Overwhelming Response

What a wonderful response we have had to our membership program! Thank you for becoming a Friend of Lotusland and helping us to preserve this historic estate and its magical garden.

Between opening to the public, creating a new reservation system and setting up a new membership program, we have been a bit overwhelmed—but very gratified—to discover how much community interest and support there is for Lotusland. Now that public tours for 1993 have ended, we can work out any of the "bugs" of the reservation system and make sure our members understand how to take advantage of their benefits in 1994.

We have been deluged by calls for reservations since we opened three months ago, and we are now nearly full for 1994. But the very good news for members is that we have special opportunities, tours and events reserved for you. Members at Level II and (cont. pg. 3)

Aloe Garden Surprises

The ALOE GARDEN is always a surprise for the first-time visitor to Lotusland. Approaching from the Japanese garden by a brick pathway between a grove of bamboo on one side and a thick-trunked Chilean wine palm (Jubaea spectabilis) on the other, one suddenly comes upon a striking landscape of lava rock and volcanic cinders. The contrast to the serenity of the Japanese garden could not be more dramatic. The camellias, azaleas and rhododendrons of Asia give way to an African extravaganza of aloes. Virtually every plant in sight, from low-growing ground cover to 20-foot trees, is an aloe. The winter view of December and January is warmed by candelabras of vermillion flowers, accented by the occasional spike of yellow or red-orange. A closer look shows some pinks among the dominant reds.

Aloes are indigenous to parts of Africa and the Arabian peninsula which are arid in differing degrees. They are all succulents and come in a wide variety of plant forms which have (cont. pg. 3)

Public Visit Season Successful

November 13 marked the last public visit day for Lotusland's 1993 season. During this nine-week period of 36 public visit days, 2916 people visited Lotusland, an average of 81 visitors per day. On average there were only 25 vehicles per day, which shows how cooperative our visitors were in carpooling. After two months of experience with the new visitor facilities, Lotusland is pleased to report that they work wonderfully well.
SPECIAL ribbon cutting ceremonies September 15 through 17 marked the fulfillment of Madame Walska's dream of opening Lotusland to the public. From left to right are: Arthur R. Gaudi, Secretary-Treasurer; Elizabeth Dake, Trustee; Carol L. Valentine, President; Steven Timbrook, Director, and Michael Towbes, Trustee.

Thanks to Our Visitor Facility Designers and Contractors

Paul Gray of Warner & Gray was the project architect, with original design work by William LaVoie and revisions and construction phase liaison by Mario da Cunha. Engineering design for the site and construction management services were under the direction of John Maddock of Martin, Northart and Spencer. Landscape architect Sydney Baumgartner was responsible for the new Australian garden that landscapes the entire visitor facility — entry, parking area, buildings and surrounding open space.

Frank Louda of Chismahoo Construction was the general contractor and Acorn Landscaping installed the new Australian garden. There were many fine subcontractors under the direction of Mr. Louda who were responsible for various phases of the project, from site grading and preparation to tile work and fabrication of decorative metal work. To all of these designers, contractors, craftsmen, and especially our Permit Planner Laura Bridley, Lotusland extends its sincere thanks for a job well done.

What Your Contribution to Lotusland Can Accomplish

As the end of the year draws near there are numerous appeals to our generosity by non-profit institutions. While it is unlikely that each of us is able to respond to all requests for tax-deductible contributions, such donations are vital in accomplishing the missions of Santa Barbara's many outstanding organizations.

As an example of the importance of your special contributions to Lotusland, here are some of the things that they make possible:

$30 puts three new plant identification labels in the garden.

$50 adds a reference book to the Lotusland library.

$100 covers one week of a 15-week work experience program on Lotusland's grounds for a Santa Barbara City College environmental horticulture student.

$250 allows one sandstone grotesque in the theatre garden to be stabilized and repaired.

$500 provides one-fourth of the cost of a 10-week summer resident internship at Lotusland for an outstanding student in a college horticultural degree program.

Please consider helping Lotusland enhance its horticultural and educational programs through your gift. Tax-deductible contributions may be sent to Lotusland, 695 Ashley Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93108, and will be greatly appreciated.
Aloes: A Proliferation of Species

With only 9 aloe species shared between South Africa and the rest of Africa, this meant a total of 324 species were recognized in 1966. Since that time roughly 100 additional aloes have been discovered, bringing the world total to about 430 and the South African total to 150.

