Did you know that lotus flowers “heat up” during sex? Did you know that lotus seeds that have lain dormant for a thousand years have germinated and grown? Did you know that both the Asian and American lotus have been used for food and medicines for untold generations? And did you know that the lotus family is one of the earliest groups of flowering plants on the earth?

Long revered as a symbol of purity and spiritual transcendence by Hindus and Buddhists, the Asian—or Indian—lotus (Nelumbo nucifera ssp. nucifera is its botanical name) has been grown in Asia, India and Egypt for centuries. It also grows naturally throughout Malaysia, New Guinea and Australia. What many people may not realize is that the yellow-flowered American lotus (N. nucifera ssp. lutea) thrives in similar aquatic habitats all over the eastern half of the North American continent from southern Canada to Florida.

Lotuses grow in water up to six feet in depth at the margins of still lakes or ponds and slow-moving rivers. The rhizomes (horizontal stems) of the plant spread along the muddy surface of the bottom of the pond or lake. From them the large leaves (up to 30 inches across) are borne on stout stalks that emerge from the water to a height of three feet or more. Flowers rise up even higher, to open in full sun. These flowers are outsized as well and when fully open may be more than a foot in diameter.

Besides being quite extraordinary in appearance, lotuses possess some distinctive and fascinating properties. To start, the surfaces of the leaves are coated with secretions of waxy substances much like many other aquatic

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and terrestrial plants. In their watery environment, this serves them well by shedding water and yet retaining just the right amount of moisture in the tissues within. What researchers have discovered is that this wax forms in a uniquely intricate crystalline pattern that is the most efficient design of its kind yet to be found in nature. In fact, it is so good at shedding foreign material that engineers have modeled a number of industrial applications on it, including protective coatings and fabrics.

Lotus flowers also have some interesting adaptations. Most people are familiar with the broad cone-shaped pod that forms in the center of the blossom and holds the seeds. For a short time when the flower first opens, this structure, along with the stamens and petals, is the source of measurable radiant heat. Through chemical changes within the cells, enough heat is produced to raise the temperature within the flower as much as 18°F above the surrounding air temperature. This phenomenon is not unique to lotuses as it occurs in several other groups of plants, most notably some of the aroids or philodendron relatives. Speculation about the possible function of this adaptation ranges from the obvious role it plays in helping to volatilize the perfume that attracts pollinating insects to actually aiding the insects themselves by warming them up for flight.

The seeds of lotuses are getting some attention by researchers these days, too. It has been repeatedly proven through radio-carbon dating that lotus seeds can persist in old lakebeds for more than a thousand years. These discoveries were made in China in recent years, and several attempts to actually sprout and grow the plants have been successful. In one instance, of the six seeds found aged 95 to 1288 years old, two-thirds sprouted and grew. They are now growing in the United States Botanic Garden in Washington, DC. Others from different locations are thriving in national and commercial nurseries in China and the U.S.

The paleohistory of the genus is also remarkable. Leaves analogous to modern lotuses have been identified.
in the fossil record from the late Cretaceous period (146 to 65 million years ago). This makes them among the oldest flowering plants still alive.

The two widely separated areas of the current lotus-growing range have been physically separated since early in its history. Movement of the earth’s crustal plates created the rift between our modern continents beginning in the Jurassic period, 206 to 144 million years ago. The two subspecies seem to have spent millions of years apart and yet are still very closely related. The current division of lotuses into two subspecies is based on this disjunct distribution, physical differences in flower color and in the length of the stamens, and by molecular analysis of their DNA.

As you might expect with a plant that has been around so long, humans have found any number of uses for it. Both the seeds and rhizomes are edible. The rhizomes contain high-quality starch, and the seeds are a source of carbohydrates and protein. Asian and Native Americans ate them cooked fresh or dried for later use. The large leaves make convenient packaging material for wrapping food to be steamed in and, worn upside down on the head, provide an effective temporary rain hat. Some medicinal properties are also ascribed to the seeds and they are used to “strengthen the spleen and cultivate the heart” among other things. Because of its long history as a cultivated plant, the distribution of both the Asian and American subspecies is assumed to be much larger than it might otherwise have been.

