IN EACH AREA OF HER GARDEN, Madame Walska took an idea or theme and created an expression of her own style. The Japanese Garden was no exception. She envisioned it encircling the large pond at the lower end of the property, which was then completely engulfed by lotus. In the late 1960s, she began collaborating with Santa Barbara stone mason Oswald Da Ros and an experienced Japanese gardener, Frank Fujii, to create a place of serenity and beauty.

In Japanese gardening the intention is to evoke a scene from nature that can be entered and contemplated. The main elements of water, stone, and tree are maintained in a very fine balance. All aspects of the design, from the exact placement of trees and plants to the choice of weathered boulders, are considered in detail and carefully executed.

In Ganna Walska’s Japanese garden, which is most reminiscent of a samurai stroll garden with its large central pond, her collection of stone lanterns and other sculpture is displayed against a backdrop of lush greenery. Another technique, called shakkei, “borrows” a view or element of the larger landscape and incorporates it in the garden. The view of Montecito Peak framed by the torii gate is a perfect example.

Madame Walska (with Mr. Fujii’s help) included many of the types of plants traditional to Japanese gardens. Each symbolizes a human virtue, so that a walk through the garden can become a moral lesson. Bamboo,

Continued on page 2
symbolic of strength and flexibility, pine, which stands for long life and endurance, and flowering plum or cherry, denoting courage or chivalry, are often planted near each other and referred to as the “three friends.” Others such as azalea (brotherhood), camellia (happiness), nandina (grace), rhododendron (love), willow (friendship), ferns (prosperity), water lily (companionship), lotus (purity), and wisteria (sadness) are all included at Lotusland.

Some of these plants readily adapt to the climate, water, and soil in our Santa Barbara gardens. Some major exceptions, however, require extraordinary measures to ensure their continued health and beauty. Notorious for their problems with our heavy clay soils and alkaline water are azaleas, rhododendrons, camellias and Japanese maples. Even the hollies, pines, and other conifers such as Chamaecyparis, Cryptomeria and Sciadopitys would prefer a well-drained, acidic soil. Most would also do best in a climate with year-round, even moisture and suffer during our long, dry summers and potentially soggy winters.

Since the Japanese garden is situated in what was once a reservoir carved out by R. Kinton Stevens, the sloping sides of the amphitheater are composed of native clay that was scooped out and pushed up to form the berm of the main drive. As time passed, the improvements to soil quality that were instituted during planting of the garden (in this case, thirty years ago) were degraded as organic material decomposed and soil became compacted. Salts built up during dry years without rains to

In the early twenties, the reservoir that would become the focus of the Japanese garden was navigable by rowboat, even if choked with lotus. Now water, trees, stones, and louts are in balance. The natural and the contrived exist side by side.
Nineteenth century woodcut of a Japanese public garden. Even the large pines have been maniwred and shaped to emphasize their form.

leach them out of the soil. The result was increasingly unhealthy conditions for all plants, but particularly significant for the more sensitive ones mentioned. Stressed plants are less able to resist pathogens such as fungi and insect pests.

During the last several years, the replacement of azaleas and conifers has been ongoing, and a new group of rhododendrons is waiting in the wings to be planted out this spring. To mitigate the effects of clay soil and alkaline water, they are being planted in new soil mix mounded above the existing beds. This will give them the moisture-retaining, yet well-draining medium they require. Additional subsurface drainage is being installed in some areas to further improve their chances for a long and healthy life.

In 1994, a fertilizer injection system was installed that applied a low dose of nitrogen and acidified water during every irrigation. While improvements in plant health were noticed after just a short time with this system, it no longer fits Lotusland’s increasing commitment to totally organic materials and sustainable methods. The current irrigation system—comprised of a mosaic of manual pop-up shrub sprayers, drip emitters, low-volume mini-spray heads, and good old-fashioned rainbirds—is due for major renovation and re-design. Gardening staff spends more than a third of their time just moving hoses and sprinklers and repairing and maintaining thousands of feet of tubing. So a newly designed automated system of irrigation is in the works that will also include an improved fertigation pump and tank capable of applying organic materials. With these improvements, the essential elements of the Japanese garden will continue to thrive.

As you visit the garden, spend some moments in contemplation of the lofty ideals expressed by the plantings. Turn your thoughts, if only for a moment, away from your daily cares to those of brotherhood, love, and happiness.

—Virginia Hayes
A **Japanese garden** is a metaphor for a perfect, yet perfectly natural world. This illusion is maintained through the dedication of the gardener and the cooperation of nature. Each *niwaki* or manicured specimen tree in the garden is formed to a purpose: the creation of an effect that is so subtly artificial that it seems more natural than nature.

Sometimes however, nature does not cooperate. At Lotusland, the loss of several black pine *niwaki* due to Phytophthera (root fungus) has left a void where visual vignettes used to be. Replacements have been located by Lotusland's Frank Fujii, but as you might imagine, 30-year-old black pine trees are not inexpensive, and our funds are limited.

If you would like to contribute to the restoration of the Japanese garden by donating funds for the replacement of these trees, please call Assistant Director Anne Dewey at 969-3767 ext. 225.

