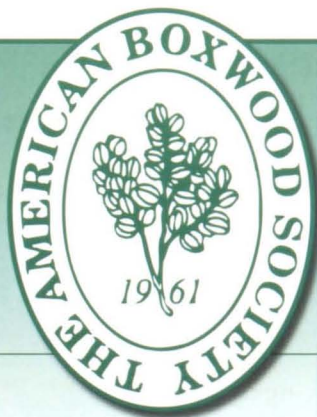


# THE BOXWOOD BULLETIN



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

Vol. 49 No. 1

July 2009



*Perfume Flask*

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# 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:

[www.boxwoodsociety.org](http://www.boxwoodsociety.org)

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# Boxwood in The Waddesdon Bequest at the British Museum

Mark Braimbridge

## Baron Ferdinand Anselm de Rothschild (1839-1898)

The banking Rothschild brothers built mansions for themselves in the Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire countryside of 19th century England. Baron Ferdinand Anselm de Rothschild (fig. 1) was brought up in Vienna and built his mansion, Waddesdon Manor, in the French Renaissance style in the village of Waddesdon just outside the County town of Aylesbury (fig. 2). He married Evelina, an English Rothschild and his first cousin, who tragically died in childbirth 18 months later.

He then threw himself, aided by his sister, Alice, into

collecting a wide variety of objects—French royal furniture, Savonnerie carpets, Sèvres porcelain, old masters' paintings and art objects. These last consisted of 300 precious objects—painted enamels, ceramics, glass,

masterpieces of goldsmiths' work—and 21 intricately carved, miniature boxwood pieces, which he kept in the 'new smoking room' in the 'Bachelor's wing' at Waddesdon Manor. He bequeathed the collection to the British Museum, of which he was a Trustee, in 1898, on condition that it was housed in its own separate designated room (now Room 45).



Fig. 1. Baron Ferdinand in his study.



Fig. 2. Waddesdon Manor.

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## Perfume Flask (WADD 265)

Perfume flasks were usually of silver or glass at this time but this one, carved in Germany in 1688, was of highly decorated boxwood. It is carved in a somewhat confused manner.

The upper part is in the general shape of a royal crown and is decorated with a seated female figure surrounded by three cupids.

The body of the flask is divided into three by the figures of Faith, Hope and Charity. Between them are two pairs of heraldic crests (helmets) and a coat of arms, including a cross pattée (spreading towards the ends), the Imperial eagle, demi-unicorn and a pair of horns. Overall is the shield of Austria.

The base, which unscrews, represents the emblems of the Evangelists—an Angel (St. Matthew), the winged Lion (St. Mark), the winged Ox (St. Luke) and the Eagle (St. John).



*This intricate miniature boxwood carving stands a mere 3 inches (7.6 cm) high.*

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### Reference:

Read, C.H. *The Waddesdon Bequest: catalogue of the works of art bequeathed to the British Museum by Baron Ferdinand Rothschild, M.P.1898*, British Museum Publications, London 1902

**Author's Note:** *The miniature 16/17C boxwood carvings bequeathed by Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild to the British Museum in 1898 have been a revelation, as there has been no comprehensive publication of their images since 1902 and that publication was scantily illustrated. The intricacy of the carving on such a small scale of an altar piece and a tabernacle (only reaching the height of the shoulder of a wine bottle), rosary beads 2 in. (5 cm) in diameter, medallions and religious objects of miniature size, is truly remarkable and may interest the members of the ABS. A series of brief descriptions and images of representative artifacts is planned.*

**Editor's Note:** *The Boxwood Bulletin, April 1987 [26(4):82-85], discusses additional boxwood artifacts from The Waddesdon Bequest.*

# THE SEASONAL GARDENER - *Watering in Summer*

Maintaining proper moisture in the soil is the single greatest factor affecting the health of boxwood. An ideal soil is approximately 45% minerals, 25% air, 25% water, and 5% organic matter. The relationship between the water and air, that occupy 50% of the soil space, is an important one. Excessive water in poorly drained soil reduces available air. Conditions such as compacted soil, a high water table, or flooding, tend to reduce soil air and are damaging to boxwood roots.