Of course, the exotic beauty and size of the lotus flowers have led to their extensive cultivation as ornaments. The history of hybridization and selection of unique forms of the Asian lotus dates back centuries in China. Records of double-flowering forms are noted in the Wei Jin dynasty (220 to 581 AD) and others grown for their variation in color from the wild type are noted in the Tang dynasty (618 to 907 AD). The lotus flower was revered in Hinduism and subsequently Buddhism. As these religions spread throughout Asia, the lotus was carried along with their followers and introduced to many other countries. Its cultivation continues today, and the number of cultivars now exceeds 300 in China and Japan. In more recent times, the American lotus has contributed its yellow color to the palette, and hybridizers in the western world as well as in the east have introduced many new creations by crossing it with other forms.
Unexpectedly Captivating. A feast for the eye! Incredible! Beautiful and peaceful. A unique and special garden! A must for plant lovers!

These are only a few of the one-liners posted on TripAdvisor by people who have recently visited Lotusland. These and many more guests, who come from around the globe just to visit Lotusland, went on to describe their experiences as unequaled and worth the trip to Santa Barbara just to see a garden that cannot be experienced anywhere else.

Guests who made comments on TripAdvisor are fascinated by the cultural history of the garden, as well as the story of the garden’s creator, Ganna Walska, and they mention the richness of cultural artifacts at Lotusland. Many more admire the garden’s beauty and serenity. They cite the exceptional maintenance of the gardens and the incredible diversity of plants from all over the world. They also compliment the engaging and knowledgeable docents leading garden tours. Interestingly, each guest also posted adoration for one or two particular gardens that most impressed them. It seems everyone has a favorite!

Of TripAdvisor’s 150 things to do in Santa Barbara, Lotusland is consistently ranked number two—second only to the Santa Barbara County Courthouse. On top of that, national and international garden writers are constantly blogging about Lotusland, and Travel & Leisure magazine calls Lotusland “one of the nation’s most beautiful gardens.”

In my seven years as Director of Lotusland, I am never at a loss for words to describe the gardens, yet words always prove to be inadequate. How can one sum up Lotusland in an elevator speech? Many first-time visitors arrive thinking Lotusland is just another garden, only to finish the tour with effusive and joyful praise. One must see the garden to understand.

We are so fortunate to have Lotusland in our community. I hope that you will immerse yourself in this magical place, again and again, to reconnect to that “thing” about Lotusland that brings you joy, peace and inspiration. How would you describe Lotusland? Join any one of the travel blogs, leave us a message on Lotusland’s Facebook page or drop us a note. If the garden doesn’t render you speechless—like it sometimes does to me—we would love to hear your portrayal of our very special Lotusland.

Warm regards,
Gwen L. Stauffer

COLLECTIONS NEWS

Aechmea blanchetiana

With its fiery orange foliage, the Brazilian bromeliad Aechmea blanchetiana stands out in any garden, even among the myriad bromeliads at Lotusland. We now have 12 individuals of an uncommon and extremely red form of this plant known as Aechmea blanchetiana ‘Wally Berg,’ thanks to a generous donation by Ron Caird of Por La Mar Nursery in Goleta.

Por La Mar Nursery had acquired its plants from Bird Rock Tropicals in Encinitas, which had in turn received their initial plants in 2000 from the renowned bromeliad grower John Anderson of Corpus Christi. The plants that were grown in Encinitas developed an amazing red color, but were slow to offset and flower so they were shared with a grower in Cairns, Australia, who then flowered the plant, produced seed and supplied some seed in return to Bird Rock Tropicals.

John Anderson named this form of Aechmea blanchetiana for his travelling partner and the person who initially collected the plant in the wild, Wally Berg. Wally was an extraordinary bromeliad grower, often winning top awards and best in show at bromeliad conferences and shows. His private bromeliad collection was considered one of the finest in the world, with many unusual and rare species. Wally was a supporter of the Bromeliad Society International, donating many rare plants to sales and auctions, often for the benefit of the Bromeliad Identification Center at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens. He was known for his extensive travels throughout tropical America in search of new and unusual bromeliads and is credited with many discoveries and introductions.

This striking red form of Aechmea blanchetiana ‘Wally Berg’ comes from Bahia, Brazil.

