In the early years of Madame Walska’s development of the gardens at Lotusland she struggled to find the right kind of help in realizing her creation. In 1956 she writes, “But unfortunately it is not yet my destiny to have a responsible person in Lotusland, and it has lasted so long that I have lost hope even.” In her letters to friends this sort of lament was often repeated. But if she couldn’t find the kind of horticulturist she desired, she definitely found in Gunnar Thielst the support she needed to keep the infrastructure of the estate on an even keel. His many talents made him an indispensable member of her permanent staff.

The projects that Thielst accomplished for Madame Walska ranged from the sublime to the mundane. One that he was particularly proud of was the creation of the zodiac symbols that marked the hours on the horticultural clock. He spoke of them as “one of my best jobs.” And because some of them were stolen repeatedly, he was required to craft them more than once. His other accomplishments were to paint the custom cushions in the theatre garden, giving them an antique patina, and mount and frame many of the tile murals. Interspersed with these artistic endeavors were the chores of patching leaky roofs, plastering and painting walls in various buildings, hanging stained glass and Tibetan banners in the house, mending broken umbrellas.

Continued on page 2
Thielst designed and built garden furniture, such as this umbrella stand and table, at his studio in town.

ornamental ironwork shop in El Paseo (later relocated to Milpas Street). Though his specialty was wrought iron, he did other odd jobs and even held a taxidermist’s license. During this period he did some work at Lotusland (then called Cuesta Linda) for the Gavits, setting some Spanish

This Scorpio is one of the original zodiac symbols that Thielst made for the horticultural clock.
tiles they had brought back from abroad. His gates, window grills, and garden furniture appeared everywhere around town as well as across the nation. One of his most ambitious and intricate projects in Santa Barbara was an openwork cross for Mt. Calvary Monastery. This 20-foot cross, weighing more than a ton, was dedicated in 1949 and is still standing in the courtyard of the complex off Gibraltar Road.

During World War II, Thielst was called on to teach welding skills to Navy recruits, and he spent some months inspecting the welding and laying of 480 miles of gas pipeline just below the Arctic circle. It was around this time he completed his first project for Madame Walska repairing pictures that were made of semi-precious stones. Another customer, who had taken similar work to him before, had referred Madame Walska to Thielst. She had also been forewarned that Thielst was a bit eccentric and that only “if he likes you, he lets you in.” She was pleased to pass muster and soon was bringing more of her business to him. One such repair job was an antique wrought iron gate. Although Madame Walska expressed her doubts that he would be able to fix it and have it continue to look old, Thielst solved the problem by mending the piece and then taking it down to the beach for a good soaking in the saltwater so it was uniformly rusted when she saw it. By degrees, Madame Walska came to depend on Thielst for advice on many things and help with the maintenance of Lotusland. Though he continued to design ornamental ironwork, he was increasingly occupied with her projects and eventually closed his shop in town.

By 1964 she was insisting that he and his wife Louisa come to live on the property where he would be immediately available to her at all times. In spite of their contentment in their new home, in 1965 they were persuaded to move into the “red cottage” that Thielst had remodeled and expanded. Both became a part of Madame Walska’s daily life. In fact, Gunnar recalled, “I did not have a vacation for five years. I could not go to town unless I phoned. She wanted me and my wife here!” The telephone calls from her came at all hours. “Mr. Thielst! S.O.S!” would be her cry and Thielst would immediately respond.

As with many people who worked with Madame Walska, there were ups and downs to their relationship. Thielst was fired and rehired with some regularity. He

Continued on page 4
Garden Tours with Virginia Hayes

SATURDAY, APRIL 23 AND SATURDAY, JUNE 4 • 9:15 AM TO 4:00 PM (GATES OPEN AT 9:00 AM)

It’s been a tough winter in gardens all over the southland, but spring is here and plants are burgeoning with new growth and bright flowers. The damage from record-breaking rains has been repaired, and paths and borders have been spruced up for our pleasure. Once again, Curator Virginia Hayes has organized a slate of stellar gardens to visit. Some will be small and intimate, while a few grandiose designs are also included. All will serve to arouse our senses and inspire the gardener within.

