When you mention water gardens or ponds, an image of the most often planted aquatic plant—the water lily (Nymphaea species)—usually comes to mind. No illustration of a fictional pond is complete without a few lily pads floating on the surface (usually with a frog sitting on one) accompanied by the perfect symmetry of a water lily flower or two. Less well-known than Nymphaea are Nuphar, Euryale, and Victoria. All four genera are grown at Lotusland and displayed in the main water garden.

Nuphar, or Spatterdock, species are distributed throughout the temperate world. The hardy rhizomes can be found in lakes at elevations over 10,000 feet as well as freshwater ponds at sea level. Euryale (one species) and Victoria (two species) grow in the tropics. Euryale ferox is native to China and southeast Asia, while both Victoria amazonica and V. cruziana are from South America. All three species produce large leaves that are covered with prickles. The common name of Euryale is Gorgon Lily and the genus Victoria is, of course, named for Queen Victoria, who reigned over Great Britain in 1837 when the giant water lily was discovered and named.

Nymphaeas Are Everywhere

The largest group of water lilies—at Lotusland and in their native ranges—is the genus Nymphaea. Worldwide there are about 50 species, and hundreds of cultivars have been created by horticulturists. They can be subdivided into two types: hardy or tropical. Hardies are found on every major continent in temperate zones. Tropicals also circle the globe closer to the equator.

Hardy types grow from horizontal rhizomes that creep across the muddy bottom of the pond or planter. They produce side shoots that can be removed and potted and that are usually large enough to flower in their first season. Tropicals grow from corms, types of bulbs similar to onion or tulip bulbs. They produce small cormlets from the crown that also can be removed and potted separately. These juvenile plants may bloom the first season, if the warm climate permits.
WATER LILIES continued from page 1
weather lasts long enough, or the cormlets may be left on the mother plant until the end of the season and held over winter in damp sand in a cool place.

HARDIES IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

In the coastal areas of Southern California, hardy water lilies begin their spring growth in February, and the first blossoms appear in early March. As soon as growth is observed, they are removed and divided and once again placed in the pond. Blooming continues through the spring, summer, and early autumn. In October, when the nights begin to cool, hardy water lilies will stop blooming and put out smaller leaves, usually retreating to a rosette of inch-sized leaves just above the water lily crown. The dormant plants are left in place in the ponds through the winter months.

Hardy water lily species and hybrids come in most of the colors of the rainbow, although they tend toward the pastel instead of the vibrant. White, yellow, pink, and red flowers can be found in sizes and shapes from the tiny and starry to the robust and double-flowered. There is even a group of flowers known as "changeable" whose blossoms open in pale shades of yellow or orange and age to coppery orange and red.

TROPICALS ARE TRULY ELECTRIC

Tropical water lilies will not begin to grow until late May or early June, when the night water temperature nears 70 degrees. They grow very rapidly, blooming in the first month, increasing in size and number of blossoms until October. They can even bloom at Christmas, given a mild autumn. Then they usually become totally dormant, and no leaves are seen until the following spring. At Lotusland, the plants are moved to a heated tank for the
Cactus Renovation Project

An extensive three-month renovation of the cactus planting beds along the main drive and in front of the main house began on the first of April. An observed decline in the appearance of many individual plants in the collection over the past several years, the increased loss of plants to root rot, and the deterioration of soil conditions in the growing beds precipitated the renovation. Lotusland staff reviewed records and observations during the renovation planning stages. After staff discussions and consultations with succulent plant specialists, University of California Extension farm advisors, plant pathologists, and other colleagues, a comprehensive plan to improve growing conditions for the cactus collection was approved by the Foundation’s Board of Directors.

