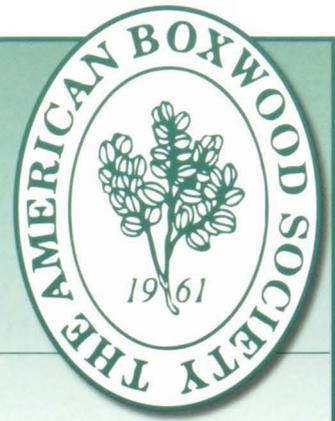


# THE BOXWOOD BULLETIN



A quarterly of the American Boxwood Society  
devoted to our oldest garden ornamental

Vol. 50 No. 4

*50th Anniversary Issue*

April 2011



# 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 *Buxus*. Visit our website at:

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Be part of *The Boxwood Bulletin!* Submit an article, photograph, question, idea or report of your own experience.

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## Blandy Experimental Farm University of Virginia

16 March 2011

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

To the Members of The American Boxwood Society,

Congratulations on your organization's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary! The University of Virginia's Blandy Experimental Farm has been proud to be considered your home for these many years, and the Boxwood Memorial Garden is one of the prized collections within the Orland E. White Arboretum. Our designation as the State Arboretum of Virginia twenty five years ago makes Blandy an even more fitting home to this collection, given the historically important place of boxwood in the landscape of Virginia homes.

In my nearly 14 years at Blandy I have come to realize that there are many subcultures within the area of horticulture, but there may be none more passionate about their plants than the boxwood enthusiasts. The American Boxwood Society has served this devoted audience well, and Blandy has benefited greatly from the many people drawn to the Arboretum to explore one of the most significant and informative collections of boxwood in the United States. For that, Blandy is deeply grateful.

I wish you all the best as you enter the second half of your first full century of prosperous and successful work, and I look forward to continuing our close relationship for many, many years to come.

Sincerely,

Dr. David E. Carr  
Director, Blandy Experimental Farm  
Research Associate Professor, Environmental Sciences  
University of Virginia



*Dr. David E. Carr, Director, Blandy Experimental Farm*

# Boxwood at the State Arboretum of Virginia 50 Years of Collecting

By Walter Carell



**Bob Arnold inspects boxwood propagated from the Boxwood Memorial Garden that will be available in the auction at the 50th Anniversary Symposium.**

**B**oxwood have been gracing the 172 acre arboretum portion of Blandy Experimental Farm since the late 1920s. The Boxwood Memorial Garden was envisioned in 1975 to honor two fine plantsmen, botanists and boxwood enthusiasts. Henry Hohman of the Kingsville Nursery, Maryland, and Dr. John T. Baldwin of the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia donated many plants to The American Boxwood Society collection. Both men died in 1974.

Through the years the collection's diversity has continued to increase and flourish. The following alphabetized list of stately boxwood are currently on exhibit within the educational display portion of the grounds in Boyce, Virginia. Although most cultivars are in one consolidated Memorial Garden, some can be found at Pea Hill, at the nearby shade house and in the greenhouse. Presently over 150 different boxwood cultivars have been accumulated, providing beauty, enjoyment and education for the visiting public.

The Society is always interested in expanding the diversity of this prestigious collection. Should anyone have a few *Buxus* which are missing from this list, kindly consider a labeled donation and bring them along to the 50th Anniversary meeting in May. A list of *Buxus* donations and their donors will be published in the July 2011 issue of *The Boxwood Bulletin*.

- Buxus harlandii
- Buxus microphylla
- Buxus microphylla 'Compacta'
- Buxus microphylla 'Creepy'
- Buxus microphylla 'Curly Locks'
- Buxus microphylla 'Grace Hendrick Phillips'
- Buxus microphylla 'Green Pillow'
- Buxus microphylla 'Helen Whiting'
- Buxus microphylla 'Henry Hohman'
- Buxus microphylla 'John Baldwin'
- Buxus microphylla 'Kingsville'
- Buxus microphylla 'Locket'
- Buxus microphylla 'Quiet End'
- Buxus microphylla 'Sunlight'
- Buxus microphylla japonica
- Buxus microphylla var. japonica 'Faulkner'
- Buxus microphylla var. japonica 'Green Beauty'
- Buxus microphylla var. japonica 'Jim Stauffer'
- Buxus microphylla var. japonica 'Morris Dwarf'
- Buxus microphylla var. japonica 'Morris Midget'
- Buxus microphylla var. japonica 'National'
- Buxus microphylla var. japonica 'Sunnyside'
- Buxus microphylla var. japonica 'Winter Gem'
- Buxus sempervirens
- Buxus sempervirens 'Abilene'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Agram' (K-79)
- Buxus sempervirens 'Angustifolia'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Appalachian Pyramid'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Arborescens'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Argenteo-variegata'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Aristocrat'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Aureo-variegata'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Aurea Pendula'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Beckett'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Belleville'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Berlin'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Blauer Heinz'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Bullata'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Clembrook'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Cliffside'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Dee Runk'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Denmark'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Ed Wycoff'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Edgar Anderson' (351-35)
- Buxus sempervirens 'Elegantissima'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Elegantissima' /Prostrate form/
- Buxus sempervirens 'Fastigiata'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Flora Place'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Fortunei Rotundifolia'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Glauca'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Graham Blandy'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Handsworthiensis'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Henry Shaw'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Hermann von Schrenk'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Holland'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Hood'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Inglis'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Ipek' (K series)
- Buxus sempervirens 'Joe Gable'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Joy'
- Buxus sempervirens 'K -2/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-4/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-5/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-7/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-15/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-16/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-19/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-22/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-23/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-24/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-25/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-26/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-27/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-28/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-29/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-32/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-35/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-37/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-40/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-42/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-43/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-46/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-51/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-52/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-54/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-60/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-70/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-71/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-74/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-80/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-81/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-86/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-87/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-89/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-91/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-94/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-96/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-102/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-106/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-114/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-119/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-144/
- Buxus sempervirens 'K-146/
- Buxus sempervirens 'Krossi-livonia'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Latifolia'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Latifolia Macrophylla'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Latifolia Maculata'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Latifolia Nova'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Liberty'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Mary Gamble'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Memorial'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Meyers'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Myosotidifolia'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Natchez'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Newport Blue'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Nish' (K series)
- Buxus sempervirens 'Northern Find'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Northern New York'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Northland'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Pendula'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Pier Cove'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Pontey'
- ✗ Buxus sempervirens 'Prizen' (K series) *Prizzen*
- Buxus sempervirens 'Prostrata'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Pullman'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Pyramidalis'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Pyramidalis Hardwickensis'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Rochester'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Rotundifolia'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Salicifolia'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Salicifolia Elata'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Scupi' (353-35)
- Buxus sempervirens 'Ste. Genevieve'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Strasser'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Suffruticosa'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Treska Gorge'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Undulifolia'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Vardar Valley'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Varifolia'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Welleri'
- Buxus sempervirens 'West Ridgeway' = *suffruticosa*
- Buxus sempervirens 'Woodland'
- Buxus sempervirens 'Yorktown'
- Buxus sinica var. insularis
- Buxus sinica var. insularis 'Justin Brouwers'
- Buxus sinica var. insularis 'Miss Jones'
- Buxus sinica var. insularis 'Nana'
- Buxus sinica var. insularis 'Pincushion'
- Buxus sinica var. insularis 'Tall Boy'
- Buxus sinica var. insularis 'Tide Hill'
- Buxus sinica var. insularis 'Winter Beauty'
- Buxus sinica var. insularis 'Wintergreen'
- Buxus 'Glencoe'
- Buxus 'Green Gem'
- Buxus 'Green Mound'
- Buxus 'Green Mountain'
- Buxus 'Green Velvet'
- Buxus 'Northern Emerald'

