of boxwood to deer incursions accounts for its renewed popularity in the landscape.

Mrs. Butler traced the origin and development of the Memorial Garden to two great boxwood plantmen: Mr. Henry Höhman of Kingsville Nurseries near Baltimore, Maryland and Dr. John Baldwin, professor at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. Both men died in 1974. More recently, Cdr. P.

D. ("Swede") Larson, who died in 1992, was also memorialized in recognition of his efforts to enhance the garden with additional boxwood cultivars and to propagate cuttings to ensure preservation of specimens already in the garden.

Mrs. Butler explained the scientific layout of the garden: South Bed contains most dwarf and Asiatic (Chinese, Japanese, Korean) boxwood; Center Bed contains special collections of mostly *Buxus sempervirens* such as the Dr. Edgar Anderson Balkan collection and plants tested for hardiness by the Boxwood Society of the Midwest in St. Louis, Missouri; North Bed contains most of the *sempervirens* cultivars which have proven cold-hardy in more northerly locations as well as cultivars especially selected by Dr. Baldwin.

She called attention to some unusual forms of boxwood in the South Bed: *Buxus microphylla* 'Compacta' and its varied sports -

'Curly Locks', 'Grace Hendrick Phillips', 'Helen Whiting', 'Henry Höhman', and 'Sunlight'. Mrs. Butler also noted the *B. microphylla* var. *japonica* collection which includes 'Morris Midget', 'Morris Dwarf', 'National' and 'Green Beauty'. At the west end of this bed are four Korean boxwood hybrids from Canada, including 'Green Velvet', a 1997 Gold Medal Plant and the first boxwood ever so honored.

The tour ended with a stop at Expansion Bed #7 which contains 17 additional plants from the Balkan K-series that are presently under evaluation.

A buffet luncheon was offered in the Blandy Farm dining room following the three concurrent morning sessions. The afternoon program was opened with a repetition of the three concurrent sessions so that symposium participants could attend a second session of their choosing.

The symposium concluded with a



A section of the audience at the Boxwood Symposium. [Photo: Clyde Weber]

lecture by ABS Director Walter S. Carell, Jr., on the process for solving a landscape design problem. Mr. Carell, a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects, reduced this broad subject to several specific guidelines.

Begin the process by analyzing and evaluating the "facts" in three logical stages. Site analysis is the first stage where the physical characteristics of the site are studied: topography; existing vegetation; water and drainage features; soil quality; climate; location; orientation and environment; size in relation to human scale; and any special features. Analyzing the characteristics collectively makes it possible to establish the individual identity of the site, i. e., its essence. If the inherent qualities of the site are strong enough they will influence the landscape design.

Using this three-dimensional

fieldwork the next stage is design analysis where taste influences the spirit and style of design in the context of the "facts." Other considerations at this point include intended use of the landscape, space allotted to it, and the "aha" (perceptions that arise?) factor. Design analysis continues with the recording graphically of functional requirements such as orientation of the design, location of buildings, ingress and egress, pedestrian and vehicular circulation, parking and service areas, special use areas and screening. The functional relationship between these spatial requirements should also be graphically shown.