These popular tours (different gardens each date) are being held on Saturday, April 23rd and Saturday, June 4th. Space for both is limited and to make sure everyone has an equal opportunity to sign up for them, registration is by coupon only (see page 15).

Coupons will be selected at random on Monday, April 11th and Monday, May 16th for the available spaces in each tour. The cost is $85 for Lotusland members, $95 for non-members, and covers admission to Lotusland, bus transportation to the gardens, and a delicious lunch (one member pass may be used as partial payment for each individual reservation). Gates open at 9:00 AM and the bus leaves promptly at 9:15, returning by 4:00 PM.

SAVE THE DATE
LotusFest!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13 • NOON TO 4:00 PM

Come celebrate the legendary flower that is Lotusland’s namesake.

Wine tasting from Santa Barbara County premier vintners, live jazz, and a scrumptious al fresco buffet luncheon are just a few of the pleasures that will be offered during this fun, relaxing afternoon in the garden.

So mark your calendar and join us for this very special event. Invitations will be mailed in July.
HORTICULTURAL HAPPENINGS

The City College Connection

Students enrolled in the Environmental Horticulture (EH) program at Santa Barbara City College (SBCC) earn units of credit for working in paid or volunteer positions that provide on-the-job experience and the opportunity to apply skills and knowledge learned in SBCC classes. Lotusland began offering part-time paid positions to Environmental Horticulture Work Experience students in the mid-1980s and has continued that practice uninterrupted through the years. Five thousand dollars provides one student a semester of Work Experience. Donations to support Work Experience, Lotusland’s oldest educational program, make the program possible.

Work Experience students perform a variety of tasks at Lotusland. Over the course of a semester, a student will work in all areas of the garden helping the grounds staff with routine landscape maintenance tasks. Sustainable plant health care practices employed at Lotusland are explained, and students perform specific applications based on those principles. A serious effort is made to include students in special projects and other timely tasks that may occur over the course of the semester. The Lotusland–SBCC connection is certainly a two-way street as students learn practical skills based on their studies and Lotusland benefits from their enthusiasm and much appreciated help.

Anyone may enroll in the EH classes; however, the EH program is designed to prepare students for employment in some aspect of the “green industry.” Many past and present members of Lotusland’s grounds staff either completed the EH program or took selected EH classes. Lotusland has benefited directly and is pleased to participate in the EH program by providing positions to motivated and interested students.

―Mike Iven

SPRING 2005 WORK EXPERIENCE STUDENTS

EIRIN BAERIS

“Before attaining my masters in Landscape Architecture, I want to get a horticultural base and background for my field. Having the opportunity to integrate my studies at school with experiences at Lotusland has been invaluable. The EH program advocates horticultural practices using a sustainable approach. Lotusland is a thriving example of how the ideas the EH program promotes can succeed in the real world. Being able to have the hands-on approach that Lotusland offers has been a priceless extension of my education. I have been able to attain my goals in the field, as well as put my competencies to use. A day at Lotusland may be a mixture of mulching, weed eradication, pruning or pathway repair; however, whatever it may be, I know these skills will carry me to my higher education and through my lifetime.”

JEFF GALLUP

“Hi, my name is Jeff Gallup and I just started working at Lotusland in February. I have lived in Santa Barbara my entire life. Plants have always been part of life for me because my father was in the nursery business in Carpinteria. I am especially interested in palm trees and have been germinating different species for the last couple of years. When I heard about the opportunity to be able to work at Lotusland, I jumped at the chance, and here I am. In the short period of time I have been here, I have learned more about Japanese gardens, transplanting waterlilies, and how to drive a tractor than I ever had learned in the past. Everyone at Lotusland is very helpful and friendly, which makes it a lot of fun to be here. I hope to be able to learn much more from all of the different gardeners.”

PHOTOS BY MIKE IVEN
Each year fourth grade classes from local schools are involved in Lotusland’s Outreach Program, which includes an introductory lesson in the classroom followed by a tour of Lotusland. On their tour, students are able to see and learn about the garden’s many unusual plants, but touching them was strictly off-limits.

A new feature recently installed in the Butterfly Garden opens up an opportunity for these children to have some hands-on interaction with the plants.