Good drainage allows the proper water level to be maintained. For example, a sandy soil will permit water to move quickly through the soil. Conversely, a clay soil will hold onto the water, causing a poor drainage condition. The roots of boxwood need a continuous and adequate supply of oxygen to grow properly. To determine if the soil has proper drainage, dig a hole one foot (30 cm) in diameter and one foot (30 cm) deep. Fill the hole with water. If the water has not drained out within one hour, the site is not well drained.

During dry periods, the shallow roots of boxwood cannot extract sufficient water from the soil for transpiration, the process by which water taken up by the roots is lost to the atmosphere through the pores on the underside of the leaves. For most plants, 95% to 97% of all water loss occurs from the leaves. During periods of dry soil, the plant must draw water out of the individual plant cells, causing most plants to wilt. However, boxwood leaves with their thick cuticle, do not wilt; rather they form small wrinkles when excessively dry. The greatest water loss from a plant would be expected to occur on sunny, windy sites with low humidity.

A somewhat similar

*The best guide to watering is in understanding soil and water dynamics. Ideal soil should be slightly moist from the surface to a depth of 12" to 18" (30 cm to 45 cm) all year round.*

The best guide to watering is in understanding soil and water dynamics. Ideal soil should be slightly moist from the surface to a depth of 12" to 18" (30 cm to 45 cm) all year round. To monitor this, begin by digging several holes 12" (30 cm) deep. Make these holes in various spots throughout the garden at different times of the year. Then it can be determined how far down into the soil the moisture is penetrating. Only through time and observation can an appropriate watering schedule be developed for a particular site. There are many variables that will affect watering. Some of them include: the type of soil, the size of the plant, amount of rainfall, air temperature and relative humidity, slope of the soil, wind, sunlight, type and thickness of mulch, and how recently the plant was moved.

Established boxwood need about 1" (2.5 cm) of rainfall every 10 days from early spring to late fall. If fall weather is dry, water thoroughly just before the first heavy freezing weather is expected. If dry weather continues into the winter, water the equivalent of 1" (2.5 cm) of rainfall every three weeks whenever the ground is not frozen. Best results are obtained from applying water in the early morning hours. This permits adequate moisture during the day when the plant adsorbs most of its

situation occurs in winter. The water in the soil has frozen and is then unavailable to the plant. If the drought or winter is too severe, the plant may lose too much water. Under this condition a permanent wilt occurs and a branch or even the entire plant dies. If these extreme conditions are temporary, the plant could re-hydrate.

water. Morning watering also minimizes the risk of diseases; many are stimulated by water, as it has had all day to drain deeper into the soil and away from the boxwood roots.

There are numerous variables to consider when using and modifying this general watering guide. For example, automated irrigation systems can either benefit or harm boxwood. There are many irrigation systems that have been directly responsible for the death of valuable boxwood specimens. Often automatic timers are set to turn on frequently and seldom adjusted through the seasons or in response to weather conditions. Such over-watering results in saturated soils that can injure or kill boxwood roots, or in overly wet foliage that promotes foliar diseases.

Proper monitoring and adjusting both the duration and frequency of water applied by automatic irrigation systems cannot be over-emphasized. Preferred watering devices include soaker hoses and trickle (drip) irrigation. The all-too-common "pop-up" spray heads, designed to irrigate turfgrass areas and not ornamental plants or boxwood, are not recommended. The "pop-up" irrigation wet the boxwood foliage, promoting aggressive and serious incidents of foliar boxwood diseases. Additionally, on average, 15% to 20% of the water from the spray head is wasted, evaporating before it can be absorbed into the soil.

Best results are obtained by adjusting both the duration and frequency of irrigation watering in response to both the weather conditions and the change in seasons. Watering infrequently, with longer hours of operation in the early morning, provides the best results. Daily watering, even every two or three days, is generally not recommended. Having each zone apply water for less than 30 minutes is not recommended for most systems.

*Watering infrequently, with longer hours of operation in the early morning, provides the best results.*



## The Question Box

**Q:** Here is a very old bonsai, *Buxus sempervirens* 'Rotundifolia' found this morning in a village near mine, in Picardy. Could you please tell me what is it suffering from?



**A:** Fascinating photos!

With the evidence before me (the 3 photos), there appear to be several things going on.