# Boxwood Trials Report

By Paul Saunders

I began propagating and growing boxwood in 1947. I have grown boxwood continuously since then, literally hundreds of thousands of them for the wholesale market. In the early years, I propagated primarily English and American boxwood. I recognized from the start that there was a great deal of variation as to the performance of boxwood in the nursery, even within the same fields. I came to realize that English thrived when they were afforded protection. In the 1960s and 1970s, however, I began experiencing short life problems with the English plants. About the same time, I heard about some cultivars that were doing well where the English had failed. I sought out data on the performance of those various cultivars and found that there was little available. As a consequence, I began assembling a group of horticulturists interested in helping to evaluate boxwood.

The data for the *National Boxwood Trials Report* we have just completed was submitted by over 60 participants



*Here I am standing in one of our fields of boxwood in Central Virginia. In the background is a block of peaches in bloom, the Blue Ridge Mountains are in the distance. Peaches and boxwood have been very much a part of my life and my family's life.*

who are located across the “Eastern Boxwood Belt.” This area begins in Connecticut, spreads westward to Chicago, then southwest to the Kansas City area, continuing east to St. Louis and Memphis, across Alabama, east to the Atlantic coast and up the Eastern seaboard. The study was focused primarily on 24 benchmark cultivars which had been chosen in the late 1990s from hundreds of cultivars representing a variety of growth habits and growth rates.

With the help of Mrs. Scot Butler of Winchester and others, we divided the cultivars into six major groups: upright cultivars, very dwarf cultivars, dwarf to bush cultivars, bush cultivars, Sheridan and Glencoe (northern) cultivars, and Others. Many of the evaluators already had some of these cultivars in their gardens; other test stations had to start their Trials areas from scratch. Saunders Brothers, Inc., furnished plants at no charge to a number of arboretums and university cooperators. Private cooperators provided test plants for their own gardens. Most cooperators chose from 40 to 70 plants from the nearly 20 benchmark varieties.

The current testing group represents over fifteen colleges, universities and agricultural test stations, over twenty botanical gardens and shrines, and many individual growers and nurseries, a representation of some of the most knowledgeable boxwood enthusiasts in the United States.

We compiled the data contributed by these cooperators and published it as the *2011 Boxwood Trials Report*.

The test plants were scored using a scale of 1 (worst) to 5 (best) on two qualities: (A) is the plant “Grower



*Some of the Test Sites*

Friendly”? and (B) Does it have “Impulse Cosmetics”? “Grower Friendliness” defines the plant’s growth characteristics; is it finicky or difficult to grow, or does it smile at you without any special treatment? “Impulse Cosmetics” means, does the plant make you spin around in your tracks to admire it and say “Wow!”? The average of these two values is the score given to each plant. You can view those scores in the chart to the right.

## The Top Performers

The most popular cultivars in the test area, Dee Runk and Vardar Valley.



*Buxus sempervirens* ‘Dee Runk’



*Buxus sempervirens* ‘Vardar Valley’

## 2011 Boxwood Trials Tally, All Participants

	Northeast		MidAtlantic		South		Midwest		U.S. Growers	
Upright	Sites	Score	Sites	Score	Sites	Score	Sites	Score	Total Sites	Score
Dee Runk	12	4.28	16	4.33	12	4.67	9	4.14	49	4.37
Fastigiata	11	4.24	15	4.30	11	3.89	8	4.56	45	4.23
John Baldwin	7	3.75	8	3.75	7	4.50	7	4.25	29	4.05
Graham Blandy	11	3.38	10	3.55	6	3.63	7	2.50	34	3.29
<b>Dwarf</b>										
Grace H. Phillips	10	3.85	15	4.48	12	4.00	6	4.54	43	4.21
Green Pillow	7	4.29	11	4.30	10	3.43	5	4.20	33	4.02
Morris Dwarf	7	4.43	16	3.91	10	3.50	8	3.81	41	3.88
Morris Midget	9	3.89	9	4.14	12	3.44	7	4.25	37	3.87
<b>Dwarf to Bush</b>										
Justin Brouwers	13	4.09	18	4.36	12	4.08	8	4.34	51	4.22
Jensen	10	4.07	14	4.07	8	3.94	6	4.29	38	4.08
Insularis (Nana)	8	4.09	12	4.00	10	3.35	5	4.00	35	3.84
English	10	2.95	14	3.95	11	3.41	5	2.80	40	3.41
<b>Sheridan and Glencoe</b>										
Green Mountain	12	3.89	12	3.77	10	4.10	8	4.53	42	4.03
Green Velvet	10	4.03	11	3.75	9	3.75	10	4.35	40	3.97
Glencoe	8	3.33	10	3.48	8	3.81	8	4.25	34	3.70
Green Mound	4	2.94	9	3.72	6	3.50	4	4.25	23	3.62
<b>Bush</b>										
Vardar Valley	15	4.49	18	4.28	11	4.32	10	4.40	54	4.37
Elegantissima	9	3.77	16	4.05	11	4.23	7	3.57	43	3.96
Jim Stauffer	8	3.97	11	3.91	8	3.82	4	4.38	31	3.96
Green Beauty	12	3.52	15	4.02	11	3.55	4	4.31	42	3.78
<b>Large and Others</b>										
Elizabeth H. Inglis	5	4.20	6	3.75	5	3.50	4	4.25	20	3.90
Wintergreen Big Leaf	6	4.15	8	3.75	5	4.00	4	3.56	23	3.88
American	7	3.89	12	3.71	11	3.93	4	4.19	34	3.87
Wintergreen Little Leaf	3	4.80	4	2.75	3	3.67	7	4.04	17	3.81

## Evaluations

The two top performers in the entire Trials are ‘Dee Runk’ and ‘Vardar Valley’, each with a score of 4.37. Some cultivars were evaluated by as many as 54 cooperators, giving us a broad base for the resulting conclusions. One evaluator characterized this pair of plants as “thousand year plants”, an evaluation that is probably very accurate.