—Paul Mills
RESERVATIONS
- Reservations are required for all tours, whether docent-led or self-guided.
- Call 805.969.9990 between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Friday, and 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Saturdays.
- The tour season starts mid-February and ends mid-November.
- Tours start no later than 10:00 AM and 1:30 PM, Wednesday through Saturday.
- There is a window of arrival for all tours, even for members who choose self-guiding: morning tour arrival time is between 9:30 and 10:00 AM, leaving Lotusland by noon; afternoon tour arrival time is between 1:00 and 1:30 PM, leaving Lotusland by 4:00 PM.
- Cancellation of reservations is important, and we greatly appreciate a call if your plans change.

SATURDAYS
- Plan ahead and book early for Saturday tours as these fill quickly.

WHEELCHAIRS
- Wheelchairs are available to borrow upon request when making your reservation. Lotusland staff and volunteers are not available to push wheelchairs.

DOCENT & SELF-GUIDED TOURS
- Docent tours are always available, but only members and their accompanying guests may schedule a self-guiding tour.
- Please stay on pathways at all times and avoid blocking guests while painting, sketching or photographing. All photography or artwork is for personal use only and cannot be sold without a Location Licensing Agreement.
- Contact the reservation office if you want to add additional guests to your tour.

MISCELLANEOUS
- Every docent leading a tour has a radio and can call for assistance.
- Smoking or taking plant cuttings is prohibited.
- No pets are allowed; but we accept service animals with valid papers.
- The main house is used for offices and is not a part of the tour; however, the restrooms are available—enter through the main front door.
- There are two opportunities to enjoy a lunch at Lotusland. As a Cultivator-level member or higher, you can enjoy a picnic for 10 once a year between the morning and afternoon tours. Enhanced tours with lunch can be scheduled by calling Courney Tentler at 805.969.3767, ext. 116. If you have questions, please call Membership Manager Bambi Leonard at 805.969.3767, ext. 120.
ON A DAY that started with morning fog but turned into warm sunshine, we thanked and celebrated our members of *The Lotus Society* with a special recognition luncheon. Held at the beautiful home and gardens of Paul and Jane Orfalea, more than 100 members enjoyed delicious food with wine generously provided by Presqu’ile Winery. *The Lotus Society* is now in its 15th year with 142 visionary members who understand the critical need to build Lotusland’s endowment. These very special supporters have made planned or outright gifts of $10,000 or more to Lotusland’s restricted endowment.

For more information about *The Lotus Society*, please contact Lotusland’s Director of Development, Anne Dewey, at 805.969.3767, extension 105.

Crystal and Cliff Wyatt

CRYSTAL WYATT is the Vice-President of Ganna Walska Lotusland and has served on the board of trustees since 2012. She has served on the Lotusland Celebrates committee since 2008 and was the co-chair from 2010–12, and she has been a docent since 2005! Crystal’s long relationship with Lotusland is an inspiration to all the staff and volunteers.

When asked why Lotusland was important to her, Crystal said: “It is important to me because it uniquely represents the intersection of history, art, culture, personality, botany and ecology. The visual displays are stunning and that was what initially captivated me, but what keeps me engaged is working to preserve the garden for future generations. It was actually my in-laws, Phil and Carolyn Wyatt (long-time Lotusland supporters), who 12 years ago insisted I should go on a public tour. I was so astonished by the beauty and magic that I immediately became a member so that I could do self-guided tours and spend time alone in the garden to just experience it quietly.”

Crystal said it is hard to list all of the reasons why she believes the garden is a treasure to the community. “It is such a wealth of botanic material and knowledge in sustainable horticulture. The aesthetic experience provides such joy to visitors and their curiosity, interest and imagination are piqued with the history, architecture and personality of Madame Walska. It is impossible to take the spectacular variety of plant life in this world—many of them represented at Lotusland—for granted once you see the garden. Most of these plants I will never be able to see in their natural habitat, yet they can be grown and displayed in this magnificent garden. Lotusland educates visitors about habitat loss, use of pesticides and the interrelatedness of the plant and animal kingdoms. It also provides an incredible educational benefit to children with our Fourth Grade Outreach program. Lotusland inspires both children and adults to consider careers or to volunteer.”