Madame Ganna Walska was very interested in the dramatic effect that could be created by many different kinds of plants including aloes and other succulents. Her first aloes were purchased in the early 1960s and included such species as Aloe barbadosensis (formerly A. vera). It was referred to by the Greeks in 78 A.D. as having medicinal properties. A colored drawing appeared about 512 A.D. Although its exact place of origin is not known, A. barbadosensis was cultivated all around the Mediterranean and also probably in the Cape Verde Islands and India. It is believed that the Spaniards introduced it to the New World, where it is now grown commercially—still for its medicinal properties.

The best current references on aloes are Gilbert W. Renoylds' The Aloes of South Africa and The Aloes of Tropical Africa and Madagascar, published in 1950 and 1966, respectively. Reynolds gave the following breakdown of the worldwide distribution of Aloe:

- South Africa: 136 species (89 in the eastern Transvaal province alone)
- Madagascar: 46 species
- Tropical Africa: 133 species
- Socotra Island: 2 species
- Yemen and Saudi Arabia: 17 species

For the last few years Corey Welles has been the gardener responsible for the aloe garden. He, associate curator Virginia Hayes and docent Robin Primich have been working to improve the collection and complete an inventory of Lotusland's aloe collection. An incomplete accession list from the mid-1970s refers to about 130 species, of which about 100 were identified in the recent survey. Roughly one-half are native to South Africa with the remainder native to tropical Africa and the Arabian Peninsula.

Although plants in Lotusland's aloe collection come from regions of very diverse climates, they grow remarkably well in the relatively cool climate of Santa Barbara. At one extreme we have Aloe plicatilis from near Cape Town, where rainfall which can reach 100 inches per year, and at the other, aloes from the Richtersveld, such as A. ramosissima, which can survive on less than five inches of annual rainfall.

Aloes do not have strong sterility barriers preventing crossing between related species, so many naturally occurring hybrids have been recorded. The Lotusland aloe garden contains numerous hybrids, some of them very attractive, but unfortunately, in most cases, the parentage is not known. One whose parentage is known numbers in the hundreds at Lotusland and is now in bloom. It is very striking and bears some resemblance to both of its parents, Aloe ferox and A. arborescens.

Although we may never know for sure, we can speculate on why Madame Walska used so many plants of one kind. She evidently chose these showy hybrids purely for their beauty, regardless of their lack of pedigree. It was this flair for the unusual or unorthodox that adds so much character to her aloe garden.

—Anne Dewey

RESPONSE, cont.—above may take advantage of our many Self-Guided Tour Days set aside for the Friends of Lotusland when the public is not admitted. (See Special Events Calendar pg. 4 for dates.) Members at Levels III & IV may call for a reservation anytime we are open to the public, and we will always have space for you and your guests.

Lotusland will open again for public tours on Wednesday, February 16, and be open until November 12. We offer guided tours on Wednesdays through Saturdays at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. We have a Garden Shop run by our volunteers which offers gifts and educational items unique to Lotusland.

Remember, all members must make a reservation for both guided and self-guided tours, and an admission fee is charged, or you may use your free member's passes. The Reservation Office phone number is (805) 969-9990, and it is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon all year.

—Anne Dewey

—Robin Primich/Steven Timbrook
Special Events Calendar

- **Friday, January 7 & Saturday, January 8, 10 a.m.**
  ALOE OUTINGS: Don't miss our ales in bloom! While Lotusland is closed to public tours, our ales are blooming, so we are offering two informative classes on Lotusland's collection of over 100 species, varieties and hybrids of ales, along with a tour of the aloe garden. More information and registration form on page 7.

- **Monday, February 14, 2 p.m. — Santa Barbara Museum of Art**
  COLOR IN THE GARDEN: Lotusland is co-sponsoring a four-part lecture series, "Springtime in the Garden," with the Santa Barbara Museum of Art and the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden beginning with internationally known garden consultant, designer, and author Penelope Hobhouse. Reception in a museum gallery follows. Information and a reservation form will be mailed to all members the first week of January.