## Uprights

‘Fastigiata’ is a strong second to ‘Dee Runk’ in this category, and rightly so. It looks so similar to its “triple first cousin” (as we call it) that it is almost identical; both are excellent plants. Note that ‘Graham Blandy’ scored the lowest of all the plants in the entire test. Its susceptibility to phytophthora, its lighter pale green color, and the droopiness of its new growth in the springtime is a good reason to place this one on the discard list. ‘John Baldwin’, though beautiful, is highly prone to boxwood leaf miner (BLM).

## Dwarfs

‘Grace Hendrick Phillips’ scored highest among the dwarfs. One cooperator described this cultivar as “pest-free and disease-free”. In addition, it is a very beautiful plant. The three other dwarf plants did reasonably well in



*A 'Dee Runk' at the Hampton Roads Agricultural Research Center at Virginia Beach.*



*Buxus sinica var. insularis 'Justin Brouwers'*

### Dwarf to Bush

This proved to be an interesting group. 'Justin Brouwers' with its 4.22 score is tops, and is, in fact, one of the most often planted cultivars in this category. Its growth habit is similar to English, and at a distance, it is almost indistinguishable from English. It is very susceptible to BLM, although the miner can be controlled by sprays. BLM is not as much of a problem in the northern growing areas. 'Jensen' has come from oblivion some years ago to being one of the most popular plants when one wants an English-lookalike. In some of the colder test areas, 'Jensen' is not as cold-hardy as 'Justin Brouwers' and *insularis* 'Nana'. *Insularis* 'Nana' has done extremely well and is quite popular in northern areas, with a zero susceptibility to BLM. English, one of the benchmarks of all boxwood, lost popularity because of it often being planted where it should not have been. English are magnificent on shady, northern property sites, but when planted in full sun, they often develop disease and become unsightly. The solution, if you love English, is to plant them on virgin land in the microenvironment in which they are known to thrive. English boxwood will continue to be around for a long, long time. This is another special "thousand year plant" if planted where it is happy. It has a high resistance to BLM.

### Sheridan and Glencoe

The four cultivars in this group are very similar and have become popular in the past 15 years. They were developed in the northern part of the U.S. and Canada. We have observed that while they look nice during their juvenile years, but are quite susceptible to BLM. Additionally, when they reach the age of 10 or so, they often "runt out" and become less attractive. They can be used to form handsome hedges and have been widely planted

the Trials and it seems as if they are all here to stay. 'Green Pillow' is a handsome plant; however, it puts out an extra flush of growth sometimes in the summer that gets frosted off later in the year. 'Morris Dwarf' and 'Morris Midget', along with most other dwarf cultivars, occasionally throw sports which must be pruned off. Despite that reservation, these cultivars can be seen in handsome plantings in some of the most prestigious gardens in the United States. And sometimes these sport twigs will provide a cutting that could be worthy of propagation in itself!



*Buxus microphylla 'Grace Hendrick Phillips'*



*Buxus* 'Green Mountain'

but where BLM is a problem, the boxwood of this group become unsightly. Some of the other cultivar groups might be more attractive, but it is hard to find plants that are more universally reliable where moisture and hardiness are factors. If you plant these cultivars be aware that chemical control of BLM every 2-3 years may be necessary.



*Buxus microphylla* var. *japonica* 'Jim Stauffer'

done well in a variety of environments. It appears that, in time, 'Jim Stauffer' will be the winner between these two because it is far more resistant to BLM.

### Others

*B. sempervirens* 'Inglis', because of its high susceptibility to BLM, is not a good choice. 'Wintergreen Big Leaf' is popular because it is a strong grower and can fill a space quickly; additionally, it is resistant to BLM. A drawback is that it usually needs two prunings per year. American boxwood, the box that has been here since Colonial days, is still a superior plant in much of the United States; it will be around for a very long time to come. However, don't plant it where it will have wet-feet conditions. 'Wintergreen Little Leaf' is a plant that has done well in some areas of the central and Midwestern states. Its winter foliage appears to lose some of its luster, but its hardiness is unquestionable.

### Bush

'Vardar Valley' will no doubt be around for a long, long time. It is a superior plant. It seems to be vulnerable to boxwood psyllid, but those in the plant industry use it extensively despite this problem. It is totally free of BLM which contributes to its winning status. 'Elegantissima' is an undisputed queen of the variegated forms. This is truly a focal, a "Wow" plant that is proving to be extremely popular. 'Jim Stauffer' is gaining popularity over its sister plant, 'Green Beauty', both of which are beautiful, rich green plants. These lookalikes have strong roots and have



*Buxus sempervirens* (common American) in Eastern Virginia

*The information above is a summary of the data presented in the 2011 Edition of the National Boxwood Trials Report which will be available in mid-May 2011. Copies of the entire report will be available from Saunders Brothers, Inc., 2717 Tye Brook Highway, Piney River, VA 22964 for \$21.00 which includes shipping charges.*

# International Registration List of Cultivated *Buxus* L.

Lynn R. Batdorf<sup>1</sup>

Following the provisions of the 8th edition of the *International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants* (ICNCP), published in 2009, this enumeration identifies all the known cultivars and hybrids of *Buxus* (494 names) with the earliest valid citation found in literature. Of these, 217 are valid (registered) names, having been properly accepted and documented, appearing in **boldface type**. Additionally, there are 148 cultivar names, typically from inventories or catalogs, lacking proper documentation, appearing in lightface type. Finally, there are 129 synonyms, appearing in lightface type, which include their correct cultivar, or botanical, name when known. All botanical names appear in **bold italic type**.

The first edition of the "International Registration List of Cultivated *Buxus* L." cited 180 *Buxus* cultivars. The second edition (1987) cited 211 cultivars and hybrids, the third edition (2006) cited 481 names, this fourth edition (2009) reprinted here, cites 494 names.

The dramatic increase, with 270 new names, between the 1987 and 2006 editions, is indicative of both a heightened interest in boxwood and more effective methods in identifying new releases. This fourth edition, recognizes six name, or status, changes with no net gain to the total number of cultivars.

This list is only as complete and accurate as available references, the cooperation of nurserymen, and the ability of the registrar, allow. Notification of any errors or omissions is encouraged. Please send correspondence to:

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<sup>1</sup> Lynn R. Batdorf, for the past 24 years, serves as the Registrar for the American Boxwood Society (ABS) which is the International Cultivar Registration Authority (ICRA) for *Buxus* L., appointed by the International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS), Commission for Nomenclature and Cultivar Registration.