First my observations:

- This boxwood appears to have been trained into a bonsai no more than 10 years ago (a large assumption on my part) as noted by the two large primary roots which were cut to place the plant into the pot.
- the leaves are orange
- the young twigs are orange (these should always be green)
- the shrub has excessive fruiting
- moss growing on some of the bark (a sign of decay)
- moss growing on the surface of the soil (a sign of abnormally low soil pH)

Second, here's what I believe is happening to the bonsai boxwood specimen:

- the box is having a difficult time recovering from the shock of having the two large primary roots cut (it takes 5 to 15 years to fully recover). The box has produced a large flush of unorganized root growth to attempt to compensate for the lost roots, but the plant is still weak.
- the moss growth is a classical sign of low soil pH. Anyone who wishes to successfully grow box (as bonsai, as topiary, or even as a shrub) must know the soil pH. The soil pH in this example is too low, which denies the plant the ability to absorb nutrients properly. Thus, the orange leaves, orange stems, and heavily fruiting—all signs of cultural stress brought on by low soil pH. While discussing the box roots, please realize that box roots are very exposed in bonsai culture. That is, soil temperature and moisture can and do dramatically (even shockingly) change very quickly—all of this is a great disservice to the box roots. Box roots die when they cool to 0C; they also die as the soils warms to 35C. If the soil is totally wet or totally dry for more than 24 hours, this can weaken or kill box roots.

Third, here's what needs to be done:

- The soil pH must be maintained between 6.7 and 7.5. Apply lime to raise the soil pH. Applications of lime will need to be applied on a regular basis to maintain the proper soil pH. I can not (nor can anyone) tell you how much lime or how often. Only regular soil tests can determine the soil pH which will be the best guide to lime applications.
- apply very low concentrations (about 5% normal strength) of a complete liquid fertilizer one a week from October to April.
- The temperature and moisture highs and lows in the soil must be moderated. Unfortunately these swings are a reality in bonsai culture—thus, the roots must be protected to ensure they are both healthy and vigorous.

Finally, unfortunately, this bonsai specimen cannot be *Buxus sempervirens* 'Rotundifolia', certainly it is *Buxus sempervirens* which has much larger, round, fleshy leaves.

Q: I have a question about some boxwood we are having trouble with at a site near Santa Cruz, California. We have around 2,000 boxwood on this site and some of them are not doing well. Attached are some pictures of a few of the plants in question, and a soils report from a local lab. They are all *Buxus sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa'. We've had to replace at least 100 of them so far over the course of 3 years.



Chemical analyses on samples received: **December 10, 2007**

Sample Identification	pH	Electrical Conductivity dS/m	Nitrate Nitrogen (N)	Ammonium Nitrogen (N)	Phosphorus (P)	Potassium (K)	Calcium (Ca)	Magnesium (Mg)	SP Saturation Percentage	Calcium plus Magnesium	Sodium (Na)	Chloride (Cl)	Boron (B)	SAR Sodium Adsorption Ratio	ESP Exchangeable Sodium Percentage
			RESULTS REPORTED IN PARTS PER MILLION OF DRY SOIL												
			milligrams per liter extract										ppm		
General Guidelines-Ornamental Plants	6.5-7.2	1.0-3.0	25-75	25-75	50-100	150-300	2000-4000	150-500		>6.0	<3.0	<3.0	<2.0	<8.0	<9.0
<b>Boxwoods,</b>															
<b>Good</b>	7.3	1.3	1	10	40	220	3300	470	35	12.0	2.4	3.4	0.2	1.0	1.1
<b>Poor</b>	7.3	1.1	0	33	42	120	3000	690	56	10.1	2.3	3.2	0.2	1.0	1.1

The pH values of these soils are slightly alkaline in reaction and are slightly higher than desirable. The low electrical conductivities indicate that these soils do not contain excessive quantities of soluble salt.

The fertility analyses show moderate nitrogen and phosphorus levels for both areas. The potassium level is slightly low for the poor area. The calcium and magnesium levels are satisfactory for both areas. The saturation percentage data show that the poor sample has much higher water holding properties than the good area. The sodium concentrations are safely low however the chloride is slightly high for both samples. The low SAR and ESP values indicate that the sodium that is present will not be causing a hazard to the soil structure. The boron concentrations are safely low for both samples.

Based on the results of these analyses, it would appear that the higher water holding capacity of the poor growing plant areas might be contributing to the problems in growth in these plants. They do appear to be suffering from an overly wet soil condition and a plant sample was sent in for plant disease testing and when these results are completed we will forward them to you.