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*What's Niwaki?*

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*This recumbent niwaki at Lotusland (a Pinus densiflora or Japanese red pine) has been pruned so that when its branches bear snow an image of clouds floating aloft will be produced.*

*Frank Fujii has skillfully shaped each tree and shrub in his garden to conform to a Japanese aesthetic ideal.*

*The ability of evergreens Juniperus cv and pine to remain upright and green in the bitter harshness of winter embodies the Japanese ideal of strength in adversity.*

*An upright Pinus radiata or Monterey pine niwaki at Lotusland.*
LOVE OF GARDENING and a strong commitment to volunteerism combine to make Lynn Kirby an enthusiastic, dedicated Lotusland garden volunteer. She began volunteering here five years ago, working in the Japanese garden with Lotusland’s expert gardeners Frank Fujii and Terri Clay. Lynn’s goal “to be part of the garden and be a contributing member” was nurtured by these early learning experiences—and recently found expression in an important independent contribution to the garden’s programs. She has used her creative energy in designing and implementing the “butterfly garden,” an exciting new addition to the gardens that not only is a feast for the eyes, but also contributes toward Lotusland’s ultimate goal—sustainability.

Lynn’s professional experience is in visual display. She is the Visual Director for Pier 1 in Santa Barbara, where she utilizes her obvious talent for design. She is accomplished in the art of basket weaving from natural fibers and finds Lotusland’s compost bins to be “a great source for plant material” for her baskets. She teaches basket making classes in her home, has taught classes at the International Center for Earth Concerns (ICEC) in Ojai, and for many years has sold her baskets at the downtown Yes Store.

Lynn’s desire to further her expertise in gardening led her to the Master Gardener program offered by the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden. When she saw an article in Lotus Notice asking for volunteers to help start an insectary in an area of the grounds that “looked pretty pathetic,” she submitted a proposal for creating a butterfly garden at Lotusland using plants that attract and support beneficial insects—the attraction of butterflies being a delightful side effect. With Lotusland’s IPM (Integrated Pest Management) coordinator, John Lafleur, acting as liaison between the Master Gardener program and Lotusland, our very own Madame Butterfly unfurled her wings with a vengeance.

Lynn started the all-volunteer project in the spring of 1998 with the help of fellow Lotusland garden volunteers George Burtness and Nina Terzian. The garden was created on a half-acre plot beyond the lemon arbor, in company with both the majestic dawn redwood (Metasequoia) and charming dove aviary. The volunteers worked very hard designing, planting, and maintaining the new beds, which feature a potpourri of varieties of flowering plants that attract beneficial insects. If you had a chance to walk through the garden last summer, you were treated to a dazzling display of color from these plantings. An expansion is planned this year with the assistance of volunteer Master Gardeners. Also planned are a program to teach children about beneficial insects and the planting of a garden used to demonstrate how simple it is to establish a backyard insectary.

Lynn has a long and varied history of volunteerism in our community. Her first volunteer experience was working in the nursery at Goleta Valley Hospital taking photographs of babies, and she has been a “big sister” in the extremely successful Big Brother Program sponsored by the Santa Barbara Boys’ Club. It seems that her natural inclination for nurturing extends to the plant world as well, much to our benefit and delight here at Lotusland.

Anyone interested in working in the butterfly garden should contact Connie Buxton, Volunteer Coordinator, at 969-3736, ext. 227.

—Connie Buxton

The Master Gardener Program

THE LOCAL MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM started in 1989 and is jointly administered by a cooperative agreement between Santa Barbara Botanic Garden and the University of California Extension in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties. The program grew out of a need for home gardeners to have answers to horticultural questions.

To become a certified Master Gardener, each trainee must attend approximately 80 hours of classes and perform 80 hours of volunteer apprenticeship. To maintain certified Master Gardener status, each gardener must volunteer a minimum of 40 hours a year (working on approved projects) and continue their horticultural education.

If you have questions about this program, please call Connie Buxton, Lotusland Volunteer Coordinator at 969-3767 ext. 227.

—Connie Buxton
New to the Collections

Some of the most interesting plant hybrids have arisen by the chance cross-pollination of unknown parents or a mutation on one portion of a plant (often called a “sport”). One such plant that first appeared in the cactus beds at Lotusland many years ago is a form of *Astrophytum myriostigma*. Also called Bishop’s Cap because of its mitred shape, this cactus is native to Mexico and has long been a favorite with collectors.

This particular form, now called *Astrophytum myriostigma* forma Lotusland, is just such a sport. Some portion of a typical plant began to proliferate resulting in a “monstrose” form that had many small heads clustered together instead of the characteristic single, large one. The original plants in the garden have been gone for a number of years, so it was with great pleasure that a replacement was recently obtained from Rainbow Gardens in Vista, California, where it has been in propagation for quite some time. Our new plant is still in the nursery, but it grows quickly and will join its relatives along the main drive in the not-too-distant future.

Another plant bearing the cultivar name ‘Lotusland’ is a large-leaved begonia with showy pink flowers. Mr. Ziesenhenne, who was apprised of Ganna Walska’s love for the color pink, thought it only fitting to name this flamboyant upstart for her estate. Several plants of it thrive in the original portion of the fern garden where its large, lobed leaves stand out among the ferns.