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# Knot for You

By Hugh Crump

There is something special about a knot garden; it provides a regal feel to any space. Perhaps it's a result of its rich history associated with royalty dating back to the Roman Empire. Many of the early knot gardens were extremely intricate. The designs incorporated details that were found in textiles such as tapestries and rugs or even details of the architecture that were brought to life by the landscape. Knot gardens have continued to flourish throughout the centuries and can be easily integrated into most gardens today in a simplistic or highly detailed fashion.

The location of the knot is critical to its impact on the landscape. The knot's location is primarily dictated by the architecture it compliments. Knots can be placed on a central axis point of a garden or even neatly tucked in a corner to be discovered. One of my favorite settings is when the garden can be viewed from a terrace above or from the window of an interior room. Knot gardens are typically found in a square, rectangle or circular area. The garden space can easily be divided into equal portions that allow the symmetrical pattern to be simply laid out. Once the optional space is determined I would begin by taking measurements of the area and starting the design process on paper, incorporating the geometric shapes and patterns of your choice into the space. It is critical to allow for growth of the plants in order to properly maintain your knot. Once you begin the actual layout process I highly recommend using a tape measure, string line and marking paint or stakes. These tools make the layout process much easier.

With all plantings, particularly boxwood, the garden area needs to be



*Buxus sinica* var. *insularis* 'Wintergreen' and *Buxus sempervirens* 'Variegata'.

slightly elevated and well drained. If water is a concern in your garden I would recommend considering drainage underneath the knot garden space to ensure adequate drainage. I suggest using a perforated pipe application with the pipes surrounded by gravel. Each pipe is installed length wise approximately three to four foot on center. The extra effort will be well worth the time and expense. The additional drainage will help prevent the single largest cause of boxwood difficulties, excessive moisture.

Plant selection is best determined by the scale of the space being used and what material performs best in your particular zone. In smaller scale gardens I recommend plants that are easily maintained at a height of twenty four inches or less. In larger scale gardens you can afford to use plants with a slightly larger growth habit. Some of these varieties have the potential to grow in at a faster rate so always allow

adequate space for their particular growth habit. An additional consideration to give to plant selection is the option of using a single variety or multiple varieties of plants. Plant selections can range from significantly different with a variegated variety or even a subtle difference by using a variety that may have different winter qualities. Regardless of your particular preference the most important thing to consider is growth rate and scale.

Maintenance of your knot is actually not as difficult as one would think. Depending on the design of the knot the most critical areas are where the lines intersect. It is also very important to prune the knot in a pyramidal shape, enabling the plant to get sun light to the sides and bottom, not only the top. The best way to accomplish this is to prune the sides on slight angles which will leave the bottom slightly wider than the top of the

*Continued on bottom of Page 64*

# Watch Your Barn!

By Walter Carell

Is any siding missing from your barn? Check the shingles on your garage too! All of these items are useful to Board Member Clifford L. (Les) Hoffman. Les has

been an ABS member for twenty years, serves as a Board Member and is the ultimate “Green Man”. For some time now, he has been building magnificent rocking horses for our annual auctions as a way of contributing to The Society’s bottom line. Every item utilized in the construction of his famous rocking horses is selected from recycled lumber materials. The benefit of used lumber is that these materials are well dried and stable, devoid of cracks and checking. The theory is that older dry wood is less likely to split in the future.

His steeds are made from at least five different wood sources. The sturdy rocker base is cut from straight grained oak. The body from three pieces of wood laminated together, usually cherry (from an old table top) and white pine or spruce in the center for highlight. This is where the barn siding comes into play, though at times, Les has been known to substitute wormy chestnut. Legs are often cut from mahogany (also retrieved from old table tops) and the inside wedge, which creates



One of Les Hoffman's rocking horses at the Society's annual auction

## SYMPOSIUM AUCTION NOTICE

Every year during the Annual meeting our auctioneer, John Boyd III, orchestrates a friendly bidding war among Symposium guests. This event will be held on the evening of May 14th. All sorts of unusual *Buxus* cultivars will be available for inspection and appraisal. One complete set of *The Boxwood Bulletin*, a Rocking Horse, a Gold Embossed copy of the *Boxwood Handbook* and the Bob Arnold rooted cuttings from the Memorial Garden are presently listed. Please contact John should you plan to bring a plant or something else to be put on the auction block. The Auctioneer will prepare an itemized list which will be distributed to all Symposium attendees.

## Knot Garden... (Continued from Page 63)

plant. This practice will greatly improve the foliage on the sides and bottom of the plant, which are areas that often suffer the most.

For more information on knot gardens and parterre gardens I highly recommend *Knot Gardens and Parterres* by Robin Whalley and Anne Jennings. This book is one of the best sources of information about the history of knots as well as an incredible inspiration with numerous examples to help design and plant your own knot garden.

### Smaller Scale Boxwood for Knot Gardens

- *Buxus microphylla* 'Grace Hendrick Phillips'
- *Buxus microphylla* 'Green Pillow'
- *Buxus microphylla* var. *Japonica* 'Morris Midget'
- *Buxus microphylla* var. *Japonica* 'Morris Dwarf'
- *Buxus sempervirens* 'Jensen'
- *Buxus sinica* var. *insularis* 'Justin Brouwer'
- *Buxus sinica* var. *insularis* 'Nana'
- *Buxus* 'Green Mound'

### Larger Scale Boxwood for Knot Gardens

- *Buxus* 'Glencoe'
- *Buxus microphylla* var. *japonica* 'Green Beauty'
- *Buxus microphylla* var. *japonica*
- 'Jim Stauffer'
- *Buxus microphylla* var. *japonica* 'Winter Green'

### Accent/Contrasting Boxwood for Knot Gardens

- *Buxus sempervirens* 'Elegantissima'
- *Buxus microphylla* 'Peergold' Golden Dream



*Savannah, granddaughter of board member Lee Hahn, making good use of a Hoffman rocking horse!*



*Les Hoffman in his rocking horse workshop.*

the splay of the legs, is a slice of cedar house shingle. A saddle may be thick Spanish cedar, white pine or mahogany. Those two bright eyes and bridle are, of course, made of boxwood. Wooden parts of the mane along the neck are of cedar, which came from the lining of an old cedar chest. The horse's ears are of leather, cut from a discarded brief case or sometimes from an old belt. Ear bases which ultimately will be hidden by the mane are of carved wormy chestnut. Mane and flowing tails are salvaged from discarded ropes and fine yarns.