The cactus garden was last renovated more than 20 years ago by Charlie Glass and Bob Foster. At that time topsoil, sand, organic amendments, and landscape rocks were used to create the planting beds. The cactus garden flourished for many years. However, as organic amendments broke down, and individual plants and their root systems grew, soil conditions changed. The soil stayed very wet for long periods after winter rains, thereby creating conditions ideal for Fusarium root rots. When the soil finally dried, a hydrophobic condition existed, making it difficult to water and provide nutrients. Most components of the 1997 renovation plan are intended to improve and maintain better soil conditions for the cactus collection.

The removal of all olive trees (Olea europaea) and the lava rock top dressing might be the most noticeable changes in the appearance of the cactus garden. The trees have grown tremendously over the past 20 years and provided too much shade to the cactus under their canopy. Leaf litter contributed to rot, and olive tree roots competed with the cacti. Additionally, the thick layer of 1/4" red cinders and black lava rock used as top dressing insulated the soil surface from heat and kept it from drying out during wetter, cooler times of the year, thereby slowing the desirable wet/dry cycle during the growing season. After removal of the olive trees and lava rock, a subsurface drainage system was installed throughout the main drive planting bed.

The basic design of the cactus plantings, including the placement of different species and combinations thereof, remains the same. Some recontouring of the raised-bed planting areas to improve surface drainage and general thinning of plants throughout the cactus garden have improved cultural conditions. Paul Mills, Lotusland staff gardener responsible for the cactus and succulent gardens, is the project manager for the renovation and directs the efforts of two temporary helpers and other staff. Records of maintenance practices and observations kept by John Lafleur, Assistant Grounds Superintendent and Integrated Pest Management Coordinator, have contributed greatly to the development of the renovation plan.
**Relocation, Amended Soil, and Sunny Weather**

Have allowed one of Lotusland's rarest aloes to bloom for the first time. Look for Aloe buhrii on the east bank of the aloe garden, just above the shell pond where all six plants are blooming. Native to the low-rainfall area of South Africa's Northern Cape Province, this aloe is easily recognized by its narrow, upright, yellowish-green leaves and an inflorescence divided into several small racemes. The scientific name commemorates Elias Buhr, a farmer from the Nieuwoudtville district who first collected the species, which is regarded as rare due to its small world population. The A. buhrii should flower through June.

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**Collections Update:**

**Mini-Conservatory for Tender Cycads**

By Virginia Hayes

**A Fresh Look at Gardening**

*Santa Barbara Style*

For members only! You are invited to join Lotusland Curator Virginia Hayes for a visit to a few of Santa Barbara's newest gardens. This inaugural garden tour will feature landscapes by several designers—all dedicated plantmen whose work reflects a devotion to using the immense variety of plants that our unique climate supports. These eclectic, exciting gardens will inspire and delight. Space is limited to ensure a memorable day filled with flowers, a catered picnic at Lotusland, and a chance to converse with the creators.

**When:** Saturday, June 28, from 9:15 AM to 4:30 PM.
**Cost:** $60.00 per person—includes a picnic lunch at Lotusland and coach transportation. To register, please use the coupon on page 11.

**The latest use for this greenhouse, built sometime in the 1960s, is as a permanent home to several species of cycads of tropical origin. These cycads are either too tender to withstand our cold temperatures or simply do so much better with a little more warmth that they cannot be planted out into the cycad garden beds. Specimens of Zamia fairchildiana, Z. floridana, and two mature Zamia species from Mexico that are yet to be described and named are several of the largest plants. Also housed there is a specimen of the rare, monotypic Microcycas calocoma from Cuba.**

Lotusland may never be able to grow many of the most tropical species that are being collected from Asia and Mexico, but these representative plants serve to remind us of all the diverse habitats in which cycads grow.
A glowing color photograph of the sacred Indian Lotus (Nelumbo nucifera) by Wm. B. Dewey shone on the cover of the March 1997 issue of *Smithsonian* magazine, inviting readers to discover “a garden of strange delights” within. The monthly publication of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.—with a circulation of 200,000 worldwide—featured an article on Lotusland and its creator, Ganna Walska, who “pursued life with a passion, from husbands to opera to plants.” Photographs by Dewey and Robert Glenn Ketchum accompanied the eight-page story by Edwin Keister Jr., which gives a lively account of Ganna Walska’s life and endeavors at garden design, drawing repeated parallels between her penchant for the exotic and dramatic in both her personal life and her horticultural pursuits. The writer made ample use of the Lotusland archives, Madame Walska’s memoirs, and interviews with those who knew her.