This new attraction is the Plant Petting Zoo, an area where students gather on their tour to touch, smell, and feel the plants while an outreach docent explains how the plants’ unique features help them adapt to their environments. Current zoo inhabitants include several varieties of scented geraniums that release a lemon or peppermint fragrance when their leaves are rubbed, the panda plant (*Kalanchoe tomentosa*) that has soft fuzzy hairs on its leaves, and blue chalk sticks (*Senecio mandraliscae*) with its waxy cuticle that can be scraped off with a fingernail to see the true color of the plant underneath.

Also in the zoo are demonstrations of plant adaptations that cannot be seen up close during a tour in the garden. For example, water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) has air-filled leaf stalks that allow it to float on the water. Several of these have been cut in half so that the students can see their Styrofoam-like air pockets. A cactus stem has been cut open so that a cross-section of the interior can be seen. Alongside it is a piece of dried cactus “skeleton,” which clearly shows how a network of woody cell walls can support the heavy weight of a water-filled cactus stem.

The new zoo offers students the opportunity to interact with these interesting specimens while allowing their counterparts in the garden to grow without interference.

—Jennifer Wilbanks

Lotusland is grateful to Tom Hugunin for his diligent service as a member of the board of trustees.

Since joining the board in 2002, Tom has served as chairman of the Development Committee and as a hard-working member of both the Public Programs and The Lotus Society committees.

Though he is retiring from the board, we are pleased that he will continue as an active member of The Lotus Society Committee.
GEORGE BURTNESS

When I called George Burtness a couple of months ago to see if he was willing to be interviewed for a Lotus Society profile, he said, “Sure, but I’m leaving tomorrow for Palau and it’ll have to wait until I get back.” All I knew about George was that he joined Friends of Lotusland in 1996 and has been a volunteer since then helping out on the grounds, and that he convinced about a dozen Santa Barbara County vintners to have wine tastings as one of the features of LotusFest in 2003 and Cactus Caper last year. I also knew he became a member of The Lotus Society in 2004 and has a brother, Bob, who is a retired Santa Barbara high school teacher.

George filled that sketchy picture in for me when we got together after his Pacific island trip. The first thing we talked about, of course, was the Palau trip, and I asked if he enjoyed snorkeling or scuba diving. “For about 10 years, from 1992 to 2001, I volunteered to work on projects with Stanford biologist Paul Ehrlich, everything from birds and butterflies in Costa Rica to reef fish off St. Croix. Little was known about the activities of the French Grunt. They just seemed to stay in one place on the reef all day long, not really doing anything. So, using scuba gear and lights, I followed them at night as they left the reef and learned where they fed. I’ve continued to be interested in reef fish and that’s why I went to Palau.”

I asked George where he was off to next, since it seemed clear that he enjoyed travel. “I try to do one serious trip, often with Earthwatch, and one ‘fun trip’ every year. Palau was a ‘fun trip,’ and I plan to do an Earthwatch archaeological dig near Cuzco, in Peru, later this year. I also hope to take part in a bird census trip to Las Islas Secas, off the Pacific coast of Panama, later this spring. With Earthwatch I’ve been on a mammoth dig for Oxford University and a study of everything that eats fruit on a research site inland from Brisbane. Some of the other ‘fun trips’ have been to New Zealand, which I especially like, the Antarctic, the Sea of Cortez, southern Africa, and the Seychelles Islands.”

George was born in Santa Barbara, as was his centenarian mother, still doing well at 101. His late father was a Santa Barbara physician, and he has another brother, Bill, who is a retired banker. George took a B.S. degree in Psychology at Stanford and joined the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam era, serving in a communications unit in Alaska. He returned to Stanford for his M.B.A. and worked 15 years for Stanford managing the University’s real estate leases and gifts of real estate from all over the country and even abroad. He then was the administrator for a series of three small electronics firms in the Palo Alto area, returning to Santa Barbara after retiring in 1991.