Les has a well equipped basement shop below his 115 year old Victorian house, which was built by his grandfather. Tools utilized in creating his fabulous rocking horses are: a planer, band saw, jig saw, drill press, router and a rotary sander on a deck, equipped with a vacuum. All pieces of the horse are trimmed with a router blade to the exact size of a template. Some edges are beveled with a different router bit, so as to create the necessary soft edges. Every part is held together with Tightbond Wood Glue and tightly clamped until cured. The tighter the wooden pieces are clamped together and the thinner the glue, the stronger the bond. The wood is finished prior to gluing in order to assure uniform color at the joints. Sandpaper and steel wool is rubbed over all of the surfaces prior to and in between finish coats. Brass nails and steel Phillips screws are strategically placed to assure rigidity under demanding use by stalwart jockeys. Every screw is counter sunk and screw hole buttons cover each screw head. The mane is tied on through a series of 3/8"

uniformly spaced drill holes from the forelock to the withers. After the mane and tail have been tied in place, it is brushed out with a curry comb and the regular comb as used with a real horse.

"The neater you are with a band saw, the less sanding you have to do". Three sanding wheels, 3", 2" and 11/16ths inch are required to smooth all of the various tight spots. A router bit transitions all of the sharp, square edges. Hand sanding helps to show off the subtle wood grains. Some horses need staining to create the desired warm coloring effect. Les preserves his horses by applying at least two coats of an antique Minwax oil finish.

An old pattern book is the source of this design and Les has been known to create three different sizes. The small conveyance, for the youngest children is the most popular.

Les Hoffman lives in Flemington, New Jersey, the town made famous by the Lindberg baby trial. During WWII he served with the Army Signal Corps in France, participating in the Battle of the Bulge, traveled through the Panama Canal by troop ship and served in the Philippines in preparation for the invasion of Japan, which was thankfully unnecessary.

Les' devotion to boxwood is evidenced by the numerous boxwood cultivars that surround his house, patio and garden. He is always willing to share his boxwood cuttings with his "boxwood buddies". Les is passionate about boxwood and would love to talk to you at the ABS 50th Anniversary meeting in May, at Blandy.

# Philadelphia Flower Show 2011 – Nation's Largest

by Andrea Filippone



*The American Boxwood Society's exhibit*

The Pennsylvania Horticulture Society's Philadelphia Flower Show, held in mid-March, was spectacular. Life is incomplete without witnessing this event at least once in one's lifetime! Many consider this event an annual must see, heralding the birth of a new spring.

The biggest flower show in the country allowed The American Box-

wood Society a 20'x15' space to place our best foot forward and add to the delight of throngs of spectators from around the world.

Director Filippone took up our cause with a captivating design and the assistance of Saunders Brothers, Inc. of Piney River, Virginia and George Bridge Boxwoods, Inc. of Laytonsville, Maryland to create an out-

standing and crowd pleasing display. Twenty-four ABS members and friends populated the dramatic garden for this nine day event, answering questions and handing out literature about man's oldest garden ornamental.

Place this event on your calendar for next year. The Philadelphia Flower Show theme for 2012 will be Hawaii!



*Eddie and Paul talking up Buxus*



*The Show's French theme brought grandeur and flavor to the event.*



## The Question Box

**Question:** We live in North Florida just below the Georgia line. The boxwoods in our area have never flowered that anyone can remember, yet this spring, they are flowering. Was this triggered by our unusually cold winter?

**Answer:** Various species of boxwood have different flowering habits. Then to confuse things a bit more, there are a few cultivars (inside *B. sempervirens*, in the Korean boxwood; and also hybrids) which have unique flowering habits.

While you don't say which boxwood you have, for purposes of discussion I'll assume you have *Buxus microphylla* var. *japonica*, the Japanese Boxwood. This boxwood species performs the best, and is the most common, in northern Florida.

So, on to your question. The Japanese boxwood has to flower, but various environmental factors must first be satisfied. The Japanese boxwood needs about 40 nights, in the course of one winter, which are at or below 32 degrees F. in order to flower. If it never gets cold enough, or if it is cold enough but for too few nights, the Japanese boxwood will not flower that spring.

**Question:** Are there any "fun facts" about boxwood?

**Answer:** Yes. In 1961 there were 180 *Buxus* cultivars. By 1987 there were 211 cultivars and hybrids, by 2006 there were 481, and in 2009 there were 494.

Perhaps the natural deer resistance qualities of boxwood are responsible for increased interest in their use in the landscape. Certainly, the low-maintenance, long-lived nature of boxwood is becoming better understood and appreciated.

The word "boxwood" is both singular and plural, thus, it is proper grammar to say, "I have 300 boxwood." There is no such word as "boxwoods."

Beginning in the 13th century, portions of Eastern Europe often used boxwood as a medicinal plant. Boxwood was

believed to repel evil spirits, the source of human maladies. It was believed that evil spirits could not bore into, nor harbor inside, the very hard wood of boxwood. Thus, boxwood were planted around the foundation of a home, and often on either side of the front door, to protect the inhabitants. The tradition of using boxwood as a foundation plant continues into modern times.

Deer, as well as many other wildlife, know that boxwood leaves are poisonous. In fact, consuming 1.5 pounds of boxwood foliage has proved lethal to full-grown horses. As neighborhoods expand into deer habitat, homeowners and landscape professionals appreciate boxwood as a fully deer-resistant plant.

**Question:** We have new [last spring], 1-year and 2-year old English Boxwood in a formal garden, in Atlanta, Ga. ( We also had the hottest Summer ever...From 90 two weeks in MAY, with mid to high 90's June thru August, and then three weeks of 90's in September!!!) The garden has good dirt, good pH, and excellent drainage. We were told NOT to let the dirt dry out, but we have lost several anyway. Our question is: "Can they be overwatered?"

**Answer:** Well, as you have experienced, spring is the worst time of year to successfully plant most trees and shrubs. Certainly boxwood is no exception to the rule. Fall is the optimum season. Nevertheless, there are most likely several additional factors responsible for the attrition of your young boxwood.

**Answer:** First and foremost, the condition of the rooting structure needs attention. Often times, in production, the size or shape of the container is inappropriate for good root development resulting in over-crowded, or poorly developed roots.

Then, overly thick foliage is frequently responsible for a variety of diseases which have great success with weakened shrubs, including recently transplanted boxwood.

While you mention that your soil has "good pH" there is no indication of its level. Soil pH for boxwood ought to be between 6.8 and 7.5. An inappropriate soil pH cannot be responsible for the rapid death of your boxwood, but it can greatly suppress their long term health.

Mulch is critical in moderating both temperature and moisture extremes in the soil, much to the benefit of the all-important boxwood roots.

Planting depth of the rootball of the boxwood in the soil is very important. Planting too deep or too high, even by one inch, can greatly affect the survivability of the roots.

If the site is in full sun, or nearly so, this will have an adverse effect on the boxwood.