It is recommended that a fertilizer such as Vigoro 10-8-8 acid fertilizer be applied to these areas at a rate of 15 lbs per 1000 sq ft of bed area. This fertilizer can be applied at this time and the winter rains will help move it in to the root zone to these plants.

If you have any questions, please give me a call.

*some shading from a large pecan tree. My preference is to use 'Suffruticosa' to remain as true as possible to the site, accommodate our desire for exceptionally slow, tight growth, and compensate for differences in sun. One of our landscape architects is leaning more towards one of the Korean cultivars because of cost, and I had given some thought to 'Justin Brouwers' as a possible substitution as well. The two beds are approximately 3x24', and we had planned on nine plants for each of reasonable size, maybe 18-24". I'll attach a bad photograph.*

*Your thoughts and ideas regarding plant selection, as well as recommendations for suppliers would be of great help and value. I'm familiar with both English Boxwoods of Virginia, and Saunders Brothers, but have never dealt with either.*

**A:** Actually, your soil pH is low, it ought to be between 6.8 and 7.5 for optimum nutritional take-up by the box.

English box is very classical and traditional. It also requires educated and long term dedicated care to properly maintain this shrub in a diminutive form, which naturally grows 12 feet tall and 14 feet wide at maturity after 300 or so years.

The site looks exceptionally exposed to both winter wind and sun—this will cause any box to have bronze foliage. Make sure you use one inch mulch (not 2 or 3, etc.).

'Justin Brouwers' is a superior shrub with an informal upright mounding habit—it will not take shearing. Left untouched, it matures at almost waist high and as wide. Culturally stressed shrubs are prone to leaf minor.

Both sources you mention are very good. You should contact both to compare price, etc.

Please consider obtaining the *Boxwood Handbook* from the American Boxwood Society website at: [www.boxwoodsociety.org](http://www.boxwoodsociety.org), under publications at the home page. It's got all the cultural guidelines you'll ever need to be successful with box.

**Follow-up Comment:** *My many thanks once again for your response, and sharing of expertise. This is a very important project for us, and I want to make the best possible decisions prior to planting. I'm ordering your book today, and we'll go to work on pH immediately.*

*The many improvements we've made during the development of this site have been based on what can be documented through correspondence, original records, and archives. It's been a challenging project to say the least. Much of what we're growing in the kitchen garden is being put to use during demonstration cooking in the dependency building on Sundays. The boxwoods will frame the entrance.*  
[http://www.pgparcs.com/places/eleganthistoric/riversdale\\_tour.html](http://www.pgparcs.com/places/eleganthistoric/riversdale_tour.html)

**Reply to Comment:** Make sure you use dolomitic lime and not one of the many other types of lime. It looks like those box will have lots of sun. Therefore, you must thin them regularly in late fall—I promise you if this isn't done they will eventually fall victim to both *Macrophoma* and *Volutella*.

**A:** From the soil test results you provided, the soil pH is not "slightly higher than desirable". At 7.3, it is near the upper range, but is perfectly fine. I should add that boxwood naturally grows in, and prefers, alkaline soils with values as high as 8.5.

The problem facing your boxwood has nothing to do with soil chemistry, thus I won't respond to the analysis, or its recommendations, except to say, the soil and the boxwood do not lack the proper nutrients, (nor is this causing the problem) thus, applying fertilizer is inappropriate.

The problem affecting your boxwood is not abiotic. They are suffering from an infection of *Volutella*, a common disease of English boxwood. *Volutella* prefers a dark, moist, stagnate air environment—the overly dense foliage of your boxwood is giving the disease exactly what it prefers. The boxwood foliage must be thinned every other year to maintain a healthy shrub. When the disease is present (as in your boxwood), annual thinning is appropriate.

This disease took several years to reveal itself, thus it takes nearly as long to permit the corrective actions to work. While thinning is completely effective (except on terminal shrubs) it does require patience.

Please refer to pages 59-62 and 93-95 in the *Boxwood Handbook* available from the American Boxwood Society for details on the pathogen and its corrective measures.

If you'd prefer, you're welcome to call and we can discuss this. It's easy to correct the problem affecting your boxwood.