—Virginia Hayes, Jennifer Dennis

MERRAG and Emergency Preparedness

Earthquake, wildfire, flood. Nobody knows when the next one will strike, but everyone knows it will. At Lotusland we have to be ready to respond to emergencies that can threaten visitors and staff. In addition to our own evacuation plans, emergency drills, and CPR and first aid training, we have a powerful partner to help us. MERRAG, pronounced “mirage,” stands for Montecito Emergency Response and Recovery Action Group. Lotusland is fortunate that since 1987 its home community of Montecito has been, to use MERRAG’s motto, “Preparing today for tomorrow’s disaster.”

Begun by the Montecito Fire, Water, and Sanitary districts as a way to cooperatively help meet emergencies, MERRAG has the mission of preparing Montecito to survive the first 72 hours following a major disaster, a period when outside help is very likely to be unavailable.

Local institutions, organizations, and homeowner groups are encouraged to participate (Lotusland has been an active institutional member since 1991) and representatives meet monthly for training in CPR, first aid, incident command post operations, and emergency communications techniques. When an emergency strikes, Montecito Fire Department activates MERRAG by paging primary responders, who in turn mobilize other MERRAG volunteers. Lotusland’s Grounds Superintendent John Lafleur and Executive Director Steven Timbrook take turns with representatives from other community agencies as primary responders, carrying special pagers and two-way radios linking them to the Fire Department’s communications center. As a part of the MERRAG network, John and Steve responded to local flooding emergencies in 1995 and last year’s El Niño floods.

Our partnership in MERRAG allows Lotusland to share important resources with our neighbors in Montecito under emergency conditions. The commitment to preparedness demonstrated by this organization ultimately benefits the entire community which it represents.

—Steven Timbrook
LOTUSLAND is very gratified by the enthusiastic response from members to our 1998 year-end appeal. The number of gifts more than doubled from 1997. Our members' generosity allows Lotusland to further important projects within our educational and horticultural programs and to increase accessibility in the garden. Two major gifts from Ms. Priscilla K. Giesen and Mr. and Mrs. Sean Hutchinson will create a much needed rare and specimen plant fund. Lotusland is especially grateful to the John G. Braun and The Pesenti Foundations for their generous gifts to the year-end appeal. We would like to thank the following individuals for their much appreciated support of our programs and operations:

**RARE & SPECIMEN PLANT FUND**
- Ms. Priscilla K. Giesen
- Mr. Sean Hutchinson

**HORTICULTURE**
- Mr. & Mrs. H. Hampton Bell
- Mr. & Mrs. John Boething
- Ms. Nancy Cook
- Mr. & Mrs. Ken Delgado
- Ms. Iris Howell Flowers
- Mr. & Mrs. Frank Granat
- Mrs. Graham Jones
- Mr. & Mrs. Harry Kolb
- Mr. & Mrs. Jack Mahoney

**EDUCATION**
- Ms. Mary Glyde Barbey
- Ms. Susan Bower
- Mrs. Janet Milligan Crary
- Ms. Rosemarie A. Forster
- Ms. Charlotte G. Hoegeyerman
- Mrs. Joseph R. Osherenko
- Ms. Karin Young

**ACCESSIBILITY**
- Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Connelly
- Ms. Susan Krivin
- Mr. & Mrs. Robert Oldham