Then, yes, the soil can be overwatered. If the leaves turn a light green color for a period of time during their decline, this is probably partly responsible.

Finally, it is unlikely that one condition is responsible for killing your boxwood. Please consider all the conditions I've enumerated - your answers are most likely found in several of these conditions.

# THE AMERICAN BOXWOOD SOCIETY — 50TH ANNIVERSARY

51th Boxwood Symposium and Annual Meeting — May 12 - 14, 2011

State Arboretum of Virginia, Boyce, VA

## ITINERARY

### Thursday, May 12

5:00-6:00 Registration and  
Welcome Reception

### Friday, May 13

7:30-8:30 Registration  
8:30 Bus Departs  
9:00 Wingfield Farm,  
Middleburg  
10:30 Heronwood, Upperville  
12:30 Lunch  
2:00 Glen Burnie Gardens,  
Winchester

5:30 Return to Hotel  
7:00 Dinner followed by award  
winning photographer  
Roger Foley presenting "A  
Visual Journey Through  
American Gardens"

### Saturday, May 14

8:30 Bus Departs for Blandy  
9:00 Tour Memorial Garden  
11:00 Boxwood Workshop, Tent  
12:00 Lunch at the Arboretum  
1:00 Speaker, Andrea Filippone  
and T. Fleisher, Boxwood

3:00 Health and managing the  
plant organically  
Speaker, Lynn Batdorf,  
International Registrar  
4:00 Speaker, Paul Saunders,  
Boxwood Trials  
5:00 Return to the Hotel, by bus  
6:00 Bus Departs for Blandy  
6:30-8:30 Cocktails, Annual Meeting  
& Boxwood Auction  
8:30 Dinner, under a tent  
beside the Memorial  
Garden  
10:30 Return to Hotel

Register online at [www.shop.boxwoodsociety.org](http://www.shop.boxwoodsociety.org) and see current additional program details  
and hotel reservations info at [http://boxwoodsociety.org/abs\\_symposium.html](http://boxwoodsociety.org/abs_symposium.html)

## Memorial Garden Clean-Up Day & Workshop



*Last Year's "fun" work day included pictured participants Dean Norton, Bennett Saunders, Bob Arnold and members of their staffs who assisted with trimming, clean-up and spreading of mulch at The American Boxwood Society Memorial Garden at Blandy.*

**Join other professionals and members for a fun filled MEMORIAL GARDEN CLEAN-UP DAY!**

- April 20th, 10:00-3:00
- Start your own boxwood collection, obtain cuttings of your favorite boxwood cultivars
- Bring lunch, clippers, loppers & gloves
- Participate in a workshop by leading professionals
- Topics to be Rooting Cuttings & Care of Boxwood
- State Arboretum of Virginia, 400 Blandy Farm Lane, Boyce, Virginia
- Contact the Executive Director, [info@boxwoodsociety.org](mailto:info@boxwoodsociety.org) of your intention to participate

## Biographies

**Dr. Tomasz Aniśko**  
**Curator of Plants**  
**Longwood Gardens**  
**P.O. Box 501**  
**Kennett Square, PA 19348**

Dr. Tomasz Aniśko is the curator of plants at Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. He holds master's degree in horticulture from the University of Life Sciences in Poznań, Poland, and doctorate in horticulture from the University of Georgia in Athens, U.S.A. Dr. Aniśko began his career as a researcher at the University of Life Sciences, where he taught ornamental plants classes. His scientific interests spanned from plant propagation to stress physiology. A sabbatical at the Royal Horticultural Society's Garden at Wisley, England and an internship



at the Morris Arboretum in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, inspired Dr. Aniśko to dedicate his career to public horticulture.

In his role as the curator of plants at Longwood Gardens, Dr. Aniśko oversees a collection of about 12,000 taxa, coordinates plant trials and

plant distribution programs, and leads plant exploration efforts. He has participated in 16 plant collecting expeditions in Asia, Australia, Europe and South America.

Dr. Aniśko published nearly 100 articles in both English and Polish language periodicals. He also wrote two books, *Plant Exploration for Longwood Gardens* published in 2006 and *When Perennials Bloom: An Almanac for Planning and Planting* released in 2008.

Dr. Aniśko is married to Anna, landscape architect and botanical illustrator, who authored illustrations for *The Plants of Pennsylvania: An Illustrated Manual* and *The Trees of Pennsylvania: A Complete Reference Guide*. They have two children, Julia and Miłosz, and live in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania.

**Hugh Crump**  
**Greenline Design, Inc.**  
**American Boxwood Company**  
**Charlotte, NC**

Hugh Crump is the owner of Greenline Design, Inc. and president of American Boxwood Company both located in Charlotte, North Carolina. Hugh is recognized as a Registered Landscape Contractor and Certified Plant Professional by the state of North Carolina. He has spent the last 25 years in the landscape industry with concentration on residential design and implementation. In 1991 Hugh Crump opened Greenline Design, a full service landscape firm specializing in high end landscape installation and consultation. After 20 years of operation Greenline Design's work has been featured in **Veranda**, **Southern Living** as well as



other local publications. American Boxwood Company was begun as a boutique style nursery to meet the demands of landscape architects and customers seeking high quality boxwood in large sizes and unique shapes. Today American Boxwood Company grows *Buxus sempervirens* and sources exclusively Boxwood

from all over the country to offer the best available.

Hugh Crump resides in Cramerton, North Carolina with his wife Brenda and their three children Hugh III, John and Jackson. In Cramerton Hugh serves the town on the Landscape Beautification Committee.

# American Boxwood Society

## Governing Board of Directors' Meeting February 21, 2011 — Blandy State Arboretum, Boyce, Virginia

The meeting was called to order at 11:40 A.M. by President Goode. Attending were: President Eddie Goode, Jr., 1st V.P. Lee Hahn, 2nd V.P. John Boyd III, Secretary Jan Carter, Treasurer J. Bennett Saunders, Directors: Tomasz Anisko, Walter S. Carell, Jr., Hugh Crump, Andrea Filippone, Henry Frierson. This attendance constituted a quorum.

The October 2010 minutes were presented and approved. [Lee Hahn/ John Boyd/ unanimous by voice]

The financial reports were distributed by Treasurer Saunders. Updated inventories and valuations of tangible assets (publications and apparel) were included. The arrangement with the new accountant is working well. The financial reports were approved. [John Boyd/ Lee Hahn/ unanimous by voice]

### President's Report

The October 2010 Symposium and Annual Meeting in Newark, OH was judged to be successful. Thanks were extended again to all the hosts that helped in making the event so meaningful. Several articles covering the event will appear in the Boxwood Bulletin Vol. 50, No. 3. The Profit and Loss statement for the Symposium shows a very nominal profit.