- **Beginning February 23**
  UPPER LEVEL MEMBERS' SELF-GUIDED TOUR DATES: Members at Levels II, III and IV can enjoy Lotusland on their own when we close the garden to public tours on the dates listed below. Members may use these times to stroll, paint, photograph, study plants and bring a guest (up to three guests each visit). Members need to make a reservation for these dates as we limit the number of reservations by members in order to preserve the tranquil nature of the garden. The Reservation Office phone number is (805) 969-9990 and is open Monday-Friday, 9 am to noon all year. An admission fee is charged or you may use your membership passes for you and your guests.

| February 23 | Wed. | 1:30-4 p.m. | March 19 | Sat. | 1:30-4 p.m. | April 15 | Fri. | 1:30-4 p.m. | April 23 | Sat. | 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | May 11 | Wed. | 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | May 21 | Sat. | 1:30-4 p.m. | June 4 | Sat. | 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | June 16 | Thu. | 1:30-4 p.m. |
|-------------|------|-------------|----------|------|-------------|----------|------|-------------|---------|------|-------------|---------|------|-------------|---------|------|-------------|---------|------|-------------|
| July 16     | Sat. | 1:30-4 p.m. | July 22  | Fri. | 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | August 17| Wed. | 1:30-4 p.m. | August 27 | Sat. | 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | September 17 | Sat. | 1:30-4 p.m. | September 22 | Thu. | 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | October 1 | Sat. | 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | October 21 | Fri. | 1:30-4 p.m. | November 5 | Sat. | 1:30-4 p.m. | November 9 | Wed. | 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. |

- **Friday, March 11, 7:30 p.m. — Santa Barbara Botanic Garden**
  CREATING A WATER GARDEN: Lecture & Book Signing with Charles B. Thomas. Lotusland and Santa Barbara Botanic Garden are co-sponsoring this presentation. See announcement at right for information and registration instructions.

- **Beginning March 12**
  FREE ADMISSION TO SANTA BARBARA COUNTY RESIDENTS: In 1994, the second Saturday of each month from March through November will be free of admission for Santa Barbara County residents. All visitors—including members — must make a reservation. Please call the Reservation Office for more information (805) 969-9990 (Mon.-Fri. from 9 a.m. to noon).

New Volunteer Group Forming

WREATHS of living succulents made by Lotusland volunteers were one of the most popular items in the Garden Shop this season. Garden Shop coordinator B. Jo Dake is seeking additional volunteers to turn the wealth of unusual seed pods, leaves and other plant materials at Lotusland into interesting creations.

If you enjoy working with your hands and would like to volunteer a few hours a week to help enlarge the selection of hand-crafted items in the Garden Shop, please call B. Jo at 969-0105. With the diverse selection of materials from Lotusland's living collection of over 2000 species, the possibilities for artistic expression are unlimited.

“Creating a Water Garden” with Charles B. Thomas
March 11, 7:30 p.m.

Co-sponsored by Ganna Walska
Lotusland Foundation and
Santa Barbara Botanic Garden and held in the Botanic Garden Library

SANTA BARBARA area gardeners will be able to explore an exciting new dimension in gardening. Water gardens offer the soothing sounds of flowing water, the unique beauty of water lilies and are almost care free. Charles Thomas will lead you through the process of planning, installing, stocking and maintaining a water garden.

His discussion will include the plants such as water lilies, lotus and bog plants needed to insure a proper balance in your pond; the role of animal life in the form of ornamental fish, snails, tadpoles and beneficial bacteria will also be covered — in short, everything you need to know to create your own water garden. Mr. Thomas will sign his newest book, Water Gardens, as well as his Water Gardens for Plants and Fish following the lecture.

Please call the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden Registrar (805) 563-2321, Tuesday - Friday, 9 a.m. to noon to reserve your seat. Fee $6 ($4 members).
LEVEL I

Auline Abbe
Donna L. Ahlman
Mr. Harrison J. Allen
Sandra J. Allen
Wanda C. Allison
Judith and Larry Anderson
Jackie E. Andrew
Michael A. Aquino
Ms. Sally Warner and Dr. G. William Amott
Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Arthur
Mr. and Mrs. Tony Askew
Mrs. Oda Elizabeth Baciu
Mr. and Mrs. Tony Askew
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon S. Humphrey
Mr. and Mrs. James H. Hurley
Barbara Hutchins
Irene and Elizabeth Hvolboll
James and Kathleen Isaac
Jarrell and Michelle Jackman
Ms. Beverly Jackson
Cathy Jacobson
Mai-Wah L. Jiang
Ken and Julie Jenkins
Cecily Ann Johns
Ms. Dorothy B. Johnson
Beth Jones
David H. Jones
Rosemary T. and Graham M. Jones
Roger E. Joseph
Mr. and Mrs. George H.G. Kallusky
Harold J. Katzman
Martha and David Kay
J. Keim and D. Hammock
Mr. Fred Keller
Mrs. Diana M. Kennett
Margo M. Kenney
Dana M. Kent
Mr. and Mrs. Harold W. Kidd
Naomi A. King
Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. King
Barbara E. Kinnear
Nina S. Kiskadden
Brent C. Klos
Nancy L. and Robert Knight
Carolyn V. and Ronald Koeleg
France Konoroske and Kevin Crossley
Mary Lou Krawetz
Maria Krzyszczkowska
Dolores B. and Ken W. Kussman
Mr. Scott Edward Langion
Janet H. Larson
William R. LaVoie
Carol S. Leidner
Mr. and Mrs. Michael L. Lejeune
Diane L. Lewis
Joann Lewis
Audio and Linda Love
Pierina Lowdermilk
Maudie H. Lowry
Penelope Lupe
Mr. Thomas Eric Luria
Dorothy A. Luther
Ms. Kathryn M. Lyon
John and Debbie Mackall
Shirley Jean Mackie
Mrs. Doris Magro
Ruth C. Mahoney
Leslie A. Majewsky
Michaela K. Malkowicz
Barbara J. Malmin
Jack and Anthea Mannion
Dr. James W. and Ella L. Markham