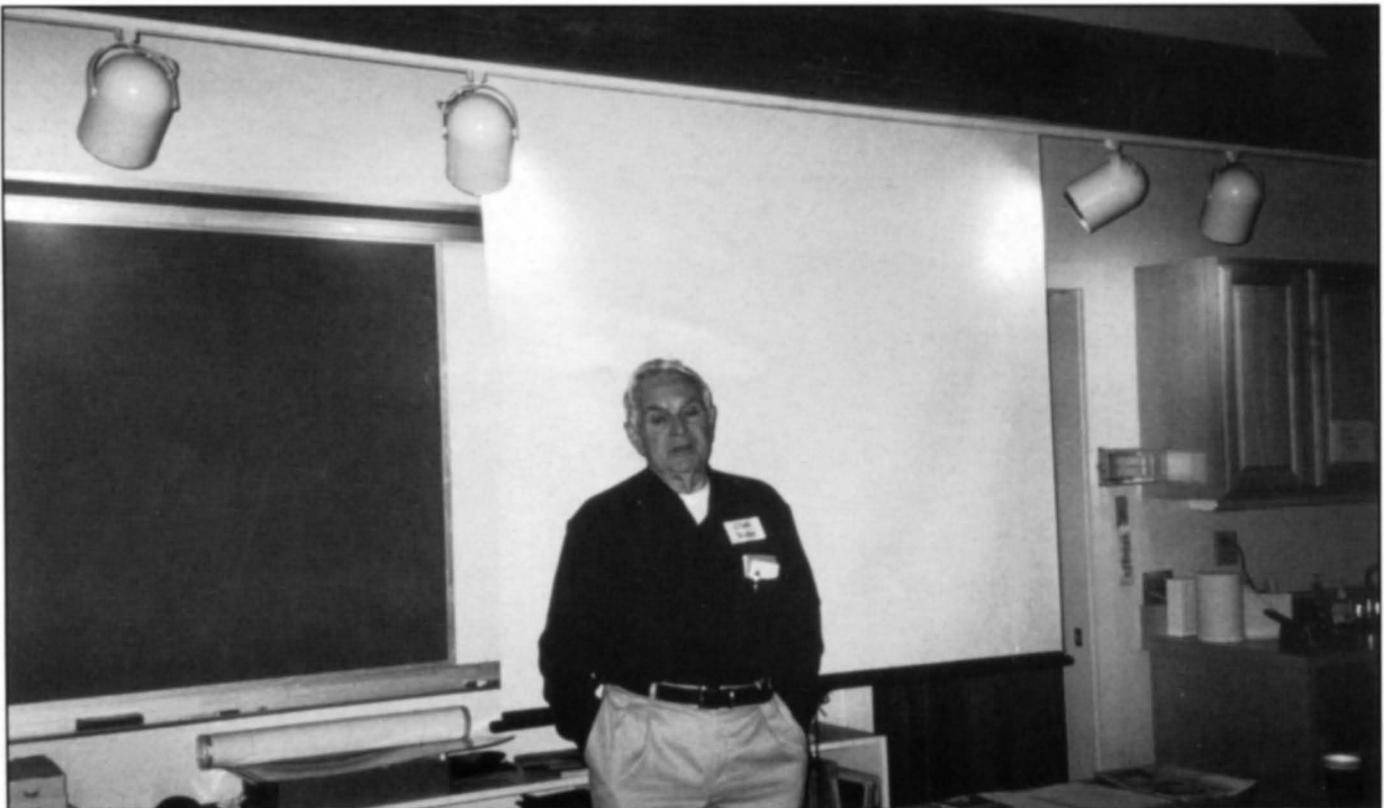
The last phase is the design concept stage where the final physical expression of the previous stages is embodied in terms of physical form. This process may include "in-the-box" and/or "outside-the-box" designs.

Mr. Carell's approach to landscape design reflects his dedication to the arts, especially music, in creating aesthetically pleasing experiences. This principle was amply reflected in stunning color photographs, nearly all featuring boxwood, of the many fine properties where he has designed the landscapes.

In closing the symposium ABS President Charles Fooks thanked the audience for coming, invited those who were not already members to join the ABS, and reminded those who wanted the boxwood encyclopedia to fill out order forms.

The ABS acknowledges its debt to FOSA and its members who provided able support for the symposium, especially Mrs. Charlotte Miller and Mrs. Mary Olien.

Scot Butler is a former co-editor of The Boxwood Bulletin and a former ABS Director.