**Q:** *I've been involved in a project for a couple of years at Riversdale, Maryland, one of our historic sites. Over the past year or so, we've been developing an interpretive kitchen garden, with expansion happening as often as we're able. One of this season's additions is a pair of "sentinel" beds at the garden's entrance that had originally been scheduled for a cordon pear hedge, and has since been revised as boxwood rows.*

*The soil pH isn't too bad here (6-6.5), soil / drainage not quite as good. One side remains in full sun, the other receives*

# ABS Board Meeting – September 25, 2008

A Board meeting of the American Boxwood Society was held at Blandy Farm, Boyce, Virginia. It was called to order on September 25, 2008 at 12:50pm. In attendance were: President Dr. Henry F. Frierson, Jr., Vice-President Edward Goode, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer Laurie Jamerson, Registrar Lynn Batdorf. Directors John Boyd III, Joan Butler, Walter Carell Jr., Jan Carter, Charles Fooks, Clifford Hoffman, Bennett Saunders. Absent were Lee Hahn, Andrea Filippone and Dean Norton.

**Giving Appeal** — Edward Goode, Jr., reported on the mailing for the Annual Giving Appeal and that a line for credit card donations was added to the return envelope to promote easier payments. A reminder would be included in the Fall Boxwood Bulletin as well. The cost of printing was \$709.12. Discussion—Joan felt return envelopes and postage were a waste of money and the donations seemed to come from different sources over the years. Edward reminded the Board that the decrease in membership has driven the need to continue the Appeal. Henry made a motion to pay for the mailing, second by Walter, carried by the Board.

**Memorial Garden** — Edward Goode, Jr., reported that an open call to members to assist with the maintenance cleaning of the Garden was not needed per Bob Arnold. Plant labels for the garden have been ordered at a cost of \$1,062.05. Several board members and workers have been lined up for a work day.

**Annual Meetings** — Edward Goode, Jr., has been working with John Makar in Atlanta for the April 2009 symposium. This event is coming together and there is a signed room reservation contract. The cost of the

meeting is not set. He noted the location was expensive and they were diligently working to keep it affordable to members. The 2010 meeting will be held in the fall at the Dawes Arboretum in Ohio. Discussion—should an annual meeting of the membership be held in April or May in keeping with by-laws. Where could this be held, including a workshop, if incorporated in a one day event. Walter suggested a boxwood cutting workshop. The 50th Anniversary meeting in 2011 is scheduled for Blandy and the theme will be reminiscent of ABS humble beginnings and expansion progress over its fifty years.

**Advertisement** — Henry Frierson, Jr., gave the report for Lee Hahn, in his absence. Regarding credit card sales—future transactions need to be verified as some included out of date cards. Use of the security code numbers, on the back of the card, will aid in reducing fraud and cost to ABS. Lee has been working with Jeff Miller (the ABS web administrator) to add online sales to ABS web site. An E-store could provide members quick payment for dues, book orders and meeting registrations in the future. The New Jersey board members are interested in organizing the booth at the New Jersey Flower show in February. Additionally, Andrea Filippone will sponsor an exhibit at the Philadelphia Flower Show again in spring 2009. Andrea is immediately looking for volunteers to help man the booth. Walter said two people at the booth is minimal with three being ideal each day. Most volunteers to man the booth at the Philadelphia Flower Show were from Virginia. Walter added there were \$7880 in credit card sales between both shows in 2008, a better return than the giv-

ing letter but with much more labor.

**Membership Renewal Mailing** — There was a good response from the mailing. Notes need to be sent earlier in the year in 2009. A reminder to add a notice in the April *Boxwood Bulletin* is a must and could eliminate a second notice mailing. Sources need to be researched to generate new members. Jan felt we need to appeal to commercial growers, architects and green businesses verses homeowners. He was wondering if membership lists from other plant societies, such as the Holly Society of American, could be exchanged. He asked if suppliers in the *Buyers' Guide* were members. In response it was noted that, no, they were not required to join the ABS to be listed. Jan said there were 315 growers listed and that would double our current membership. It was noted that we could consider a business level to the ABS membership options.

When exchanging informational or membership ads with other organizations, Lynn noted that these camera ready ads would be laborious to insert. Henry felt there should be little or no cost to this proposal if done by E-Mail. Walter suggested the ABS should exchange general membership information with other plant societies but was not in favor of exchanging advertisements at no cost. Jan asked if cross links could be established on our website. Walter would like to see paid ads (in the *Boxwood Bulletin*) cover the publishing cost in the future. Lynn noted that this would involve record keeping to track the exchange of ads between the various societies. Henry thought the editors could work that out. Walter said submitting an article that included boxwood with their plants may be a place to start and include "How to Join the ABS."