President presented a summary of the two hour meeting Goode and Carter had with the new Director of the National Arboretum, Dr. Colien Hefferan. Of continuing concern to the ABS is that the loss of the National Collection, could undermine the Registrar's authority. Dr. Hefferan indicated that plans were being developed for a meeting of stakeholders. It was noted that Dr. Gary Richardson had been the ABS' stakeholder representative, prior to the dissolution of the group. President Goode reviewed the details as known of the contribution to the Friends of the National Arboretum in the names of the Brendan Sullivan family. Director Filippone raised the concern of confirmation that this endowment is strictly for boxwood and azalea collection funding.

President Goode reviewed the status of the *Boxwood Bulletin*. Jeff Miller will serve as interim editor for the upcoming issue. It is requested that all submissions be made prior to March 1st. The 50th Anniversary issue may consist of more pages and therefore be more costly. Walter Carell submitted a list of some article suggestions, several of which he is working on. John Boyd plans to donate reproductions of the inaugural issue of the *Boxwood Bulletin* to attendees at the 50th Anniversary meeting. The April issue will include the updated international registration list. Blandy propagated many of the cultivars in the Memorial Garden. The rooted cuttings will be offered at

the plant auction during the 50th Anniversary meeting. These offerings will be listed in this Bulletin.

An informal search has been initiated for a new Editor of the *Boxwood Bulletin*.

The Search Committee (Saunders and Goode) for a new Executive Director reported progress in identifying a suitable and well qualified individual for this position. The Board moved into executive session for the purpose of interviewing the candidate.

### Registrar's Report

In Lynn Batdorf's absence, the Board referred to the most recent Registrar's report to the Executive Committee.

### Committee Reports

*2011 Annual Meeting:* President Goode reported that the itinerary is taking shape. Still seeking permission/invitations from two additional garden owners. It is anticipated that final costs will be more accurately known in early March and registration will be opened soon thereafter.

*Communications Committee:* Lee Hahn led some discussion regarding the current website. Upon review of various options it was agreed to contract with Shea Powell of New Jersey to re-design the website. The Board agreed to allocate up to \$1,500. for the project. Director Filippone will act as the ABS liaison with Powell. The open-ended issues are the Q&A, and transactional sections of the website. The site will remain with the current host initially. [Andrea Filippone/ Henry Frierson/ unanimous by voice]

V.P. Hahn suggested that the Board consider making the 50th Anniversary issue of the Bulletin available on-line, without restriction.

*Memorial Garden Committee:* Director Carell announced that April 20th is the work day at the Memorial Garden. There is a probability that workers may be permitted to take a few cuttings from the pruning work.

*Membership Committee:* Director Filippone reports the following membership summary:

54 Life, 260 regular; total 314. Director Crump suggested that a geographical breakdown may be helpful in assigning Directors to contact those former members who have not renewed. This approach may foster a better interconnectivity. Chairperson Filippone believes we can work towards arranging that.

*Nominating Committee:* Walter Carell reports that individuals are sought and being contacted for the positions of President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President and 3 Directors for the upcoming year.

*Publications Committee:* VP Boyd forecasts

that Handbooks and Encyclopedias will have to be reprinted in approximately 3 years. Lynn Batdorf has begun work on the next edition of the Handbook (4th edition). Printing costs will be evaluated within the next months.

The Board officially approved the policy of member/non-member pricing of publications. [John Boyd/ Andrea Filippone/ unanimous by voice]

John Boyd notes that we should improve our tracking of publications when moving them about for events, by creating a better documented 'paper trail'.

*Special Projects:* Director Filippone reported on the ABS garden display at the Philadelphia Flower Show. The space is 20'x15', near the center of the Show. The Show runs 9 days. ABS members have committed to staffing the booth all days with a minimum of three already scheduled each day. Saunders Brothers and George Bridge Boxwood have committed to providing the plant material. Director Filippone has made arrangements for printing of various handouts of literature and bookmarks. The Board approved an allocation of up to \$1,500. to cover the incidental costs for the project. [Andrea Filippone/ Hugh Crump/ unanimous by voice]

### Unfinished Business

No additional items.

### New Business

*Executive Director:* The Board approved pursuing the engaging of Ms. Nancy 'Tootie' Rinker. Further, the Search Committee is tasked with developing a mutually agreeable contract. [Bennett Saunders/ Walter Carell/ unanimous by voice]

*National Arboretum Liaison:* The Board approved that Eddie Goode, Jr. and Jan Carter would continue to serve in this capacity. [Lee Hahn/ John Boyd/ unanimous by voice]

*Friends of the National Arboretum:* The Board granted permission to FONA to use the ABS mailing list for the sole purpose of contacting members regarding the issue of financial support for the USNA as it relates to the Boxwood Collection. [Lee Hahn/ Walter Carell/ unanimous by voice]

*Symposium 2014:* President Goode proposed Washington, D. C. as the site. The Board approved this selection. [Lee Hahn/ Andrea Filippone/ unanimous by voice]

### Adjournment

Not seeing nor hearing any further business, President Goode adjourned the meeting without objection.

# Remembering Page 1 of our first issue!

## The Boxwood Bulletin

As this first issue of the Boxwood Bulletin goes to press our Society membership consists of those persons whose names are listed on the roster that concludes this publication. It is an enthusiastic group that can share questions, experiences, and knowledge concerning Boxwood to the benefit and advantage of all.

Our annual meeting, to be held near the first of May each year, will be a time for the oral exchange of experiences with boxwood in a friendly gathering and scientific environment. This Bulletin will be a chief medium for giving and receiving information concerning anything that affects, or pertains to, boxwood, in the periods between annual meetings.

It is planned to publish four Bulletins each year—in the quarters beginning in October, January, April, and July. It will be our objective to have the April issue correspond somewhat to a yearbook of other three numbers being much more modest. The size as our funds will permit, with the extensiveness of the Bulletin, as well as of the other activities of the Society, necessarily will be governed by the funds available from membership dues. In this connection the debt of all regular Members to the generosity of our Patron, Life, Sustaining, and Contributing Members, is appreciatively acknowledged.

The first Bulletin has been put together by the officers of the Society. An editorial staff of members interested in this phase is being sought. A number of features for future numbers already are available or promised—one of these being the important registration list of Boxwood Cultivars, developed by Dr. Wagenknecht while he was at the Arnold Arboretum. It has become apparent that the problem is not going to be finding material for our Bulletin, but rather selecting among the available material and condensing and fitting it into the space available.

## Our Membership Goal

There is a total of 404 Charter Members of the American Boxwood Society. Of this number, 283 are from 90 different towns and counties in Virginia, 15 from Washington, D. C., and 106 divided between 31 States in addition to Virginia. There are members from all but two States—Vermont and Wisconsin—east of the Mississippi River and from 8 States west of it.