Lotusland is proud to be featured in such a well-respected and widely-distributed publication and has received considerable interest in the garden from readers since its publication. The issue may be viewed electronically at http://www.smithsonianmag.si.edu or reprints of the article may be obtained by contacting Anne Dewey, Assistant Director, at (805) 969-3767 ext. 225.

**Virginia Hayes Steps Out**

Lotusland Curator Virginia Hayes, pictured with Roger Milliken, CEO of Milliken & Co., and Barbara Seeber of the National Geographic Society, participated in a gathering of the world’s top botanists in South Carolina this past April. More than 40 people representing some of the world’s most renowned botanical gardens and environmental organizations gathered at Milliken Research and Customer Center at a three-day conference that explored ways for botany, horticulture, and computer technology to come together for the good of the environment.

Ms. Hayes also taught an introductory class on water gardening, which is her area of expertise, at the second Home Gardening Symposium held at Ventura College on April 12. Speakers at the day-long symposium, which included a trade show and plant sale, covered 26 different topics, among them California natives, shade gardening, insect and disease control, propagation, and flower photography.
THREE EMINENT EDUCATORS enlightened Lotusland volunteers and members this spring when they spoke at the garden on their respective areas of expertise. One of the world’s leading botanists and Director of the Missouri Botanical Garden, Dr. Peter H. Raven, spoke on *The Role of Botanic Gardens in Preserving Biodiversity* to a group of 50 members of Friends of Lotusland on February 28. His powerful message clearly outlined the disproportionate use of global resources and the responsibility humans share to reverse the recent rapid decline of biodiversity around the planet. An effective activist, Dr. Raven has been a major force in the conservation of biodiversity around the world for nearly 30 years. His talk was part of an ongoing effort to enhance public awareness of the ecological crisis in the tropics and the need for preservation of plants and animals throughout the world. Dr. Raven also spoke to a capacity audience of 140 at Santa Barbara City College that evening on a related topic.

Local geologist Helmut Ehrenspeck led volunteers on a tour of discovery and identification of the rocks and minerals found amid Lotusland’s flora, also in February. After weeks of preparation by studying the geological specimens amassed by Madame Walska during her lifetime, Mr. Ehrenspeck had many interesting tales to tell about the origin and use of these particular rocks. He also prepared a map with an identification key for handy reference. Docents will incorporate the information into their tours, adding yet another dimension to their interpretation of the garden for visitors. The geology tour was also offered as a quarterly class to Lotusland members.

On March 17, art historian Dr. William Wu spoke to Lotusland volunteers about Chinese garden design at their monthly meeting. Presenting a beautiful arrangement of slides illustrating classical design elements of the Chinese garden, Dr. Wu examined philosophical and symbolic meaning within the garden and the underlying relationship with nature in the art of Chinese landscaping. Dr. Wu later toured the Japanese garden with Lotusland staff pointing out design elements drawn from the Chinese tradition. Arrangements for Dr. Wu’s engagement were made by Trustee Elizabeth Dake, who was his host while he was in town to speak at the annual *Springtime in the Garden* lecture series jointly sponsored by Lotusland, Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, and Santa Barbara Museum of Art.