**Editor Report** — The July issue of the *Boxwood Bulletin* should have been received by this week. That issue was tardy due to participation in the EBTS–France meeting and other international travel. The October issue of the *Boxwood Bulletin* is ready to print and topics include the France trip. The January issue will promote the Annual Meeting in Atlanta. John asked how many copies are being printed as he receives over 1200 back issues after the membership copies are mailed out. It was noted that the ABS orders and pays for 475 printed copies of each issue. Supporters of the trade shows noted that they could hand out extra back issues, or offer them for sale at the New Jersey Flower Show or the Philadelphia Flower Show. Offering the January issue would be ideal as it includes Annual Meeting information which may entice prospective members to join.

**Registrar Report** — Lynn is collaborating with the EBTS–UK to establish an International Image Library which will include world-class gardens displaying boxwood. He has scanned over 200 slides of English gardens and wants to make them available on the ABS website. Henry asked for Jeff’s input to add the images to the ABS website.

The book draft, *Boxwood Species*, is virtually complete. Larger in size than the *Boxwood Encyclopedia*, it is 400 pages not including the hundreds of images which have been selected. Lynn is working to obtain a taxonomic review. Once this final step is complete, it could be ready to print in 2011. The printing cost is estimated to be about \$50,000.

**Treasurer Report** — Checking balance at BB&T is \$49,932, three CD’s total \$25,744 Assets (books/aparel) \$46,842; retained earnings \$122,518. Restricted funds, \$29,213.

Net operating funds \$20,719 plus the CD’s total \$46,463. Laurie suggested increasing the balance of all CD’s to \$10,000, by using money from restricted funds. Laurie also asked the Board to consider moving more funds from checking into the CD’s. Walter made a motion to increase the next CD coming due to \$10,000, second by John. The vote was carried by Board. Bennett asked if book proceeds were earmarked to pay for new books, and Henry responded that Research funds can go into publications fund. Joan suggested Decca Frackleton fund also go to publications fund as she was advocate for boxwood publications.

**Position of Executive Director-Secretary/Treasurer** — Joan gave a brief history of the transition which the ABS has made through the years. Originally, the Blandy Farm Secretary did 1/2 day work for the ABS. Then Kathy Ward took on this responsibility and, at the end of her tenure, was receiving \$6000/yr as Treasurer, with the death of Decca Frackleton did the membership and recording work. Later Sigrid Harriman was the ABS Secretary. With the passing of Decca in December 2004, Mac Stiff took on both Treasurer and membership duties for \$6000 until resigning in 2006. Edward Goode managed the finances until Laurie Jamerson was elected, while Ross Hotchkiss took over membership duties. Andrea Filippone has chaired Membership Committee to date. Neither Edward, Ross or Andrea accepted any compensation for their contributions to the ABS. Laurie replaced Sigrid as secretary in 2001 and began Treasurer duties in late 2006. She is currently Secretary/Treasurer and Henry noted that these responsibilities are too great for one individual. Henry asked everyone to review the handout, which included a job description, and report back to him with

suggestions of anyone interested in the position. Thus far, Jeff Miller is the most qualified person Henry has spoken to.

In the discussion of the handout—“Quick books vs. a secure site,” it was noted that there is a Quick books pro for non-profit organizations. The website management fee is currently \$1400. John indicated that he was willing to continue his participation in distributing the books—this activity is not included in the proposal. Regarding mail distribution, it could go to Jeff Miller in Christiansburg, Virginia. It was noted that costs could quickly increase. The horticultural background of Jeff Miller is a positive advantage for the ABS which could assist in recruiting new members. Management of the membership list is very important. The total annual fees of this proposal were discussed. It was noted that Jeff Miller would attend ABS board meetings.

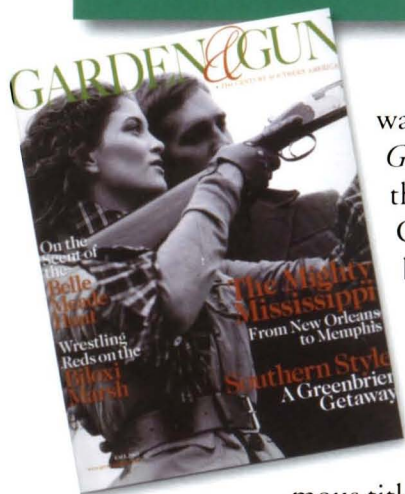
**Other Business** — Walter Carell, Jr., submitted a sample tri-fold to consider using for promotion of ABS activities. It could be mailed to potential members and used as advertising at trade shows. The tri-fold presented information on boxwood history and had numerous colorful images with the ABS logo.