We have not had time to scratch the surface in Maryland, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Long Island where there are so many notable boxwood gardens, plantings, and specimens. In these States alone there must be a thousand or more owners who would be interested in our Society and its purposes. There are probably as many unsolicited and uninformed, prospective members in Virginia. If only we knew their names and addresses and could inform them, we surely in most instances would gain their cooperation.

We read even in this issue of the quantities of boxwood along the West Coast, but from Washington and California we have very few members and from Oregon none. A member from northern New

England tells us about the large amounts in Texas of *Buxus sempervirens variegata elegantissima*, so rare throughout most of the world; but we cannot arouse so much as a peep from the Lone Star State—and are contemplating turning our efforts to Alaska instead.

Our ability to publish useful bulletins and handsome annuals with a long series of illustrated accounts of interesting and lovely boxwood gardens in this country and abroad depends entirely upon the size of our membership. And that in turn depends upon the really interested cooperation of our four hundred Charter Members.

No more than six of these founding members are responsible for no less than 90% or 360 of our present membership. They obtained it solely by their initiative and their labors, by seeing and telephoning and writing those friends and acquaintances whom they believed might make suitable and interested members. One of our founders personally brought in approximately eighty others. Certainly then, each one of us presently enrolled in this Boxwood "Four Hundred" can bring in a mere four other members. And that accomplishment will make our Society a lasting, constructive, conspicuous success. It will insure yearbooks that will constitute handsome additions to our libraries.

Four new members each: that is our goal.

It is the most important one that as a Society we ever shall have. It is the only call for material assistance that we shall ever make and the only kind of assistance that we wish. As a non-profit, scientific and educational journal, produced by unpaid volunteers, the Boxwood Bulletin, we are not abashed to say, merits the cooperation of each member in obtaining four new members whom we likewise may serve. It is not an immodest or greedy request.

As acknowledgement of this first effort by your officers to print the Boxwood Bulletin, inadequate and unsatisfactory as you may find that effort, please do your part, too, by seeing that some acquaintance who also fancies boxwood makes out and without fail sends to us an application for membership in the American Boxwood Society which covers a subscription to the Boxwood Bulletin.

## A Boxwood Museum

It has been suggested that the American Boxwood Society have as one objective the establishment of a "Boxwood Museum." The thought is that this museum be composed of: (1) a collection of all hardy and adapted *Buxus* species and cultivars; (2) a library collection of books and articles dealing with the group; and (3) eventually a collection of pressed, mounted and named dried herbarium specimens—taken from and based on the living collection. All material in the museum would be available to all Society members at any time.

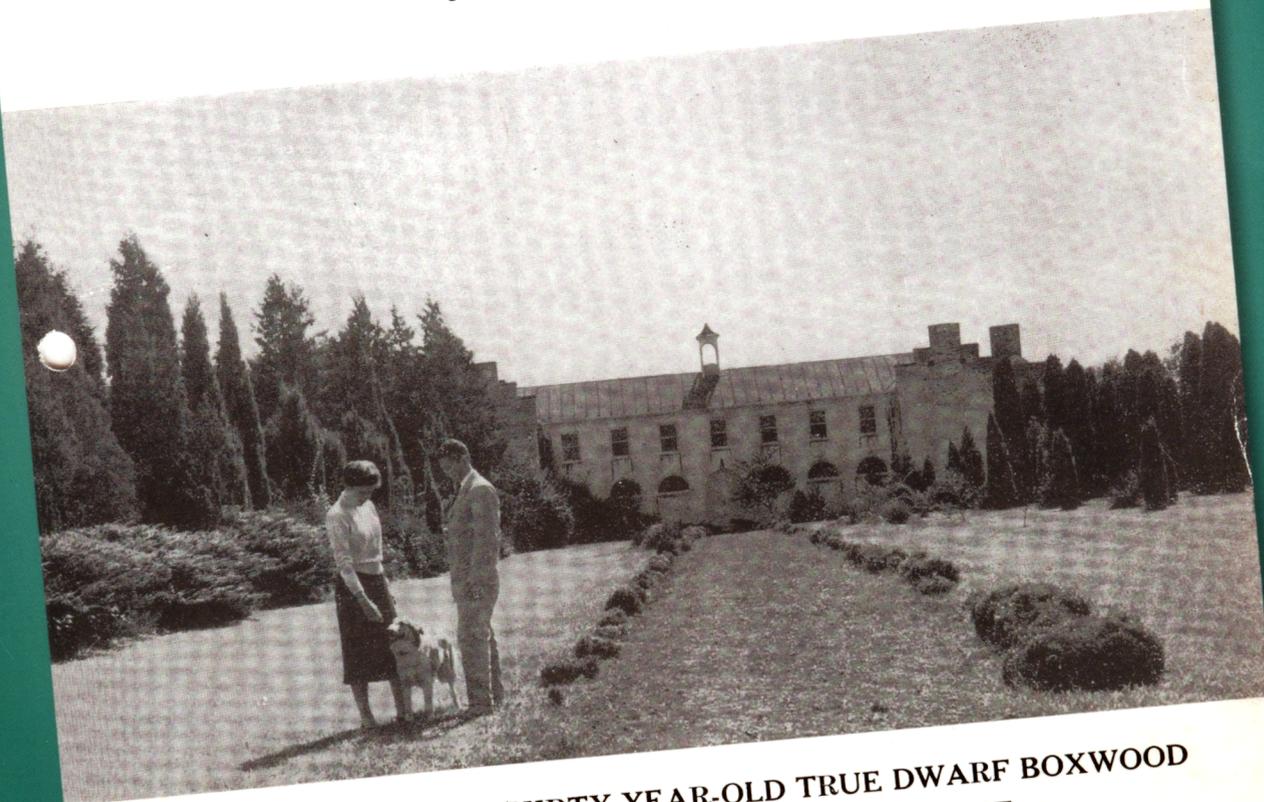
The Orland E. White Research Arboretum, at the Blandy Experimental Farm has long been interested in and working toward the living and the library collections for these plants. Our Boxwood Society has its headquarters at that institution. The development of this suggested museum would seem a worthy objective for the Society, and the present Blandy collections are now available as a nucleus for the proposed museum.

# *Our Cover – 50 Years Ago*

OCTOBER 1961

## **The Boxwood Bulletin**

A QUARTERLY DEVOTED TO MAN'S OLDEST  
GARDEN ORNAMENTAL



**WALK BORDERED BY THIRTY-YEAR-OLD TRUE DWARF BOXWOOD**  
At the Administration Building, Blandy Experimental Farm  
Headquarters of American Boxwood Society (See Page 1)

Boyce, Va.

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