Clyde Weber tells his audience about boxwood types hardy on the northern fringe of Zone 6. (Photo: Scot Butler)



A group gathers at the Quarters for a tour of the ABS Memorial Garden. Mac Stiff, Co-Chairman, is to the left, facing camera. Bob Arnold is at right, facing camera. (Photo: Tim Farmer)



Lynn Batdorf answers questions on the care and maintenance of boxwood. (Photo: Tim Farmer of Arboretum)



Lynn Batdorf presented a slide lecture on a boxwood-collecting expedition in 2002 in the Caucasian Republics of Azerbaijan and Georgia. (Photo: Clyde Weber)



Entry into the Memorial Garden begins at the sign. (Photo: Tim Farmer)



*Walter S. Carell, Jr., ABS Director, addressed "A Process for Solving a Landscape Design Problem."
(Photo: Clyde Weber)*



*Joan Butler displays the cover and a sample copy of Boxwood: An Illustrated Encyclopedia. Bound copies were not ready as had been hoped.
(Photo: Clyde Weber)*



*Mrs. Mary Olien, Curator of Education for The Arboretum, greets the attendees at the Boxwood Symposium.
(Photo: Clyde Weber)*



*Charles T. Fooks, President of the ABS, addresses the Boxwood Symposium at Blandy Farm April 3, 2004.
(Photo: Clyde Weber)*

Spring Board Meeting Minutes, May 6, 2004

The spring meeting of the Governing Board of The American Boxwood Society was held Thursday, May 6, 2004, at the Woodland Hotel and Conference Center, Williamsburg, Virginia. In attendance were: Charles T. Fooks, President; Clyde Weber, First Vice President; Henry F. Frierson, Jr., MD, Second Vice President; Laurie Jamerson, Secretary; McHenry L. Stiff, III; newly-appointed Executive Treasurer; Lynn Batdorf, Registrar; and the following Directors: John W. Boyd, Jr.; Walter S. Carell, Jr.; Decca G. Frackelton; W. Edward Goode, Jr.; Maury Hanson, MD.; and Clifford Hoffman.

President Fooks called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m. A motion was made that the minutes of the ABS Governing Board meeting held January 14, 2004, at Blandy Farm, Clarke County, Virginia and printed in the April issue of *The Boxwood Bulletin* be accepted as published.

President Fooks announced that Katherine Ward, Executive Treasurer, had submitted her resignation, stating that additional family responsibilities prevented her continuing in the position. He said that McHenry Stiff agreed to accept the office of Executive Treasurer and had been working with Katherine Ward in the transition.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Stiff distributed a very comprehensive report for the fiscal year May 1, 2003, through April 30, 2004. He stated that funds would be accounted for as CashIn/CashOut and no IOUs. The Treasurer's report was accepted as issued.

ABS Bulletin: Decca Frackelton has received several articles and with the reports and photos from the Annual Meeting, the *Bulletin* can be completed.

Nominating Committee: Clifford Hoffman, Chairman, read the slate that will be presented at the ABS Annual Business Meeting Friday, May 7.

Registrar/Publication Report: Lynn Batdorf reported that *Boxwood: An Illustrated Encyclopedia* would be out next week. McHenry Stiff will handle orders and distribution. The books will be stored in three locations with the following Board members: McHenry Stiff, Decca Frackelton and Lynn Batdorf. The price is \$110 plus applicable Virginia sales tax (Virginia residents) and shipping. (There are quantity discounts. 40% for 20 or more, 20% for 10 to 19, and a discount of 10% for one to each member of the ABS, subject to applicable sales tax and shipping.) Cash only in U.S. currency. A discussion followed on when a second printing might be necessary. Also, that a revision and reprinting of the Handbook might be needed soon. Mr. Batdorf is working on a 4th book of species and announced 18 newly-accepted cultivars are being registered with the *Encyclopedia*. He has received the 7th edition of the *International Code of Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants*, noting the single greatest change is including an entire division on naming hybrid genera.