**WHERE MOST NEEDED**
- Mr. & Mrs. Kurt R. Anker
- Mr. Victor K. Atkins, Jr.
- Ms. Joan Rock Ballard
- Ms. Sydney Baumgartner
- Dr. & Mrs. Eric H. Boehm
- Mr. & Mrs. Monte Brown
- Mr. & Mrs. Colin Campbell
- Ms. Doris Carter
- Mrs. Roger Chapman
- Ms. Mary L. Cheadle
- Mr. & Mrs. Barton Clemens
- Mr. & Mrs. Bill Cook
- Mr. & Mrs. Curt Coughlin
- Mr. Gordon B. Cray, Jr.
- Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Crawford
- Ms. Elizabeth W. Dake
- Andrew & Adrienne Davis
- Anne & Bill Dewey
- Mr. & Mrs. Don Dishion
- Ms. Donlon
- Mrs. Maurice E. Faulkner
- Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Flaster
- Ms. Rosemarie A. Forster
- Mr. & Mrs. Alvin W. Friedman
- Mr. Arthur R. Gaudi
- Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Guntemann
- Dr. Melville H. Haskell, Jr.
- Dr. & Mrs. Theodore Hatlen
- Ms. Mary Henson
- Mr. & Mrs. Rodney Hill
- Ms. Barbara K. Hopper
- Mr. & Mrs. Thomas E. Hugunin
- Mr. & Mrs. Fritz Huntsinger
- Mr. George Hutchinson
- Mr. & Mrs. Sean Hutchinson
- Mr. Phil R. Jackson
- Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Jacobson
- Ms. Patricia Harris Johnston
- Mr. & Mrs. Robert M. Jones
- Ms. Frances D. Larkin
- Mrs. Elise Mudd Marvin
- Mrs. Milbank McFie
- Mr. A. A. Milligan
- Mr. & Mrs. Mattison Mines
- Ms. E. Schilling Mullin
- Mrs. Marjorie M. Nelson
- Mr. & Mrs. James Nunn
- Ms. Prudence Noon
- Mr. & Mrs. James P. Owen
- Mr. Randy Owens
- Mr. & Mrs. Greg Palmer
- Ms. Kathleen Palmer
- Mr. Austin H. Peck, Jr.
- Mr. & Mrs. Frank Pesenti
- Mr. Brad Pitt
- Mr. & Mrs. David Potter
- Ms. Happy Price
- Hon. & Mrs. John C. Pritzlaff
- Mr. & Mrs. Bill Rutledge
- Mr. Arthur W. Schultz
- Mr. & Mrs. Arent H. Schuyler, Jr.
- Mr. & Mrs. Harris Seed
- Ms. Hilda P. Seibert
- Mrs. Elman R. Service
- Mr. & Mrs. Edward Shea
- Mr. & Mrs. Jan E.G. Smit
- Ms. Frances Sozanski
- Mr. & Mrs. Bob Temkin
- Mr. & Mrs. William P. Tenny
- Ms. Louisa E. Thielst
- Dr. & Mrs. Steven Timbrook
- Mrs. Edward R. Valentine
- Ms. Elinor Van Oosten
- Mrs. Eric Van de Water
- Ms. Winifred W. Vedder
- Ms. April N. Walstad
- Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Webster
- Ms. Jeanne Woods
- Mrs. Harris Seed
- Ms. Hilda P. Seibert
- Mrs. Elman R. Service
- Mr. & Mrs. Edward Shea
- Mr. & Mrs. Jan E.G. Smit
- Ms. Frances Sozanski
- Mr. & Mrs. Bob Temkin
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- Dr. & Mrs. Steven Timbrook
- Mrs. Edward R. Valentine
- Ms. Elinor Van Oosten
- Mrs. Eric Van de Water
- Ms. Winifred W. Vedder
- Ms. April N. Walstad
- Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Webster
- Ms. Jeanne Woods
Horticultural Happenings

HEDGES

Plantings of Syzygium paniculatum and Pittosporum undulatum easily outnumber any other individual non-grass species growing at Lotusland. Except for the Podocarpus gracilior and Myrsine africana in the Theater garden, all of the clipped formal hedges at Lotusland are “eugenia” and “pitt.” The hedges frame hardscape features such as the Neptune fountain and swimming pool and provide the screening that creates the intimacy of special areas like the parterre rose garden and topiaries. Although their botanical interest doesn’t rival that of the specimen plantings, the hedges are a very important architectural design feature.

It’s the nature of hedges to grow beyond their prescribed bounds, but an occasional renovation will recover the desired shape and size. At Lotusland the hedges in the parterre and around the topiary garden are renovated every five or six years. The process includes checking the heights, widths, and relative scale of the hedges to their surroundings. Using the brick borders of walkways and measured bamboo poles as guides, hedges and ledges are redefined. S. paniculatum and P. undulatum grow very fast in Santa Barbara so hedges recover from these renovations quickly. Even when severe trimming leaves only a skeletal framework of trunks and twigs, new growth begins almost immediately.

The crisp new lines of the parterre and topiary garden hedges renovated in January are greening up again and should be completely recovered by late spring or early summer. New plantings will eventually fill holes where hedges were thin or out of shape and where unwanted plants were removed. The maintenance, including cultural care of the hedges, is a time-consuming but very important aspect of grounds care. Take special notice of the hedges the next time you visit Lotusland and try to envision the Garden without its hedges...it would be like a room without walls.

BROMELIADS

Santa Barbara’s climate is suitable to the cultivation of bromeliads in the landscape. In fact, Lotusland’s mass plantings of colorful bromeliads with their graceful shapes and unusual textures under a canopy of oaks (Quercus agrifolia) are the favorite gardens of many visitors. The bromeliad collection should be even more spectacular this year due to a couple of recently completed cultural improvement projects.

The foliage of oak trees is necessary for photosynthesis and shades branches from the heat of the sun, which can cause sunscald. The bromeliads, on the other hand, need as much light as possible to encourage better color of foliage and inflorescence, but can burn if the light is too hot or intense. A recent trimming of the oaks in the bromeliad garden was completed to improve light conditions for the understory plantings while maintaining sufficient oak foliage for tree health.

Providing nutrients in the proper proportions to the bromeliads will be possible now that the bromeliad garden irrigation systems have been isolated from the main lawn fertigation system. Overfertilizing, especially too much nitrogen, can cause a greening of some bromeliads. Plants may grow leggy and lose their color and variegation. Micro-dosing nutrients through the fertigation system over the past year has been very beneficial to the main lawn, but provided more nutrients than the bromeliads require. Separating the main lawn and the bromeliad gardens’ irrigation lines improves the cultural conditions leading to healthier plants and a better display. See if you can tell the difference the next time you visit the Garden.

—Mike Iven

Through consistent trimming, the hedges of the formal garden haven’t visibly changed in the twenty years since this photograph was taken.