FRIENDS OF LOTUSLAND
(as of November 30, 1993)

Cathy and Rick Closson
Elda G. Colefax
Dorothy C. Collins
Jacqueline and Daniel L. Cooper
William B. Corrfield
Sharon D. Crawford
Nancy R. Cross
Ms. Natalie Daily
Amelia Dallenbach
Lori Ann D'Arco
Ms. Michele DeCant
Bruce and Jane Defnet
John Allen DeHerrera
Mr. Owen E. Dell
Dr. Darlene A. DeMazon
Jean DeVilliers
Joel Dewees
Stacie Ding
Catherine D. Dishion
Carol and James Dixon
Bruce and Sue Dodds
Philip and Myra Dodell
Nancy Lauver Dorey
Walter and Joyce Douglas
Myra V. Drickman
Norman and Ellen Sherwood
Jane Alexandra Duncombe
Nancy and Andrew Dunn
Dolores Durem
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon J. Durenberger
Helen Dee Dziedzic
George and Penny Eagleton
Mrs. Loraine Ealand
Mr. Alan O. Ebenstein
Dr. William Edelestein and Barbara Parmet
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Edmondson
Ms. and Mrs. Peter J. Ehlen
Lila M. Elsberg
Rebecca J. Eldridge
Robert and Nanciann Failing
Sandra Fastnow
Dr. Neal Bentley Finner
Mary Alice and Jerry Floyd
Melinda Flurry
Leslie Foss
Mr. and Mrs. H. Clarke Gaines
Cynthia G. Garn
Sydney Gay and Harry Kislevitz
Ms. Rosalind Rea Gies
Diana and Natalie L. Girard
Beverly J. Gosnell
Kathleen Grabowski
Elizabeth W. Graham
Peter J. Granz
Isabella Greene
Norma L. Greene
Kathy Grefe and Francisco Moratuz
Brigitte Gregg
Mrs. Ruth H. Gregory
Ms. Susan C. Grisch
Anna M. Griffin
Paul and Janet Gripp
R.S. Groth-Marnat
Karin G. and Renate Haeussler
Carole Halsted
Mr. and Mrs. June Hamann
Renée Hamati
Gilbert A. Hanke
Joan H. Harbert
Marilyn and Jeff Harding
Patricia R. Harris
Mr. and Mrs. E. Walton Hedges
Arthur and Joan Heinrich
Kathleen Hellwitz
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur A. Hennell
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Martha and David Kay
J. Keim and D. Hammock
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Naomi A. King
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Nina S. Kiskadden
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Carolyn V. and Ronald Koeleg
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Mr. Scott Edward Langion
Janet H. Larson
William R. LaVoie
Carol S. Leidner
Mr. and Mrs. Michael L. Lejeune
Diane L. Lewis
Joann Lewis
Audio and Linda Love
Pierina Lowdermilk
Maudie H. Lowry
Penelope Lupe
Mr. Thomas Eric Luria
Dorothy A. Luther
Ms. Kathryn M. Lyon
John and Debbie Mackall
Shirley Jean Mackie
Mrs. Doris Magro
Ruth C. Mahoney
Leslie A. Majewsky
Michaela K. Malkowicz
Barbara J. Malmin
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M. Susan and William J. McKinley
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Mr. and Mrs. D. Perry Moran
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Ilka F. Normile
Mrs. Joseph R. Osherenko
William J. Otto
Mr. and Mrs. James P. Owen
Mr. and Mrs. G. Kinnear Paish
Paul and Joanne Perrot
Barbara B. and Herbert Peterson
Ivan and Genevieve Reitman
Mr. and Mrs. John and Zola Rex
Terri Rodenwald
Nina Sandrich
Richard and Maryan Schall
Edmund and Maureen Seder
Thomas and Dona Senning
Elmen and Helen Service
Mrs. David T. Shiffrin
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Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sloan
Mr. and Mrs. Jan E.G. Smit
Denise J. Spangler
Mr. M. Greg Stathakis
Liz Stolz
Mr. and Mrs. Robert K. Straus
Mark Sullivan
Louise E. Thielst
Darlene Thoroughgood
Bruce Van Dyke
Mr. F. Bailey Vanderhoef
Ms. Deanne D. Violich
Carolyn H. Wack
Mr. and Mrs. Otto Wickenhauser
Mrs. Shirley Wilson
Chip and Leslee Wullbrandt
Jill Yeomans
Harriet and Albert Zukas
George Zwerdling
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Diane Baskin
Hampton and Mary Ellen Bell
Hannah G. Bradley
Dr. and Mrs. Vernon I. Cheadle
Sally S. and Edward R. Crockett
Elizabeth W. Dake
Mrs. Cecelia A. Dasetzer
John and Phoebe Dillon
Mrs. Robert (Mercedes) Eicholz
Mr. and Mrs. Robert K. Straus
Mark Sullivan
Louise E. Thielst
Darlene Thoroughgood
Bruce Van Dyke
Mr. F. Bailey Vanderhoef
Ms. Deanne D. Violich
Carolyn H. Wack
Mr. and Mrs. Otto Wickenhauser
Mrs. Shirley Wilson
Chip and Leslee Wullbrandt
Jill Yeomans
Harriet and Albert Zukas
George Zwerdling
LEVEL IV
Arthur R. Gaudi
Mary Ann Tyson Green
Michael Towbes
Peter Michael Trent