Continued on page 7
The view looking from the water garden north into the now open palmetum.

**The New Palmetum Is Now Open**

The original swimming pool constructed in the 1920s (now the lotus pond) was set in a long 514-foot axis that extended from a tile bench at the north end to the wishing well at the southern end. When Madame Walska purchased the property in 1941, plantings flanking the long axis were not maintained. Eventually, she planted a number of Butia palms as well as at least one hybrid Jubaea X Butia along the northern edge, but made no other significant changes to the area. We recently cleared all the overgrown weedy species from the area and restored what is known from just a few historic photos of the path and bench.

Under the direction of Eric Nagelmann with Lotusland staff input, the slopes were terraced and limestone rocks placed as retaining walls. The brick portion of the original path was re-laid, and a compacted gravel path topped with naturally colored crushed rock was restored. Another sloping path was designed to connect the driveway with the path circling the water garden, which will eventually make this area ADA compliant and available to visitors with disabilities for the first time.

**Help Make Lotusland’s Wishes Come True**

**Electric Generator**

To keep Lotusland operating during our frequent power outages and to alleviate the necessity to rent an event generator.

Subaru RGV13100T: $5000

**Garden Path Friendly Wheelchair**

This wheelchair is lightweight with wheels better designed to take on the uneven terrain of the garden pathways.

Karman LT-980 Ultralight K4: $400

To donate funds for these items, please call Anne Dewey, Lotusland’s Director of Development, at 805.969.3767, ext. 105, or email her at adewey@lotusland.org. Thank you so much to our incredible members who have helped us with our Wish List items—it makes such a big difference in our day-to-day operations, and we are very grateful.

Continued from page 6

in the fields of architecture, nurseries, opera singing, landscaping, garden administration and many more.”

Crystal and her husband Cliff became members of The Lotus Society in 2011. She commented that “I would like to say I became a member because I was aware of how important endowment is to the garden, but the truth is that Lori Meschler—my all-time favorite docent and Lotusland mentor—turned to me one day and said ‘Why aren’t you a member of The Lotus Society? You should go do it now.’ I actually went straight to the office and talked to Anne Dewey about joining! It was a big commitment for Cliff and me, but Anne worked with us so that we could fulfill our pledge over a period of years. It has brought our family great joy to know that we have participated in Lotusland’s endowment program for this wonderful garden.”

As for the future, Crystal thinks that “Lotusland has an incredibly talented and committed staff with the vision to maintain and enhance the garden and the collections to their maximum potential. The only thing that slows this process is the challenge of raising funds on an annual basis. It is my dream that the community will support this treasure and sustain it in perpetuity by assisting us with our endowment program that will provide both annual and future support. My dream continues with the hope that everyone who has enjoyed a special experience at Lotusland will value the garden and contribute in any way they can…rather a ‘pay it forward’ campaign to maintain and preserve Lotusland for current and future generations. I want my children and their children to be able to enjoy the splendors of Lotusland as Cliff and I have been privileged to be able to do.”

Crystal grew up in Santa Barbara and has always been fascinated by the natural world and ecology. During college she earned a B.S. in Biology and a M.P.H. in Public Health. She and Cliff have two young children and two big dogs! In addition to caring for her family and spending countless hours at Lotusland, Crystal is a trustee at the Santa Barbara Zoo, serves on the Zoofari committee and volunteers with Direct Relief Women. Thank you to the Wyatt Family for everything they do for Lotusland!
AFTER YEARS of intense study of the history of Lotusland’s Japanese garden and months of planning with our landscape architects, Derrik Eichelberger and Paul Comstock, and approval from the Lotusland Board, we are pleased to release the conceptual plan for the renovation of the Japanese garden. The Lotusland/landscape architect team adhered to the foremost guiding principle that, if Ganna Walska could ever set foot in the garden after it is renovated, she not only would recognize it as hers, but she would consider it completed. According to our records and archives, the vision she and Frank Fujii had for the garden was never fulfilled. With that in mind, we developed a plan that would accomplish these over-arching goals:

**PRESERVE OR RESTORE IMPORTANT HISTORICAL ASPECTS AND FEATURES OF THE GARDEN**
Much of the garden infrastructure is failing, and some garden features have been altered, eliminated or added since Walska’s death so that the garden is no longer historically accurate.