Bromeliads thrive under the oak canopy. Their sources of food and light have recently been improved.
Make Mother's Day Special

TREAT THE MOTHER in your life to a wonderful gift this Mother’s Day—a membership to Friends of Lotusland. Every Mother’s Day gift recipient and her guests are invited on a docent-led tour of the garden on Saturday, May 8 (the day before Mother’s Day). Tea and refreshments will be served on the Terrace.

Gift recipients will receive the tour and tea as part of the gift membership contribution. The fee for her guests will be the usual tour charge ($10 or redeem one free admission coupon) plus $6 per guest for the tea. Personalized membership packages will be mailed to the gift recipient.

To purchase a Mother’s Day gift membership and make reservations for additional guests for the tour and tea, complete this coupon and mail it to:
Ganna Walska Lotusland, Attn: Member Events, 695 Ashley Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93108

MOTHER'S DAY GIFT MEMBERSHIP RECIPIENT
Name __________________________________ Phone ______________________
Address __________________________________________________________

☑ Level I $40 ☐ Level II $100 ☐ Level III $500 ☐ Level IV $1000

PERSON GIVING GIFT
Your Name __________________________________ Phone ______________________
Address __________________________________________________________

PAYMENT METHOD
☑ Check Enclosed ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard Expiration Date ____________
Card Number ______________________________ Signature ________________

ADDITIONAL RESERVATIONS REQUESTED FOR TOUR AND TEA
______ Number of reservations x $10 fee or free admission pass plus $6 per reservation = $__________

Rose Garden Renovation is Funded

LAST SPRING’S RENOVATION of the rose garden, a focal point of the parterre to the east of the Main House, has been completely underwritten by a $10,000 donation from Charles Fairbanks and his sister, Pamela de Villaine, in memory of her father-in-law, Henri Gaudin de Villaine. The soil was thoroughly reconditioned, subsurface drains were installed to alleviate the poor drainage that had always plagued this part of the garden, and a new suite of floribunda roses was planted in staggered rows. A red pillar rose now graces the backdrop trellis, which formerly supported an Easter lily vine (Beaumontia grandiflora). In their first year in the ground, the new roses were quite pretty. This year they will be even lovelier, so please come and enjoy them.
Like Japanese garden design, Japanese flower arranging (ikebana) is a reflection and an idealization of the essentials of nature. Ikenobo ikebana professor Heartie Anne Look, who studied ikebana in Japan for several years, will discuss the history and development of ikebana in a lecture at Lotusland on May 15, 1999.

By creating arrangements encompassing the earliest shoka type used in Buddhist temples to the bold contemporary styles of today, Mrs. Look will demonstrate the enduring vitality of this graceful art and prepare the way for attendees to create arrangements on their own. Please use the coupon on page 15 to register.

Ikebana expresses many of the aesthetic values common to other Japanese representations of nature such as this pen and ink drawing from the 19th century.

Garden Volunteers

Work, work, work, work, work, work, work, work. There's so much to do and never enough time for the gardening staff to do it. We could use some help. If you would like to spend more time at Lotusland getting to know the horticulturists, learning sustainable horticulture practices, and helping to maintain and improve the grounds, consider the Garden volunteer program.

Projects to improve the growing conditions for plants throughout the Garden are ongoing. A typical day's activities might include planting bed soil renovation, application of organic fertilizers and other soil and root inoculants, installing and repairing irrigation systems, planting and maintaining insectary/butterfly gardens, day-to-day landscape maintenance, and preparation for public tours and special events.

The grounds staff takes pride in the appearance of their individual areas of responsibility and in Lotusland's reputation for high-quality landscape maintenance. A thoughtful approach to cultural care performed in an environmentally responsible manner is a part of the process that keeps gardening at Lotusland interesting and rewarding and fun. There's work to do and improvements to be made in every area of the Garden. Call Connie Buxton at 969-3767 to find out more about becoming a Lotusland grounds volunteer.
Members’ Family Day at Lotusland
SUNDAY, APRIL 25 • 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

This event is offered free to Lotusland members and their families, thanks to the generosity and support of

The Robert & Christine Emmons Foundation

Lotusland wishes to thank you, our members, for your support by hosting our second annual members' family day. Everyone is invited, especially kids under 10!

Activities will include:
• BOXTALES with Michael Katz in the theatre garden 11–11:30 a.m. & 2:30–3 p.m.
• Games and crafts from the garden for children and adults 10–11:30 a.m. & 2–3:30 p.m.
• Horticulture Hunt: follow clues to find plants in the garden and win a prize morning and afternoon
• Free silly souvenir photographs by Robert DeBris (all day)
• Live music on the main lawn, featuring The Sons of Bluegrass from noon to 2 p.m.
• Exhibits in the main house (all day)
• Picnic lunches, cake and drinks on the main lawn from noon to 2 p.m.

Box lunches for adults and children may be purchased when you make your reservation, or guests are welcome to bring their own picnic lunches. Cake and beverages will be provided for all. Picnic (packing) blankets will be provided to everyone, courtesy of Mammoth Moving & Storage.

THIS MEMBERS’ FAMILY DAY IS FREE!