Research/Web Site Committee: Henry Frierson reported that Dr. Marina Mosulishvili's mapping study in the Georgia republic was two-thirds completed before cold weather set in. Tomasz Anisko, Lynn Batdorf, Charles Fooks and Henry Frierson will be traveling to Russia in July for a two-week, collecting trip. Henry expects a thorough report to be submitted.

President Fooks requested that

details of Dr. Wright's work with Promalin effects on boxwood be addressed as ABS has not seen the report which was promised when funding was requested.

Lynn Batdorf expects to see Dr. Köhler in England in June and will ask when the DNA report can be expected.

A motion was made by Maury Hanson that any application for research funds from the ABS be in writing and that prior to disbursement of any funds a letter of agreement be signed to supply a detailed findings report specific to the project. Seconded by Ed Goode, motion carried. Dr. Hanson will gather information to develop a standard grant form process to be adopted.

ABS Annual Meeting-2005: Laurie Jamerson reported preliminary work has begun on the 2005 Annual Meeting. It will be held in Lynchburg, Virginia, and will tentatively include tours of Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest, Bedford National D-Day Memorial and Saunders Brothers, Inc., a commercial wholesale nursery operation, specializing in container and field grown boxwood as well as a full line of woody and color ornamentals.

New Business: Lee Hahn was appointed a Director to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Stiff, who has become Executive Treasurer.

John Boyd asked if the bylaws addressed the number of Board meetings to be held per year. Discussion followed as to whether we needed to add a meeting, how to better communicate and accomplish more during the year. (Note: The bylaws state: "II. Governing Board, Section 6. The Governing Board shall meet immediately following the

annual meeting and at other times subject to call of the President”

Ed Goode made a motion to buy two ABS web names at his expense and donate to ABS. Each will cost \$150 which will secure them for ten years. Motion seconded by John Boyd and carried by the Board. Mr. Goode’s generosity was gratefully accepted.

Mr. Goode made a second motion to add web address to front cover of the *Bulletin* or the back of all issues. Motion seconded by John Boyd, carried by the Board.

After a discussion of possible dates, President Fooks set the date for the next meeting of the Governing Board for September 23, 2004 at 11:30 a.m. at Blandy Farm. The Secretary will send notices closer to the date.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Maury Hanson and seconded by John Boyd. The meeting concluded at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Laurie Jamerson

Business Meeting

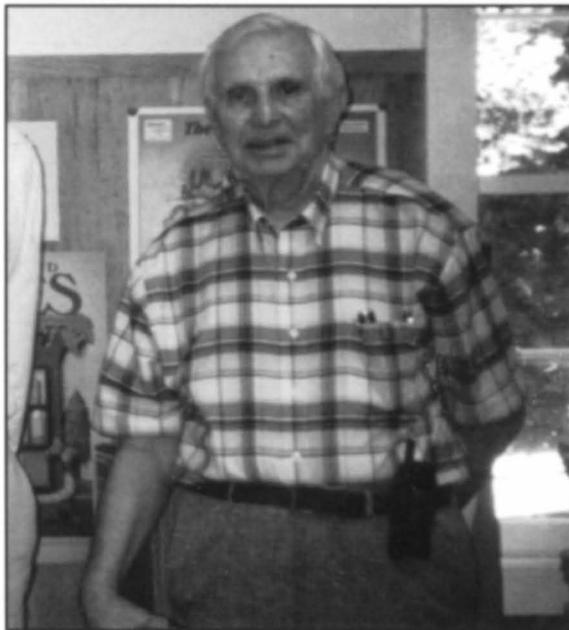
At the Business Meeting on Friday, May 7, 2004, the Nominating Committee Chairman presented the following slate: President. Charles Fooks; 1st Vice President. Clyde Weber; 2nd Vice President. Henry Frierson; Secretary, Laurie Jamerson; and Treasurer (appointed) McHenry Stiff; and for the expiring terms, directors to serve to May 2007: John Boyd, III, Walter S. Carell, Jr., and Clifford Hoffman. No nominations were made from the floor and the slate was unanimously approved. *Maury Hanson*

President Fooks read a resolution in appreciation of Katherine Ward for her years of devoted service to the Society. A brief meeting of the Board was held to select a fifth member of the Executive Committee, which

consists of the President, 1st Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer by virtue of their positions. Dr. Frierson was named. The Executive Committee then named the Nominating Committee for the upcoming year.