**INCORPORATE WALSKA’S AND FUJII’S LONG-TERM VISION FOR THE GARDEN**
We have applied Walska’s and Fujii’s future intentions to guide all decisions on preservation, revision or removal of current garden features and, most especially, the addition of new features.

**RECONSIDER ADDITIONS AFTER WALSKA’S DEATH THAT WERE NOT IN LINE WITH HER AND FUJII’S VISION**
Some features—the wisteria pergola and the Shinto shrine, for example—came after Walska’s death but were not prescribed in her or Fujii’s vision, yet they remain a part of the history of the garden. The plan is to improve upon the execution of these post-circa features.
IMPROVE THE POND’S OVERALL AESTHETIC AND WATER QUALITY TO ACHIEVE A SUSTAINABLE BIOLOGICAL SYSTEM

Walska’s and Fujii’s archived vision, which included changes to the pond and improving the water quality so the Koi fish are visible, has always been a Lotusland priority.

RESOLVE THE LACK OF ACCESS FOR VISITORS, AS WELL AS FOR MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT

Not surprisingly, the ADA Accessibility Report indicates that persons with physical disabilities cannot access the gardens. The conceptual plan includes widening of paths, restoring historic paths that disappeared and altering some paths so that the Japanese, aloe and water gardens are fully accessible for the first time.

REVITALIZE THE PLANT COLLECTIONS

Hazardous and badly aging plants will be removed and replaced where appropriate. Many original plantings that have disappeared over the decades will be restored. New plantings will occur as per Walska’s and Fujii’s vision.

With the conceptual phase completed, the architectural team has begun design development to determine the details of the renovation. In the meantime, Lotusland has launched a campaign to share those details as they develop and raise the funds needed to accomplish our goals. Preliminary estimates place the project at $3 million. The vast majority of Lotusland members and visitors tell us the Japanese garden is their favorite, and we hope all of you will help us, in any way you can, to preserve this important, historic garden and finally honor Walska’s and Fujii’s vision.

View from new Miwatasu landscape overlook near the main drive, overlooking the lotus viewing deck, renovated pond and enhanced path, to the preserved stone bridge beyond.

View from the existing stone bridge, with an enhanced rock garden and path to the left. Lotus viewing deck on the other side of the pond and a cherry tree walk beyond.

View from the reconstructed Wisteria Pavilion, with an accessible path through the restored azalea beds below. Opened view to preserved cycad hill, renovated Koi pond and enhanced rock garden.

View from new Miwatasu landscape overlook near the main drive, overlooking the lotus viewing deck, renovated pond and enhanced path, to the preserved stone bridge beyond.
Horticultural Happenings

Jason Bonham recently accepted a horticulturist position at The Berkeley Botanical Garden. Jason maintained the fern garden since beginning his employment at Lotusland in September 2011. We were very sorry to see Jason go, but are happy he was able to take another step in his career. We’re sure he will be very successful in all his future horticultural endeavors, and we wish him all the best.

Karen Fortunado was hired to replace Jason. Karen, a recent graduate of the Santa Barbara City College Environmental Horticultural program, worked at Lotusland this past summer as a work experience student. She worked with Jason in the fern garden and will build on that experience to maintain the garden going forward.

Born and raised in Carpinteria, Karen has had a life-long interest in plants and plant maintenance. She remembers her dad rewarding her with Star Wars figures for completing gardening projects around the yard when she was a little girl. She enrolled as an art major at SBCC, but switched to environmental horticulture in 2012. She is a Certified Green Gardener and completed the Permaculture Design Certification course at Quail Springs.

Karen is a very competent, friendly, compatible person. Say “hello” to Karen the next time you’re in the garden.