But you must make a reservation by mail. We expect this event to fill very quickly, and space is limited. Please complete and mail the coupon below to reserve your space and to purchase box lunches.

RESERVATION FORM

MEMBERS’ FAMILY DAY IS FREE, WITH A RESERVATION. To reserve space for you and your family, complete this coupon and mail it to: Ganna Walska Lotusland, Attn: Member Events, 695 Ashley Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93108. No phone reservations, please. Confirmations will be sent upon our receipt of your reservation.

Member Name __________________________ Phone __________________________
Address ________________________________
Number of Adults attending ____________ Number of Kids attending ____________ Number of cars ____________

You may bring your own picnic or order Box Lunches here: Box Lunches: Adult’s lunch $12 each ________ Kid’s lunch $6 each ________ Total enclosed ________

Payment Method: □ Check enclosed □ VISA □ MasterCard
Expiration date __________________________
Card number __________________________
Signature __________________________
Mike Furner Celebrates Twenty Years at Lotusland

ONE LOOK AT HIS SPARKLING blue eyes and you immediately know that Lotusland's equipment and maintenance mechanic, Mike Furner, loves his work. So it won't surprise you to learn that Mike has been a dedicated Lotusland employee for twenty years this February.

Madame Walska hired Mike in 1979 to be part of her gardening crew after seeing his hard work, dedication, and love for Lotusland on a contract crew doing tree work in the garden she was working so hard to complete. Employed by Griffin Tree & Landscape, Mike spent two Springs moving palms for "the Madame" (as she was known), delighted to be in her beautiful garden and excited to be in on the creation of new gardens.

While with Griffin, Mike and an associate moved the first palms into the area that would become the cycad garden, including a Phoenix reclinata 30 feet tall, which had to be transported by crane. They then moved dozens of cycads Ganna Walska had collected and kept in what is now the shade palm garden, beginning with the three Encephalartos woodii.

Most of Mike's career has been in the landscaping business. As a kid growing up in Santa Barbara he did yard work. Later he worked for five years at the Wilcox Nursery in the Kentia Palm division where he learned about planting techniques and plants. He spent a year doing landscaping at the Valley Club in Montecito before going to work for Griffin in the 1970s. During the six years he spent with Griffin, he learned many different aspects of horticulture and landscape construction, finding the business always new and different.

One day, when Mike had been moving palms for the Madame for nearly a month, the director of her garden, Charlie Glass, approached him with the following proposition: Would he consider quitting his job with Griffin so that Madame Walska—who did not want to steal him away from Griffin—could hire him full time. Though the stipulation that he resign his current position caused him some concern, he gave notice and within a month was an employee at Lotusland. Although his risk paid off later, his new boss unfortunately forgot to issue his first paycheck. Her generosity later more than made up for this oversight, as Madame Walska was known to give generous bonuses to all those working for her.

In the twenty years since he began working at Lotusland, Mike has worked in almost all areas of the garden. After starting out with a brief stint in the cactus garden under Charlie Glass, he moved on to the cycad garden, where he spent three years maintaining its lush and aesthetically pleasing design. He then spent four years in the aloe garden and when the epiphyllums were moved to the tropical glen area, he replied—taking his cue from Charlie to please his impatient boss, who at age 93 was racing against time to complete her garden—"Real soon, Madame, real soon." Hearing this, she was pleased and moved on.

Mike and another long-term gardener, Bruno Reginato, carried oxygen tanks into her bedroom when she returned from the hospital after a long illness in 1984. When the gardeners returned from lunch, they were saddened to learn that Madame Walska had passed away. Mike will never forget his former employer—the way she built her gardens, the generosity she showed all who worked for her, and the legacy she left for all to enjoy.

When restoration began on the main house and outbuildings after Madame Walska's death, Mike assisted Peter Stollenwerk with more and more construction projects, gradually phasing out of gardening. He is proud of his many building accomplishments that can be seen today by visitors: the wisteria arbor and Shinto shrine in the Japanese garden, the lemon arbor in the parterre, and the bird cage in the flower garden adjacent to the citrus orchard. He and Peter spent two months shaping nine-foot clear heart redwood timbers on a lathe he built himself to create the wisteria arbor in 1989. Mike also helped design and build shade structures in the nursery and carports for equipment behind the garage.

After all these years, Mike still cares for Lotusland and feels he made the right decision twenty years ago.
ago. Today he keeps equipment such as power tools, tractors, and electric carts ready for grounds staff and responds to maintenance needs as they come up at all the buildings on the property. He is also responsible for the care and maintenance of the swimming pool and all the fountains. Because he still loves it, he works in the garden whenever he has a chance and always happily pitches in to help get a job done. Optimistic and compassionate, Mike seems to live by an aphorism from his former boss, noting in times of challenge, "As Madame always said, 'Nothing is impossible.'"

Mike, an avid surfer since 1985 who also builds his own skateboards (including one for his grandson) hopes that Lotusland never loses the aesthetics and character that Madame Walska created in her garden. He has weathered a lot of changes over the years and expects to see many more. He likes to tell people, "I've been sentenced to life at Lotusland—but it's a good sentence."

Lotusland salutes Mike's long-term dedication and love for the garden and hopes he'll be here in another twenty years.