It was noted that the ABS has an unpaid bill due to the American Nurserymen Association for advertising for \$450. It was further noted that the American Nurserymen Association owes the ABS \$658 for books sold to them. Edward Goode said he has been in contact with them and would seek to resolve this issue as soon as possible.

A motion to adjourn meeting was made by Charlie Fooks, second by Joan Butler. The meeting ended at 3:20pm.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Laurie Jamerson, ABS Secretary*

# THE BOXWOOD BOOKSHELF



Spring 2007 brought forward a new quarterly magazine, *Garden & Gun*, published by the Evening Post Publishing Company. It describes itself as being for readers of the “21st Century Southern America” and as the “Soul of the New South”.

*Garden & Gun*, has an interesting, even dichotomous title. I mention this only because I've never considered taking my gun



into the garden. It was Laurie Jamerson, an officer of the American Boxwood Society Board, who was kind enough to bring *Garden & Gun* to my attention. If the reader can look beyond the title of this young magazine, they will be rewarded by well-written articles and superior photography both wrapped together in a nicely produced

publication. *Garden & Gun* has two issues of interest for boxwood lovers.

The first issue was published in Summer 2007, with a 7-page article entitled, “Boxwood: An Antebellum Garden With Deep Southern Roots.” It was written by Allston McCrady, who has also written other articles for *Garden & Gun*, and serves as its Managing Editor. The photographs were produced by Andy Anderson.

I was more than pleasantly surprised by the article, “Boxwood: An Antebellum Garden With Deep Southern

Roots;” I was captivated by it. Allston McCrady gently, yet quickly, lures the reader into living and appreciating the historic and genteel hospitality for which the traditional south is renowned. The article begins with a full para-

graph devoted to the Civil War—it is written so convincingly, I could almost see Scarlett O’Hara in the background.

Boxwood, the reader soon discovers, refers to an estate and garden founded circa 1851. It is listed in the Historic American Buildings Survey in Madison and is located one hour east of Atlanta. The article goes on to portray a laymen’s experience with caring for a delightful private garden which prominently features boxwood.

The author had researched the topic, having located Thornton Marye’s 1933 drawing in the book titled, *The Garden History of Georgia*. With this reference, it was almost possible for me to excuse the fact that “boxwoods” was used throughout the article. Almost. There is no such word as boxwoods [sic].

A second issue of interest is *Garden & Gun*’s Fall 2007. It has a boxwood article entitled, “Reverie on Roanoke Island: An Elizabethan garden on the Outer Banks honors the mystery of the Lost Colony.” It is eight pages of boxwood delight, the author Marjorie Hudson, from North Carolina, has also written *Searching for Virginia Dare* and several other books.

The article quickly engages the reader by starting in an era in “...the chaos of the wild New World.”

This garden, created in 1950, honors Virginia Dare and the 116 English settlers who vanished from their 1587 settlement on Roanoke Island. From garden design, to completion, and present day, the article delightfully documents the numerous features of this garden, which prominently features boxwood.

Subscriptions for *Garden & Gun* are available online at: [www.gardenandgun.com](http://www.gardenandgun.com) at \$17.97 for six issues (18 months). Also online are a variety of options which include, a free weekly electronic newsletter, viewing archived articles, a blog, and more.

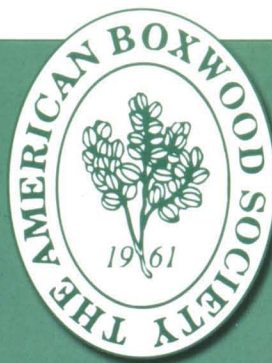
Lynn R. Batdorf



## Future Annual ABS Meetings

- ❖ Fall 2010 – Newark, OH
- ❖ Spring 2011 – Boyce, VA  
ABS 50th Anniversary
- ❖ Spring 2012 – Charleston, SC
- ❖ Spring 2013 – Williamsburg, VA

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