THIS YEAR’S EDUCATIONAL exhibit features a 6-panel display on Early Santa Barbara Plantsmen. Above, Bruce Van Dyke and Carolyn Koegler consider some of the amazing facts on these key players in making Santa Barbara the horticultural treasure we know today. The display includes many historical photographs of people and long-forgotten industries and events, such as the Santa Barbara Flower Festivals of the 1890s. So far this year the exhibit has been to SBBG’s Wildflower Festival and Santa Barbara’s Earth Day Celebration. It is scheduled to appear at Montecito Beautification in the fall and is available for other venues by request. Please contact Janet Eastman at (805) 969-3767 ext. 227 for further information.
Nine members of Friends of Lotusland joined Lotusland President Carol Valentine and Executive Director Steven Timbrook on a four-day trip to San Francisco in April. We stayed at the White Swan Inn near Union Square and enjoyed an evening at the gala opening of the San Francisco Landscape Garden Show at Fort Mason Center.

One of two adjacent covered piers had been converted into a marketplace of interesting plants, gardening books, tools and supplies, as well as landscape design specialties such as pools, sculpture, outdoor furniture, fencing, and paving stones.

The other pier was transformed into a wonderland of over 20 garden installations interpreting the year’s theme Gardens of the Silver Screen. Cocteau’s 1945 Beauty and the Beast inspired two large, haunting landscapes, while Rosemary’s Baby was contained within a classic black pram.

One full day was spent touring five private gardens in the city, topped off by a farewell dinner at the Grand Café of the Hotel Monaco. The weather was cooperative, the group congenial, and we all came home with new ideas for our own gardening.

—Steven Timbrook

Would you like to be part of the exciting world of docenting at Santa Barbara’s premiere exotic display garden? Well, now is your chance. This fall Lotusland will conduct a five-month docent training to prepare volunteers to lead tours of the garden in 1998-99.

Lotusland docents are volunteers trained to lead groups of visitors through the 37-acre estate garden of the late Madame Ganna Walska, owned and operated by the Ganna Walska Lotusland Foundation. The mission of the Foundation is to maintain and enhance the exotic plant collections contained in the gardens created by Mme. Walska from 1941 until her death in 1984. Leading tours Wednesday through Saturday at 10:00 AM and 1:30 PM, from mid-February to mid-November, docents interpret the garden for visitors by teaching them the botany and horticulture of the plant collections at Lotusland and the history of the estate and Lotusland’s creator, Mme. Walska, during a two-hour tour of the grounds.

Those interested should be supportive of the Foundation’s mission and be comfortable speaking to groups of 10 to 20 adults or children 10 years and older and be able to walk the two-mile tour route in less than two hours. A pleasant personality and enthusiasm for plants, estate gardens, and history is essential.

Upon successful completion of the training—14 classes plus independent study and practice touring—all docents will conduct one weekday tour per week plus one Saturday tour per month (mid-February to mid-November) for two years beyond the training period. Attendance at monthly volunteer meetings, held the third Monday of every month, is an opportunity for exchanging ideas and for further education.

To register, contact Volunteer Coordinator Janet Eastman, at (805) 969-3767 ext. 227 by September 1.
Integrated Pest Management in the Garden
With JOHN LAFLEUR, Assistant Grounds Superintendent

GREEN LACEWING RELEASE

As you walk through Lotusland, you will notice blue flags in various parts of the garden. These mark areas where several thousand Green Lacewing larvae (Chrysoperla sp., at right) have been released.

Lacewing larvae look like tiny alligators and are sometimes called “Aphid Lions” because Aphids are one of their favorite foods. They also feed on a variety of other insects, including immature Thrips (Heliothrips haemorrhoidalis). Thrips (at left) are a serious problem in many parts of the garden that usually require multiple applications of insecticide to keep under control. This release of Green Lacewing (Chrysoperla sp., below right) larvae will, we hope, keep the Thrips numbers in check until our insectary plantings mature and can provide the biological control needed to keep the population of Thrips at a reduced level.