George is as busy as a volunteer in retirement as he was during his career. He serves as president of the Lobero Theatre Foundation, treasurer of the Santa Barbara Zoo and chairman of the board of Sansum Diabetes Research Institute. I asked about his Lotusland volunteer interest. “I started in 1996 after talking with Janet Eastman (then Lotusland’s Volunteer Coordinator.) After a couple of years working with Mike Furner and Esau Ramirez on garden maintenance projects, I joined Lynn Kirby at the Butterfly Garden and have been there ever since.” I asked what it was that convinced him to make a bequest to Lotusland’s endowment. “I joined The Lotus Society because of my love for the garden and because I wanted to help perpetuate something that Madame Walska felt so strongly about.” With all George does for Lotusland, it’s obvious he cares strongly about it, as well.

—Steven Timbrook

NEW MEMBERS

Thank you to these additional new members for their generous support.

The Cramblit Family Foundation

Eric Nagelmann in memory of Betty Nagelmann

Estate of Margo F. Osherenko

Lifetime membership in The Lotus Society is reserved for individuals who help preserve and enhance Lotusland as a unique botanical treasure by contributing $10,000 or more to the Endowment Fund.

To learn more about The Lotus Society, please call Anne Dewey, Lotusland’s Director of Development, at (805) 969-3767, extension 105.
Members’ Family Day is FREE!

But you must make a reservation by mailing the reservation form to save space for your family and to purchase box lunch tickets. One vehicle per membership. Please reserve early as we expect this event to fill quickly.

Bring your own picnic or pre-purchase box lunches catered by FRESCO. Box lunches include a choice of chicken salad on sundried tomato bread, black forest ham and smoked mozzarella on ciabatta bread, turkey on nine-grain bread, or very vegetarian on a soft roll; fresh fruit cup; and Sun chips. Tickets for box lunches are available until April 25. (Sorry, it will not be possible to buy lunch tickets on the day of the event.) A limited number of picnic blankets will be available, or you can bring your own.

Complimentary juice, soft drinks and water are available all day.

Complimentary ice cream cones at the ice cream booth Noon to 2:00 PM.
Family Day
Lotusland’s Amazing Plants
30 • 10 AM TO 4 PM

This annual Members’ Family Day. Everyone is invited, especially children of all ages!

SPONSORED BY:
in Honor of Their Grandchildren

will include:

and magic in the theatre garden • 11:30 AM TO NOON AND 2:30 TO 3:00 PM
from the garden for children and adults • 10:00 AM TO NOON AND 2:00 TO 4:00 PM
ph by the incredible photographer extraordinaire Bob DeBris • 10:00 AM TO NOON AND 2:00 TO 4:00 PM
and the Zydeco Zippers on the main lawn • NOON TO 2:00 PM

RESERVATION INFORMATION: Due to the popularity of this event and to allow as many members as possible to attend, Lotusland requests ONLY ONE VEHICLE PER MEMBERSHIP. Admission to Members’ Family Day is free, but reservations are required. No phone reservations, please.

Please return this reservation form to: Ganna Walska Lotusland, Attn: Member Events, 695 Ashley Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93108.

Your confirmation and a map will be mailed to you upon receipt of your reservation form.

Bring your own picnic or order prepaid box lunches below. Your box lunch tickets will be mailed with your confirmation.

RESERVATION FORM

Member Name ____________________________________________ No. of adults ________ No. of children under 2 ________

Address ____________________________________________________________ No. of teens ________ No. of children 2 to 12 ________

Please specify:

Chicken salad sandwich $12 × (NO) = $________
Ham & cheese sandwich $12 × (NO) = $________
Turkey sandwich $12 × (NO) = $________
Vegetarian sandwich $12 × (NO) = $________

Payment Method:     □ Check enclosed □ VISA □ MasterCard

Total Enclosed $_________________ Exp. Date __________

Card Number ________________________________

Signature ________________________________________
Volunteer Profile: Richard Riffero
LOTUSLAND DOCENT WITH REAL STAYING POWER

Docent Richard Riffero’s connection to Lotusland goes back many years. His father was the grounds foreman for the Gavit estate (Cuesta Linda) in the 1920s and 1930s, before Madame Walska purchased the property in 1941 and renamed it Lotusland. As a youngster, he used to pull weeds on the main lawn. Of all his impressive resumé of volunteer work, he says Lotusland is the “dearest to his heart” because of his lifelong affiliation with the estate.