In Memoriam
Col. William B. Robinson
Member since 1994

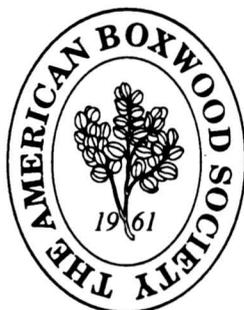
New ABS Treasurer



McHenry L. Stiff, III

McHenry L. Stiff, III, has a long history at Blandy Farm. He met his wife, Ann, there when they were students of Walter Flory, one of the founders of The American Boxwood Society, and a former ABS Director.

Having retired in the area he has been a volunteer and served as Treasurer of FOSA (Foundation of the State Arboretum). He is currently Co-Chairman of the ABS Memorial Garden Committee (see *Bulletin* October 2002, p. 43, for details).



OFFICERS

President:

Mr. Charles T. Fooks
31106 Johnson Road
Salisbury, MD 21804
(410) 749-5075
c_fooks@hotmail.com

First Vice-President:

Mr. Clyde Weber
281 Sumney Road
Bentleyville, PA 15314
Home: (724) 258-8671

Second Vice-President:

Dr. Henry F. Frierson, Jr.
602 Lyons Court
Charlottesville, VA 22902-4312
Home: (804) 971-2033
hff@virginia.edu

Secretary:

Mrs. Laurie Jamerson
1556 Winesap Rd.
Madison Heights, VA 24572
(434) 277-5455 (W)
laurie@saundersbros.com

Executive Treasurer:

Mr. McHenry L. Stiff III
P.O. Box 195
Round Hill, VA 20142
(540) 338-7298
macs@anent.com

Registrar:

Mr. Lynn R. Batdorf
U.S. National Arboretum
3501 New York Ave. NE
Washington, DC 20002-1958
Office: (202) 245-5965
FAX: (202) 245-4575
batdorfl@ars.usda.gov

Editor, *The Boxwood Bulletin*:

Mr. John S. McCarthy
440 E. Lockwood #302
St. Louis, MO 63119
Home: (314) 962-3458
slocumj@att.net

Director, Ex-Officio:

Dr. Michael Bowers
400 Blandy Farm Lane
Boyce, VA 22620
Office: (540) 837-1758

DIRECTORS

Mr. John W. Boyd III

2612 Churchill Drive
Roanoke, VA 24012-2126
(540) 362-0064
boxwood1@verizon.net

Mr. Walter S. Carell, Jr.

47 Old Mill Rd.
Millington, NJ 07946-1420
(908) 647-5499

Mrs. Robert L. Frackelton

1714 Greenway Drive
Fredericksburg, VA 22401-5209
(540) 373-7975

Mr. W. Edward Goode, Jr.

1307 Old Logan Rd.
Manakin-Sabot, VA 23103
(804) 784-2234
wgoode2400@aol.com

Mr. Kenneth Lee Hahn

23 Old Turnpike Rd.
Califon, NJ 07830
(908) 832-2204

Dr. Maury Hanson

P.O. Box 943
Madison, VA 22727
(540) 948-3875
maurywood@aol.com

Mr. Clifford L. Hoffman

56 Bonnell St.
Flemington, NJ 08822-1306
(908) 782-8866

Dr. Gary Richardson

2 Southgate Ave,
Annapolis, MD 21401
(410) 263-8632
gary.richardson5@verizon.net

Mrs. Alan Willemsen

306 Pleasant Valley Road
Mendham, NJ 07945
(973)543-7687

ABS WEB SITE

www.boxwoodsociety.org

The list of Officers and Directors is published yearly.