INSECTARY PLANTINGS PROGRESS REPORT

Lotusland is fortunate to have the help of Everett J. Dietrick and his daughter, Jan, from Rincon-Vitova Insectaries, as biological control advisors as we continue to move toward a more biologically based Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practice.

Deak, as Mr. Dietrick prefers to be called, is one of the early pioneers of biological control in California and is easily the most recognized name in biological control today. He and his daughter have graciously consented to be two of the keynote speakers at the up-coming American Association of Botanic Gardens and Aboretum Pacific Regional conference, which will be held at Lotusland this fall.

Rincon-Vitova Insectaries provided the Green Lacewing larvae for our most recent bio-control project, as well as for numerous other successful projects in the past.

Photos by John Lafleur
Garden Shop Offerings

PLANTS FOR SALE
LIKE THE PLANTS AT LOTUSLAND? You can own one! The next time you visit the garden, check out the array of plants available for sale just outside the shop. All plants are propagated from those in Lotusland's collections and will provide a living memory of your visit to the garden that you can enjoy for years to come.

MAIL ORDER ITEMS
THE SHOP ALSO IS INSTITUTING a new mail-order service with the assistance of volunteers. A sampling of garden shop items, such as T-shirts, books, and notecards, will now be available by mail. Delivery time is approximately two weeks for direct purchase or gift orders. If you would like to be one of the first to make use of this offer, please contact Marguerite Gamo, Human Resource Manager, at (805) 969-3767 ext. 229.

Camerata Pacifica in the Garden
SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 14
4:00 PM

SAVE THIS DATE for a special musical performance by one of the country's premier chamber music ensembles. Camerata Pacifica will perform Schubert's Trout Quintet in Lotusland's outdoor theatre, Sunday, September 14, 1997. Renowned for their artistic excellence and accessibility, the Camerata has been called "Santa Barbara's freshest chamber ensemble" (Santa Barbara News-Press) and "one of the clear success stories...a group worth watching for" (Los Angeles Times). They will bring their talented group of musicians to Lotusland to perform this beautiful piece of the early 19th-century Austrian composer.

Invitations will be mailed to all members in late summer. We hope you will join us for an intimate afternoon of music in the garden.

Lotusland donated five dozen flowerpots and assorted plants to the Rehabilitation Institute at Santa Barbara for their Horticultural Therapy program and 50 bromeliads to the Santa Barbara Zoo.

Prof. Sir Ghillean T. Prance, Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, England (center), walked through Lotusland on May 6 with Executive Director Dr. Steven Timbrook (left) and Dr. Edward Schneider, Executive Director of Santa Barbara Botanic Garden. Dr. Prance had spoken the evening before at Santa Barbara Botanic Garden on the role of botanical gardens in the 21st century.
Friends of Lotusland