His passion for horticulture was instilled in him by his grandfather and father and is evidenced by his membership in the Santa Barbara County Horticultural Society for more than 50 years.

At 92 years young and still going strong, there can be no doubt that Richard Riffero is an extraordinary person. He reports doing isometric exercises for one hour each morning and walking three to four miles a day. He is also an accomplished ballroom dancer who has “danced his way around the world 15 times” while serving as a dancing and social host aboard cruise ships throughout the years. His 90th birthday party saw Richard cutting the rug with a bevy of beautiful women, and probably exhausting them all.

Richard’s staying power is not limited to his physical prowess; he has been an active Lotusland docent since 1988, just recently retiring this January. While most of us can’t remember where we last put our car keys, Richard takes great pride in his memory. Lotusland docents are scheduled for tours months in advance and receive a reminder call by Visitor Services staff two days prior to each scheduled tour. Richard’s instructions to the staff were to not call him because he always remembered his tour dates. Amazingly enough, this proved to be true throughout his many years of service as a docent.

Richard has had long runs professionally as well as volunteering. He served as Superintendent of Parks and Grounds for Santa Barbara County for 25 years, supervising a crew of 20 men who maintained 20 areas, including the courthouse, which he called “his jewel.” He has received 22 awards for community service, including the first-ever Santa Barbara Beautiful Lifetime Achievement Award in 1999. This honor was given to him for the 200 monthly columns he wrote for the Santa Barbara News-Press garden pages. In the columns, he described attractive homes and gardens he scouted in the area from Sheffield Drive to Turnpike Road and the Pacific Ocean to Santa Ynez Mountains. “I’ve been a horticulturist all my life. I was asked to do the columns in 1979 because I could identify the plants,” Richard says.

Richard says to tell everyone “arrivederci,” but we know he will continue his relationship with Lotusland as a docent emeritus and continue sharing his love of the garden with family and friends.

Thank you, Richard, for your dedicated service to Lotusland over these many years.

Author’s note: Several years ago I half-jokingly asked Richard if he had a “beauty secret” for his remarkably young-looking skin. Without the slightest hesitation, he blurted out, “almonds!” I’ve been eating them for lunch nearly every day since.

—Connie Buxton

CELEBRATE SUMMER
Twilight Tour
SATURDAY, JUNE 25 • 6:00 TO 8:15 PM

Join us for an enchanted evening in the garden at twilight, an especially beautiful time at Lotusland.

You may take a self-guided or docent-led tour of the garden and enjoy wine and hors d’oeuvres on the terrace midway through your leisurely stroll. Sunset is at 8:15 PM, signaling the time to depart.

Docents will be available throughout the garden to answer questions.

Space is limited, so reserve early.

Please use the coupon on page 15 to sign up.
Michael Towbes—Lifetime Honorary Trustee

At its February meeting, the Ganna Walska Lotusland Foundation Board of Trustees recognized retiring Trustee Michael Towbes’ 12 years of outstanding service by naming him a Lifetime Honorary Trustee. This is only the second time in the Foundation’s 20-year history that this honor has been awarded. Michael joins founding Trustee Carol L. Valentine as a continuing resource of wise counsel based upon many years of leadership for Lotusland and the Santa Barbara community.

In 1992, as they were preparing to open Lotusland to the public, Mike was the first person the three remaining founding Trustees thought of as they sought to broaden the scope of the Foundation’s Board. His addition to the Board came at a crucial time since the plans for a Visitor Center were nearing completion. Mike’s civil engineering background and his experience as President of The Towbes Group, a successful development and construction company, and as Chairman of the Board of Montecito Bank & Trust have proved invaluable in creating Lotusland’s master plan and guiding its Finance Committee.

The crowning achievement in his long tenure on Lotusland’s Board was Mike’s role in making the new Cactus Garden possible. His pledge of $200,000 and Eric Nagelmann’s donation of design services set the stage for a successful initial funding effort for this $500,000 project. Grants from the Wallis, LLWW and Castagnola Family foundations and a gift by Carol Valentine raised an additional $160,000.