—Janet M. Eastman

Santa Barbara Preservation Week 1999

Santa Barbara Preservation Week 1999 is a countywide effort to recognize, celebrate, and promote the knowledge and appreciation of the area's unique historic resources and preservation efforts. As a participant, Lotusland will host a tour and illustrated lecture by Executive Director Steven Timbrook focusing on the recent restoration of various landscape elements designed by noted Santa Barbara architect George Washington Smith.

Smith was employed by the Gavit family in the mid-twenties to provide designs for the pavilion, its patio, and several other elements of the garden hardscape. His final project for the Gavits was to design the original swimming pool and bath house, site of the present water garden.

When the Ganna Walska Lotusland Foundation took over the maintenance of the garden in 1984, the need for the restoration of Smith's garden elements was recognized, and three projects have been completed to date.

For more information or for reservations, please call Lotusland Reservations, 969-9990 between 9 AM and noon, M-F. For further information about Preservation Week 1999 activities, please call 966-9719.

Ornate tilework being laid during restoration.

George Washington Smith's fountain as it appears today.
Friends of Lotusland

We Welcome New Members Who Joined in November, December 1998, January 1999

LEVEL I
Mr. Wesley Anderegg
Mr. & Mrs. Lane Ashley
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Aumont
Mr. Milo Baglioni
Ms. Mirabai Baker
Ms. Janice Barker
Mr. Barry Barton & Ms. Kay Long
Mr. & Mrs. Burt Blosser
Ms. Julie Boxberger
Ms. Marilyn Brannon
Ms. Zola Brink
Ms. Micholin Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Woody Brown
Mr. Martyn Lawrence Bullard
Mr. Vance Burke
Ms. Margaret Casey
Mr. & Mrs. David Chapman
Mr. & Mrs. John Chionchio
Mr. Patrick Corrigan
Mr. & Mrs. John Cort
Ms. Barbara Coster
Mr. John Cottrell
Mr. Steven Cullen
Ms. Ann Daniels & Mr. Len Hill
Ms. Laurie Deans
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Dehlson
Mr. & Mrs. Andre Derman
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Detterman
Ms. Caroline Doiron
Mr. Michael Einhorn
Ms. Ann England
Dr. & Mrs. Doug Erickson
Ms. Anne Todd Erickson
Mr. & Mrs. Philip W. Fauntleroy, III
Ms. Joan Feifer
Ms. Sue Ferguson
Mr. Irving S. Finklestein & Ms. Nancy Lewis
Ms. Alisa Linda Flint
Ms. Suzanne Forester
Ms. Mirella Forlani
Ms. Marsha Fullerton
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Gilchrist
Mr. Michael Gips & Ms. Tanya Novak
Ms. Gwynne Gloege
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Gordon
Ms. Susan Grayson
Mr. Byron Gross
Mr. Jerry Guttmann
Mr. Michael Hakan
Mr. Steven Hall
Mr. Clans Hallig
Mr. Paul Eugene Harrill
Mr. Michael Healy
Ms. Ann James
Mr. & Mrs. Jenkins
Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Johnson
Ms. Masako Kakimoto
Mr. David Katona
The Knowles Family, Stac & Rob
Ms. Nancy Langdon
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Lattimer
Mrs. Orris Leone
Ms. Pat Licker
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Lilley
Mr. & Mrs. David Littig
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Lowy
Ms. Margaret M
Mr. & Mrs. Hadi Makarechian
Ms. Grace Maloepszky
Mr. Thierry Marchand & Mr. Chris McGraw
Mr. Stephen Marinko
Ms. Douglas Marscheille
Ms. Sharon McQueen
Mr. & Mrs. Regis Messiqua
Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Milder
Ms. Arline Miller
Mr. & Mrs. David Mills
Mr. Bob Minton & Mr. Neil Spidel
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Moresco
Mr. & Mrs. Cam Munn
Mr. Ed Nahem
Mr. David Nancarrow
Mr. David Niles
Mr. & Mrs. Leon Nozik
Ms. Susan Olson
Mr. John Patton & Mr. Leo Duvall
Mr. & Mrs. Barry Rahm
Ms. Kathy Raschka & Mr. Leif Oruston
Ms. Maggie Rauen
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Raulerson
Mr. Anthony G. Real
Ms. Cynthia Record
Ms. Diane Reilly
Mr. & Mrs. Wes Renz
Mr. John Rodman
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Rose
Mr. & Mrs. Rus Russell

LEVEL II
Ms. Sheri Schlesinger
Ms. Shirley Shultz
The Sims Family
Ms. Doris Smythe
Ms. Henrietta Sparks
Mr. William Spink
Mr. & Mrs. Don Stegman
Ms. Betty Stephens
Ms. Nan Stone
Ms. Marsha Stuve
Mr. Christopher Teasley & Ms. Judy Hamilton
Ms. Adria Tenisson
Ms. Judi Watson
Ms. Iris Weil & Ms. Harriet Zaretsky
Mr. Wayne Williamson & Mr. Bruce Goers
Mr. Ron Wilson
Ms. Karen Wintringham
Mr. Richard Zeh
Ms. Mary Ellen Zemekis
Mr. & Mrs. David Zollars