We Welcome New Members Who Joined in February, March, April 1997

LEVEL I
Ms. Joan Adams
Ani Albers
Ms. Deb Artz
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Bartholomew
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Bridges
Ms. Gloria Buoncristiani
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Carini
Ms. Beth Cataldo
Mr. & Mrs. Alain Clenet
Ms. Mary Doehler
Joseph D. Elia, M.D.
Mr. & Mrs. Corey Elias
Mr. M. R. Elsaden
Mr. Fred Emmer & Ms. Susan Gray
Douglas Etsell, M.D.
Ms. Jill Ferrera
Mr. & Mrs. David Fields
Ms. Birthe S. Francis
Ms. Laurian Franklin
Ms. Mae Freedman & Ms. Charlotte Abrams
Ms. Jane Giles
Dr. & Mrs. Robert A. Goodell, Jr.
Ms. Christine Goodie
Ms. Lucette M. Gurley
Master Alek Haimovici
Mr. & Mrs. Robin Hall
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Harlan
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hastings
Mr. Steven Holson
Ms. Julie Huber
Ms. Ellen Johnson
Mr. Richard A. Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Alan Johnston
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Kaufman
Ms. Kathleen Kimbrough
Ms. Jo Ann Kirby
Ms. Kathie Klock
Ms. Serena Kusserow
Mr. & Mrs. Bert Lane
Mr. & Mrs. David Laub
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Leal
Ms. Beth Leddy
Ms. Esther Lederberg & Mr. Matt Simon
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Lenz
Ms. Diana Mabry
Ms. Mary Maguire
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Marsh
Ms. Lola Maskiewitz
Mr. & Mrs. Emmett McDonough
Ms. Ruth E. McEachen
Ms. Lorraine McNiece
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Mead
Mr. Paul Meltzer
Ms. Janis Mendelson
Ms. Frances Merritt
Ms. Nathalie Mikowicz
Ms. Dorothy J. Miller
Ms. Vyvian C. Mohr
Mr. & Mrs. Doug Norton
Ms. Helen Noss
Ms. Louise B. Perry
Mr. & Mrs. Gerard Rocco
Ms. Diane R. Rosenthal
Ms. Gere Russell
Mr. & Mrs. John Ryan
Mr. Craig Safan
Ms. Elyse Salend & Mr. Jon Pynoos
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Sander
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Schwartz
Ms. Marilyn Sceggin
Mr. & Mrs. Graham J. Scott
Ms. Barbara Sheffield
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Slosser
Ms. Frances Sozanski
Ms. Isabelle Stefens
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Stone
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Straede
Ms. Zona Strathern
Ms. Leola Street
Ms. Kathleen M. Strom
Mrs. Robert Suderman
Ms. Linda Sunnen
Mr. & Mrs. Mero Susnar
Ms. Natalie B. Swartley
Mr. & Mrs. Stan Swartz
Ms. Dana S. Thomas
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Treloggen
Mr. Richard Turner & Mr. Tom Urani
Ms. Sally Turvey
Mr. Greg Van Sande
Ms. Beth Wammack
Ms. Connie Wernet
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard White
Mrs. Leighton Wilkie
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Wilner
Mr. & Mrs. Charles H. Wilion
H. Winslow
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Wood
Mr. & Mrs. Michael B. Wray
Ms. Alice Zawadzki

LEVEL II
Mr. & Mrs. David Berklich
Mr. & Mrs. Harry E. Blythe
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Chadwick
Mr. Robert Clark
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Connelly
Mr. & Mrs. Donnelley Erdman
Mr. & Mrs. Josh Feuer
Ms. Susan A. Fundingsland
Mr. & Mrs. Jacques Goet
Ms. Margaret Goldsmith
Mr. & Mrs. Robert C. Hamer
Ms. Mary Henson
Mr. Phil R. Jackson
Dr. & Mrs. Marvin Karno
Mr. & Mrs. Al Kutcher
Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Locker
Mr. & Mrs. John Markel
Ms. Lorraine M. McDonnell & Mr. M. Stephen Weatherford
Ms. Dawn Messer & Mr. Craig Battles
Lee Mirrer
Mr. & Mrs. George Murphy
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Novak
Ms. June H. Schuerch
Ms. Rachel Shiffman & Ms. Alice Shiffman
Dr. & Mrs. Norman Sprague, III
Ms. Karen Swartz
Ms. Dura Temple

LEVEL III
Ms. Vanessa De Luca
Ms. Marian Nasgovitz
Mr. Howard Stein

LEVEL IV
Mr. Roland E. Arnall
Ms. Ruth Lilly
SB's Newest Gardens Tour
FOR MEMBERS
Saturday, June 28, 1997, 9:15 AM - 4:30 PM
Cost: $60.00 per person
Number attending ____________________________

Water Lilies
MEMBER CLASS
Check one:
[ ] Friday, August 15, 1997, 10 AM - 12 PM
[ ] Saturday, August 16, 1997, 10 AM - 12 PM
Cost: $10.00 per person
Number attending ____________________________

Total enclosed $ ____________________________

Ganna Walska Lotusland Registration Form
PAYMENT METHOD: [ ] Check enclosed [ ] VISA [ ] MasterCard
Expiration date __________________ Card number __________________
Member name ____________________________
Address ____________________________ Phone __________________
Signature ____________________________

Fees are refundable only if cancelled one week before event.
If minimum enrollment is not reached, classes may be consolidated or cancelled.