To honor Mike for his dedication and generosity to Lotusland and countless other Santa Barbara not-for-profit organizations, and to raise the $140,000 remaining to complete the funding for the Cactus Garden, we have launched the I Like Mike campaign. We will ask friends of Mike to consider a donation in his honor, and the names of those who give or pledge $5,000 or more to I Like Mike will be engraved on the Cactus Garden Recognition Wall. Those donors will be invited to a luncheon at Lotusland on June 18 to join Mike and the other original donors for the dedication of the Cactus Garden in honor of Mike’s grandchildren, Allison and Zachary Towbes, and to thank him for his 12 years of service to Lotusland.

For more information about I Like Mike, please contact Anne Dewey, Lotusland’s Director of Development, at (805) 969-3767, extension 105.

—Steven Timbrook

SAVE THE DATE

Lotusland Celebrates
The Wizard of LotOZland
SUNDAY, JULY 24 4:00 TO 8:00 PM

Join us as we travel down the yellow brick road with Dorothy and Toto, along with the Tin Man, Scarecrow and Lion, on our journey to the Emerald City.

Benefactor ♠ $5,000 (ten tickets) Patron ♠ $1,000 (two tickets)
Patron Table Host ♠ $3,500 (ten tickets) Tickets ♠ $250 each

Invitations will be mailed in mid-June.

Please contact Anne Dewey, Director of Development, at (805) 969-3767, extension 105 for further details.
**Digital Photography Workshop**

**SATURDAY, JULY 16 • 8:30 AM TO NOON**

LOTUSLAND CAN BE a photographer’s dream as well as nightmare. There are so many wonderful vistas and fabulous plants, but knowing how to capture the essence of the place given the limitations of lenses, the vagaries of light, and other variables can be frustrating.

Bill Dewey has been photographing the gardens at Lotusland since the foundation began its work after Madame Walska’s death in 1984. His photographs appear in Lotusland: A Photographic Odyssey and Ganna Walska Lotusland: The Garden and Its Creators. They have also illustrated numerous articles about Lotusland in various magazines such as The Smithsonian and Sunset, to name just two. He is a member of the Santa Barbara Oak Group, and his landscape aerial photographs are regularly shown at the Easton Gallery in Montecito and museums, and private collectors have purchased his work. (For more information on Bill’s professional photography, see his web pages at www.wmbdewey.com.)

On Saturday, July 16th, Bill will lead a digital photography workshop for beginners and seasoned photographers who would like to learn from his experience. The workshop will take advantage of the morning light to explore composition from closeups to landscape views out in the gardens. After a break for refreshments, each student’s work will be projected and critiqued in the lecture room. Bill will also discuss the advantages and disadvantages of digital versus film photography. Emphasis will be placed on SLR (single lens reflex) format cameras, but participants with point-and-shoot cameras are also welcome.

The cost for the workshop is $30 for Lotusland members and $35 for nonmembers. Space is limited to 15 participants. Please sign up by using the coupon on page 15.

—Virginia Hayes

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**Lotusland Inaugurates Junior Docent Program**

LOTUSLAND IS PLEASED to welcome Sunny Brucker from Crane School and Rachel Kulchin and Chereyce Perkins from Anacapa School as our first “Junior Docents.”

The trio completed a six-week training course where they learned about the plants and garden features of Lotusland and how to interpret the garden to schoolchildren. They are now ready to assist in leading student tours of the garden during the spring and summer.

This pilot program is open to middle school and high school students and can serve as community service credit.

For more information about the Junior Docent Program, please call Connie Buxton at (805) 969-3767, extension 107.