Aloe Outings Open to Members Only January 7 & 8

IT MAY NOT be spring yet, but one of Lotusland's gardens is in bloom. The aloe garden will be the site of an in-depth look at these winter-blooming succulents. In January Director Steven Timbrook and Associate Curator Virginia Hayes will give attendees a closer look at this diverse group of plants. The lecture will include discussions of the biology, taxonomy, and geographic distributions as well as the cultural requirements of the genus Aloe and will be followed by a walk in the garden to view the aloes. Joining the discussions will be Lotusland's Specialist Gardener Corey Welles and Docent Robin Primich. Classes will be held Friday and Saturday, January 7 and 8, from 10 a.m. to noon, for members only. Admission is $6. To reserve space please fill in the coupon below and return it with your payment by January 4, 1994. Classes are limited to 25 members each day.

Attendees, please use the Cold Springs Road entrance, check in at kiosk. Gate will open at 9:30 a.m. and close at 10:15 a.m.

Ganna Walska Lotusland Registration Form
Aloe Outings — January 7 & 8

Check one: ___________ Friday, January 7, 10 a.m. — noon. ___________ Saturday, January 8, 10 a.m. — noon ___________ Number attending, $6.00 per person $______

Mail to Ganna Walska Lotusland, Attn: Members Events, 695 Ashley Rd Santa Barbara, CA 93108

PAYMENT METHOD

☐ Check Enclosed (payable to Carina Walska Lotusland)
☐ VISA ☐ Mastercard Expiration Date ____________

Card Number ____________

Member Name ____________________________

Address ____________________________

Phone ____________________________

Signature ____________________________

7
"Color in the Garden" with Penelope Hobhouse

February 14, 2 p.m.

Co-sponsored by: Ganna Walska Lotusland Foundation, Santa Barbara Botanic Garden and the Santa Barbara Museum of Art

What better way for garden enthusiasts to celebrate Valentine's Day than with a slide presentation about "Color in the Garden" by Penelope Hobhouse?

Penelope Hobhouse, one of England's most cherished gardeners, enjoys an international reputation as a garden consultant, designer and author. Known as a gardener's gardener, she puts the most sophisticated concepts into a "down-to-earth" presentation. Her latest book, *Gardening Through the Ages*, is destined to join her other classics in the gardener's library: *The Country Garden*, *The Smaller Garden: Planting and Planning* and *Color in Your Garden*. At present, she heads the restoration of the National Trust Garden at Tintinhull House in Somerset, England.

"Color in the Garden" is the first of a four-part lecture series, "Springtime in the Garden." Information and a registration form for this lecture and the series will be mailed to all members the first week of January.

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Ganna Walska Lotusland Foundation
695 Ashley Road
Montecito, CA 93108

First Class Mail

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