Mail to: Ganna Walska Lotusland, Attn: Member Events,
695 Ashley Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93108

Members Who Have Increased Their Level of Support
February, March, April 1997

LEVEL II
Mr. Richard Daniels
Ms. Dana Diehl Derick
Ms. Ingrid E. Hanzer
Mr. & Mrs. Peter F. La Rosa
Ms. Susan Montpas
Ms. Deborah A. Richards
Ms. Lucile Thoresen
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Waxman

LEVEL III
Ms. Jo M. Wagner
Mr. & Mrs. John Warnock

LEVEL IV
Warren R. Austin, M.D

Lotusland Gratefully Acknowledges Donations
February, March, April 1997

GRANTS
The Towbes Foundation

DOCENT APPRECIATION
Mr. & Mrs. William Scranton
in honor of Dana Kent
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Turney
in honor of Adi Brewer

MISCELLANEOUS
Ani Albers
Ms. Ruth Bernhardt
Dallas Garden Club
Mr. & Mrs. Donnelley Erdman
Mr. John D. Howell
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth H. Hunter, Jr.
Ms. Sally Jordan

Mr. & Mrs. Eddie Lorin
Mr. David Myrick
Mr. & Mrs. James Nunn
Mr. & Mrs. Graham J. Scott
Mr. Richard Turner & Mr. Tom Urani
Mrs. Edward R. Valentine
Vons of Montecito

FURNISHINGS, ART, CLOTHING
Ms. Lynn Kirby
Ms. Catherine McMahan
Mrs. Joseph R. Osherenko
Mrs. Edward R. Valentine

LIBRARY & ARCHIVES
Mr. E. R. Blakely
Mr. William R. Paylen

The Towbes Foundation Funds Horticultural Clock Renovation

Madame Walska's horticultural clock, a major feature of her topiary garden since 1955, will regain its former glory during the coming year thanks to a generous $25,000 grant from The Towbes Foundation. The long missing copper zodiac signs that marked each hour are being replicated by Sam Demachkie of Ironwood Design, guided by three of the original signs on loan from their current owner, one sign purchased at a local antique shop and donated to Lotusland by Karen and Harry Kolb, and photographs and sketches of the other signs from Lotusland's archives. The sketches were donated to the archives by Louisa Thielst, widow of Madame Walska's longtime head gardener Gunnar Thielst, who designed and fabricated the original zodiac signs. The face of the clock will be planted in twelve sectors of three contrasting succulents, which are being specially grown for this project. It is exciting to see Lotusland's historic features restored, one by one, to their earlier beauty through the generosity of Lotusland's members and other friends.
winter months, so that they skip this period of dormancy, and repotted before returning to the display pond in early summer.

While hardy water lilies offer subtle color shades, tropicaIs are truly electric. In addition to yellows, pinks, and reds, there are species with blue flowers. Many hybrids have been developed to show off these spectacular colors. Most tropicaIs have a regular daytime bloom period just as the hardies do, but there is another group whose flowers open only as the sun is setting and remain open all night, closing about mid-morning.

If you would like to know more about the biology and cultivation of water lilies, please join Curator Virginia Hayes for a class focusing on these aquatic wonders. Learn about their economic uses, the basics of growth and propagation, who some of the major discoverers and hybridizers were, and have a look at Lotusland's display at its peak of bloom on either Friday, August 15, or Saturday, August 16, at 10:00 AM. Please use coupon on page 11 to sign up.

Nymphaea cv. Pink Pumpkin is grown experimentally at Lotusland.