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**Photos by Virginia Hayes**

Sunny Brucker and Chereyce Perkins
Friends of Lotusland

We Welcome New Members Who Joined in December 2004, January and February 2005

LEVEL I
Ms. Anna Abbot
Mr. Dennis Allen
& Ms. Jenny Cushie
Mrs. Lois Baessler
Ms. Tisha Bohr
Mrs. Gail Brockett
Ms. Sara Cunningham
Dr. & Mrs. James H. Deen
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Eslinger
Mrs. Shirley Ferguson
Ms. Mary Lynne Franzia
Ms. Nancy Frick
Ms. Patsy Grazioni
Ms. Peggy Harris,
P.M. Harris Landscape Design
Mrs. Jon Henricks
Mr. & Mrs. Phil Hiromerides
Dr. & Mrs. Robert W. Holmes
Ms. Gloria Horton
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ingrum
Mr. Michael Jacquemeton
Ms. Michelle Jensen
Mr. & Mrs. Burton Kendall
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Kitchen
Ms. Susanne Linn
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Miller
Ms. Karen Mittelstadt
Ms. S. Mobraaten
Ms. Betsy Mooney
Ms. K. Nodinger
Ms. Dawn O’Brien
Mr. Don Olsen & Ms. Nancy Franco
Mr. Andre Philippi
& Ms. Caroline Green
Mr. Jed Redwine
Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Rohal
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Sargent
Ms. Diane C. Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Odom Stamps
Mr. & Mrs. Bayard Storey
Ms. Pat Stotko
Dr. & Mrs. Jack Sturm
Dr. David Thomas
Mr. Dennis Thompson
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Thomson
Ms. Robin Updike
Mr. Len Van Nostrand
Mr. & Mrs. David Yonashiro
Ms. Mary Zeoli
Dr. Joseph Zorskie

LEVEL II
Ms. Louise Andrae
Mr. Randy Arnowitz
Robert Bannister & Janaki Wilkinson
Mr. Dennis D. Black
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Carter
Mr. Kenneth M. Curtis
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Dangleis

LEVEL IV
Ms. Louise Andrae
Mr. Randy Arnowitz
Robert Bannister & Janaki Wilkinson
Mr. Dennis D. Black
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Carter
Mr. Kenneth M. Curtis
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Dangleis

Lotusland Gratefully Acknowledges Donations

December 2004, January and February 2005

2004 ANNUAL APPEAL
Care of the Garden
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence N. Bailard
Ms. Diana Miller
& Mr. Brian Hershkowitz
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Tavis
Miss Shirley Toeppner
Mr. Chris Woods

Desert Garden
Byron & Nancy Wood

Education
Ginny Brush, Brush & Associates
Mr. & Mrs. Nigel Buxton
Ms. Lorraine M. McDonnell
& Mr. M. Stephen Weatherford

General
Mrs. Frances G. Armstrong
Mr. Victor K. Atkins, Jr.

Ms. Bernadette Bagley
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Bowey
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Brittingham
Mr. & Mrs. Monte Brown
Dr. & Mrs. David Buchanan
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Burton
Mr. Robert Cameron
Mr. & Mrs. Colin Campbell
Mr. & Mrs. Wesley Carter
Ms. Maxine Carter Brasseur
Mr. Bill Cathey & Ms. Pam Pilcher
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Champion
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Crawford
Ms. Jane S. Dyrruff
Dr. & Mrs. Robert J. Emmons,
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Bill & Beth Jones
Mrs. Robert M. Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Kendall
Mrs. Jacqueline Lunianski
Mr. John Magnuson
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick Maison

Continued on page 14
Members Who Have Increased Their Level of Support

December 2004, January and February 2005

LEVEL II

Anne & Bill Dewey
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick DeYoung
Ms. Beth Hamilton
& Mr. Michael Van Atta
Mr. & Mrs. Stan Harfenist
Ms. Letitia Harper
Miss Debbie Hughey
Dr. & Mrs. Elliot Frager
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Sweet
Mr. & Mrs. Peter F. Ziegler
Ms. Katie Zwarg

LEVEL III

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Mr. John Hayes
Mr. & Mrs. James H. Hurley, Jr.
Mr. John Magnuson
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Dr. & Mrs. Timothy Rodgers

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Mrs. Leslie A. Phillips
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Mr. Leonard Somdahl
Mr. Harrison E. Stroud
The Randolph and Patricia Scott Foundation
Ms. Louise E. Thielst
Ms. Frances Tibbits
Dr. & Mrs. Steven Timbrook
Mr. Curt W. Uritz
Mr. John Wesolowski
& Mrs. Margaret Olowski
Ms. Deloria Zabriskie

LOTUS SOCIETY

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Hillemann
Estate of Margo F. Osherenko