—Mike Iven

FAVORITE LOCALLY NATIVE PLANTS

One of Lotusland’s favorite native plants to use for hedges is the Catalina cherry (Prunus lyonii). We have found it to be a hearty drought-tolerant plant that not only provides useful screening but is also great looking. Native plants like this can often substitute for our usual hedges that grow too fast and need more water. The Catalina cherry also provides important habitat for beneficial insects and wild birds. While the plant can be tightly sheared, at Lotusland we incorporate a “coarse to fine” pruning technique whereby a gardener prunes only the tallest shoots and lightly trims the sides, if at all. In this way, the plant maintains a more natural look, and it also keeps the plant healthier as excessive shearing is detrimental to plant health.

—Corey Welles

Summer Twilight Tour

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15 • 3:00 TO 5:30 PM

The very popular Twilight Tour allows you to enjoy the waning days of summer in the garden at Lotusland. Members and their guests can explore the garden on their own or choose a docent-led tour.

Begin the tour with a cool beverage or glass of wine in a commemorative Lotusland wine glass. Enjoy a light snack and refill your glass in the main residence’s sunken drawing room from 4:00 to 4:45 PM.

The magical light of the season combines with the blooms and colors of the garden to create a very memorable event. Cost is $65 members, $75 non-members. Reservations are required. Please call 805.969.9990.

Visitors enjoy the magical afternoon light in the aloe garden.
Lotusland Celebrates Spectacular Auction Items
For more information or to place an absentee bid, visit lotusland.org

YOGILAND
This extraordinary one-day private retreat for 12 combines healing therapies, yoga classes and centering practices with a delicious lunch provided by Merci To Go.

A SENSATIONAL FEAST FOR TEN
An intimate dinner for ten at Lotusland with an incredible meal by chef Ayda Robana of Om Sweet Mama includes cocktails and hors d’oeuvres followed by a delectable three-course dinner paired with cellar-select wine provided by VIP guest Rajat Parr.

BRONZED BOTANICAL: A COLLECTORS DREAM
This bronze sculpture of a botanic specimen from Lotusland was created by the internationally renowned contemporary artist Zoe Crosher, whose artwork is in the LA County Museum of Art and New York’s MoMA.

JEWELS OF INDIA
Take a bit of the exotic home with this striking Lotus Root Bracelet, a one-of-a-kind stunner inspired by Lotusland and handcrafted by fine jeweler David Lee Holland in their Soho, NYC workshop.

LotusFest!
SATURDAY, JULY 11 • 2:00 TO 5:00 PM

Guests enjoy wine tasting on the main lawn from a dozen of Santa Barbara County’s premier vintners, delectable hors d’oeuvres, beer and live music. Experience a relaxing afternoon at this casual, fun event.

Lotus flowers open during the day and close at night. Prime viewing during LotusFest! is until 3:00 or 4:00 PM, so make sure to allow time to savor the spectacular lotuses in bloom.

Book early as this popular party will sell out! Tickets are $95 for members and $105 for non-members. Space is limited. Reservations are required and may be made by calling at 805.969.9990.

Behind the Scenes Tour
WITH CURATOR VIRGINIA HAYES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17
2:00 TO 4:00 PM

Take a walk behind the scenes with Curator Virginia Hayes to see some of the hidden features and inner workings of the garden. Highlights of the tour include the wellhead inside Lotusland’s George Washington Smith-designed pump house, the nursery and propagation areas, and our acclaimed composting and compost tea brewing operation.

Free to Lotus Keeper level members; $45 for general members. Reservations are required and may be made by calling 805.969.9990.

An up-close and comprehensive look at Lotusland’s acclaimed compost tea brewing operation is a fascinating part of the Behind the Scenes Tour.
Members’ Family Day, May 30, 2015
Birds in Paradise
GENERously SPONSORED BY Thomas & Nancy CrawFORD, JR. IN honor of their grandCHILDREN

The banner pictured at right thanks our generous Members’ Family Day sponsors.

Crawford family members take a break from an afternoon of fun and games.

Unbridled creativity on display at the craft table.

A young artist adds to this year’s masterpiece.

Parrots on Parade were a big hit with the audience.

Sharing a memorable moment at Members’ Family Day.

Face painting and ice cream—it doesn’t get any better than this.

The rubber duck runnel race is always a hit.
Lotusland visitors are treated to botanical and historical information about the estate, interpreted by docents who undergo extensive training to prepare them for giving public tours.