LEVEL III
Ms. Linda Heller
Ms. Cindy Hoffman
Mr. Wayne Jewell
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Johnson
Ms. Susan Jorgensen & Ms. Alice Gilaroo
Ms. Lindy Kern
Ms. Doris McCloskey
Ms. Wendy Minot
Ms. Helen Sargent
Ms. Nancy Shobe & Mr. Wright Watling
Ms. Katherine Stein
Ms. Melanie Thompson
Ms. Flora L. Thornton
Mr. & Mrs. William Travers
Ms. Josie A. Williams
Ms. Elizabeth L. Wolfe

LEVEL IV
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Bonsignore
Garden Tour for Members
With CURATOR VIRGINIA HAYES
Saturday, April 10, 1999
9:30 AM to 4:00 PM • $75.00/person
Includes bus transportation and lunch.

Number of people attending ______

Ikebana Lecture and Demonstration
With PROFESSOR HEARTIE ANNE LOOK
Saturday, May 15, 1999
1:00 PM to 4:30 PM • $35.00/person
Number of people attending ______

Total enclosed $ ____________

Lotusland Gratefully Acknowledges Donations
November, December 1998, January 1999

ACCESSIBILITY FUND
Lord & Lady Ridley-Tree

APPRECIATION
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Ellwood
in appreciation of Poney Eagleton

BEQUESTS
Mr. Edward P. Noll

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 cancellation is received one week before class or lecture.
If minimum enrollment is not reached, classes and lectures may be canceled.
No phone reservations, please.

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

Spring Garden Tour for Members
SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 1999

THE ever-popular SANTA BARBARA GARDENS TOUR with Curator Virginia Hayes is coming right up.
Because so many gardens look splendid in the spring, this year’s first tour will occur on Saturday, April 10th. Participants will visit a varied slate of spectacular gardens around town and arrangements are being made to meet with at least some of the designers during the day. The tour departs Lotusland at 9:30 AM, returning by 4:00 PM. Included in the $75.00 cost is deluxe coach transportation and a scrumptious lunch on the patio at Lotusland. Please use the coupon on page 15 to register. Previous tours have sold out quickly so reserve your space soon.

Members Who Have Increased Their Level of Support
November, December 1998, January 1999

LEVEL II
Ms. Alyson Alexander
Mr. & Mrs. Don Bennett
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Brandt
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Granat
Ms. Mara Hochman
Mr. David Myrick
Mr. & Mrs. John Rigas

Ms. Sally Spencer
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Terre

LEVEL III
Ms. Jayne Murray Burton
Judge & Mrs. John G. Davies
Ms. April Walstad
Mr. & Mrs. James Warren
1999 Member Events

Here are some of the events Lotusland has planned for members in 1999. Look for additions, changes and more information in upcoming newsletters and in your mailbox. Space is always limited for activities at Lotusland, so please respond quickly to sign-up instructions for each event as they appear in subsequent newsletters.

Springtime in The Garden
Annual lecture series jointly sponsored by Lotusland, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, and Santa Barbara Botanic Garden.

• Thursday, March 13
  Color By Design
  An illustrated lecture by Nori Pope, Canadian garden designer and author now living in England.

• Wednesday, April 7
  Influential Women Gardeners
  An illustrated lecture by Maggie Lamb, English lecturer, conservationist and garden designer.

Saturday, April 10
Garden Tour for Members
Join Curator Virginia Hayes for a day-long tour of some of Santa Barbara's private gardens. Please see page 15 for more information and coupon for sign-up.

Sunday, April 25
Family Day for Members
10:00 AM—4:00 PM
The 2nd annual Lotusland family event with lots of educational—and just plain fun—activities for members and their families. Please see page 11 for more information and a coupon for sign-up.

Saturday, May 3
Mother's Day Tea
1:30—4:30 PM
Make Mother's Day special with a gift membership that includes a tour and tea. Please see page 9 for more information and a sign-up coupon.

Saturday, May 15
Ikebana Workshop
1:30—4:30 PM
Please see page 10 for more information; use the coupon on page 15 for sign-up.

Saturday, June 19
Member's Self-Guided Tour
1:30—4:30 PM
Enjoy the garden on your own—no guided tours. Spend a relaxing afternoon in the garden when the water gardens are in bloom. Docents will be available to answer your questions, and refreshments will be served in the main house. Call Lotusland reservations at 969-9990 (M-F 9:00 AM to noon) to sign up.

Saturday, June 26
Garden Tour for Members
Join Curator Virginia Hayes for a day-long tour of destinations of horticultural interest. More information and a coupon for sign-up will be in the Summer Newsletter for Members.

Thursday, July 3
Illustrated Lecture
1:30—4:30 PM
Chris Dalzell, Curator of the Durban, South Africa, Botanic Garden. His garden is the home of our rare cycads, Encephalartos woodii.

Sunday, July 18
Lotusland Celebrates
4:00—8:00 PM
Lotusland's annual gala event—invitations mailed to all members in early June. If you would like to receive an invitation to be a Patron please call Amanda Jones at 969-3767, ext. 250.