GRANTS

The Samuel & Margaret Mosher Foundation
The Orfalea Family Foundation
The Outhwaite Foundation
Harold Simmons Foundation
Michael Towbes

CACTUS GARDEN MATCHING GRANT

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Island View Nursery
Ganna Walska Lotusland Registration Form

PAYMENT METHOD:  □ Check enclosed  □ VISA  □ MasterCard  Expiration date ________________________
Card number ____________________________ Signature ____________________________
Member name ____________________________ Phone ____________________________
Address ___________________________________  Phone ____________________________

One member pass ($15 value) may be used as partial payment for any event.
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

Garden Tours with Virginia Hayes
Saturday, April 23 and Saturday, June 4 • 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
$85/members  •  $95/nonmembers EACH TOUR
INCLUDES LUNCH AND DELUXE COACH TRANSPORTATION FROM LOTUSLAND
PLEASE CHOOSE DATE(S):  □ April 23  □ June 4
No. of people attending ___________  No. of cars_______________________ Total $ ________________________

Twilight Tour
Saturday, June 25 • 6:00 to 8:15 PM
$30 EACH
CHECK ONE:  □ Guided tour  □ Self-guided tour
No. of people attending ___________  No. of cars_______________________ Total $ ________________________

Digital Photography Workshop
Saturday, July 16 • 8:30 AM to Noon
$30/members  •  $35/nonmembers
No. of people attending ___________  No. of cars_______________________ Total $ ________________________

Garden Patrons and Garden Benefactors
Enjoy Special Benefits

Our Garden Patron and Garden Benefactor membership levels include unlimited free admission to Lotusland and an invitation to a very special event.

This year’s event is on September 8 at “Solana,” the fabulous Montecito estate of trustee Sandra Nicholson and her husband Bill.

Built in 1901 for Frederick Peabody of Arrow Shirt fame, the 21,000-square-foot home and gardens have been extensively restored and renovated by the Nicholsons.

For more information about these membership levels, please contact Anne Dewey, Director of Development, at (805) 969-3767, extension 105, or by email at andewey@lotusland.org.
2005 Spring and Summer Member Events

Many Lotusland events are open to nonmembers, so please let your friends and neighbors know about the great activities we offer. Children are welcome at many events, and Family Tour Days are every Thursday and the second Saturday of each month (see the listing below). We hope you enjoy the year 2005 at Lotusland.

Saturday, April 23
Garden Tour with Virginia Hayes
9:00 AM–4:00 PM
Please see details on page 4 and use the coupon on page 15 to register.

Saturday, April 30
Members’ Family Day
The Incredibles, Starring Lotusland’s Amazing Plants
10:00 AM–4:00 PM
See details and reservation form on pages 8 and 9.

Saturday, May 7
Self-guided Tours for All Members
1:30–4:30 PM
Members $15 or use admission passes. Call 969-9990 for reservations 9 AM–NOON, M–F.

Saturday, June 4
Garden Tour with Virginia Hayes
9:00 AM–4:00 PM
Please see details on page 4 and use the coupon on page 15 to register.

Saturday, June 25
Summer Twilight Tour
6:00 TO 8:15 PM
Please see details on page 10 and use the coupon on page 15 to register.

Saturday, July 16
Digital Photography Workshop
8:30 AM–NOON
Please see details on page 12 and use the coupon on page 15 to register.

Saturday, July 24
Lotusland Celebrates The Wizard of LotOZland
4:00–8:00 PM
See details on page 11.

Saturday, August 13
LotusFest!
NOON–4:00 PM
See details on page 4.

Saturday, August 20
Self-guided Tours for All Members
10:00 AM–12:30 PM
Members $15 or use admission passes. Call 969-9990 for reservations 9 AM–NOON, M–F.

Family Tours
Family tours for all ages are offered every Thursday at 10:00 AM and 1:30 PM and the second Saturday of each month at 10 AM and 1:30 PM (except between mid-November to mid-February). Family tours are child and parent friendly and are separate from regular adult tours. Adult members $15 or use admission passes; children under ten $8; children under two free. Call 969-9990 for reservations 9 AM–NOON, M–F.