Beginning October 5, Lotusland will offer a 10-week docent training course providing all the necessary information for conducting a tour of the garden. Instructors are drawn from Lotusland staff, the Santa Barbara community, and other California academic and horticultural institutions.

These informative and enjoyable Monday morning sessions last from 9:30 AM to NOON.

A reception for prospective docents will be held on Monday, September 14. This event offers prospective docents an opportunity to learn more about docent training and to meet some of the very knowledgeable docents who currently lead tours of the garden and friendly staff members.

Most of our last graduating docent class were Lotusland members before they joined the training class.

Lotusland Volunteer Picnic

On June 8, Lotusland celebrated the generosity of our 250 volunteers. These dedicated individuals gave more than 16,600 hours of their time leading tours, staffing the Garden Shop, maintaining the grounds, serving on boards and committees, assisting with special events and helping the office run more efficiently. We thank our volunteers from the bottom of our hearts—Lotusland could not function without your efforts. We are always in need of enthusiastic volunteers eager to assist in the operation of this world-class botanic garden. Please give us a call and find out how you can get more involved with Lotusland. For more on volunteering, visit us online or contact Volunteer Coordinator Kitty Thomassin at 805.969.3767, ext. 112.
LOTUSLAND Members
WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS WHO JOINED IN MARCH, APRIL AND MAY 2015

LOTUSLAND MEMBERSHIP MANAGER
Bambi Leonard makes every effort to ensure that donor information is correct.

If you find an error or omission, please contact her at 805.969.3767, ext. 120 or bleonard@lotusland.org.

LOTUSLAND Members
Deborah & Ari Zlotnik
John & Janice Wilder
Jo & Jon Wideman
Paul Weaver & John Weeden
Robert Warner & Isabel Downs
Florence & Kent Vierich
Gail & Terry Tyler
Ms. Nancy Tubiolo
Sylvia Toro & Eric Newman
Mr. & Mrs. John Thayer
Shelley Sund & George Balmer
Mr. & Mrs. Garrett Speirs
James & Stephanie Sokolove
Kelly Smith, Certis Capital Management
Jack Scranton & Vicky Clarke
Lis Schwitters & Steven Lippman
Alex & Debbie Saucedo
Thomas Sanchez & Astrid Barsamian
Anil Sain & Beverly Nesmith
Courtney Robinson & Kai Kinder
Alyson Roberts & Chris Galea
Deborah & R. Kent Richards
Jill & Brady Redman
Bradford Potter
Frank & Barbara Randall
Jill & Brady Redman
Deborah & R. Kent Richards
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Summer and Fall 2015 Member Events

Many Lotusland events are open to non-members, so please let your friends and neighbors know about the great activities we offer.

Saturday, July 11
LotusFest!
2:00 TO 5:00 PM
See details on page 11. Please call 805.969.9990 to register.

Sunday, July 26
Lotusland Celebrates: Passage to India
4:00 TO 8:00 PM
Please contact Courtney Tentler at 805.969.3767, ext. 116 to reserve your space.

Saturday, August 15
Summer Twilight Tour
3:00 TO 5:30 PM
See details on page 10. Please call 805.969.9990 to register.

Saturday, August 22
Music in the Garden
4:00 TO 7:00 PM
See details on page 5. An E-invitation will be sent to all members.

Monday, September 14
Coffee Reception for Prospective Docents
9:30 AM
See details on page 13. Please call Kitty Thomassin at 805.969.3767, ext. 112 to reserve your space.

Thursday, September 17
Behind the Scenes Tour with Virginia Hayes
2:00 TO 4:00 PM
See details on page 11. Lotus Keeper level members attend free; members and their guests $45. Please call 805.969.9990 to register.

Saturday, September 19
Exceptional Plants: Lotusland Auction and Sale
1:30 TO 5:30 PM
For ticket information or to donate a specimen plant, contact Patrick Reynolds at 805.969.3767, ext. 109.

Monday, October 5
Docent Training Begins
9:00 AM TO NOON
See details on page 13. Please call Kitty Thomassin at 805.969.3767, ext. 112 to reserve your space.

Tours
Tours are offered at 10:00 AM and 1:30 PM, Wednesday through Saturday from February 16 and November 15. Call 805.969.9990 for reservations.

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