OPENING THE GARDEN
How Lotusland Became Montecito's World-Renowned Garden
LETTER FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Members and Friends,

DURING OUR 25TH ANNIVERSARY LOTUSFEST CELEBRATION on July 8th, we take time to revel in the ephemeral beauty of our namesake, the Indian lotus. Each flower lasts two days only, but the extravagant profusion of blooms brightens the water garden all summer. As the days shorten with the receding season, the lotus plants slowly go dormant in autumn, their rhizomes resting deep in mud, leaving the pool to appear empty.

The annual life cycle of the lotus reminds me of the paradigm of abundance and scarcity. The quote, “No mud, no lotus,” by Buddhist monk Thích Nhất Hạnh, teaches us that one is essential to the other, and beyond our melancholy in time of paucity we can expect joy in the returning time of plenty.

Our 2018 gala, entitled Lotus Rising: Lotusland Celebrates Gems of the Garden, has two themes. The first, Lotus Rising, cheers the return of the lotus blooms that peak at the end of July, for which our gala is perfectly timed. This theme also acknowledges the sorrow of our community’s recent suffering and losses, but rejoices for our community’s returning strength and beauty.

The second theme, Gems of the Garden, celebrates the remarkable vision of our garden founder, Madame Ganna Walska. She loved gems, carefully selecting both gems and jewelers with whom she could collaborate to create extraordinary pieces, and in her lifetime she assembled an incredible collection of jewels for which she was well known. When Ganna Walska arrived at Lotusland, she turned her creative vision and energy into amassing a new collection of “gems” — the rare plants that fill her unique and exquisite garden.

Ganna Walska went beyond what any garden designer would dare by carefully selecting precious stones, rocks and object d’art that, when inserted into the garden, complimented the plants they were nestled among. Before she was finished, Ganna Walska made the sensationaly bold move of selling a significant portion of her jewelry collection specifically to raise $1 million to fund her final collection of horticultural gems, the cycads, which are the most important scientific collection at Lotusland. Ganna Walska called the rarest of these — three Encephalartos woodii — her crown jewels.

Lotusland Celebrates is our only — but crucially important — fundraising event, made even more important this year by the income losses we are facing from the winter disasters. Yet, even in this scarcity, the garden gives us an abundance of beauty, tranquility and delight.

We hope you will visit the garden this summer to view the lotuses, count blessings, feel contentment, and be transformed.

Gwen L. Stauffer
Chief Executive Officer

MISSION

We preserve and enhance the unique, historic estate of Madame Ganna Walska, care for and improve its collections, and develop its conservation and horticulture programs, so they educate us, inspire us, and advance our understanding and appreciation of the importance of plants in our lives and in the life of the planet.
LOTUSLAND WELCOMES NEW TRUSTEES

LOTUSLAND IS PLEASED to announce the addition of Stephen P. Schaible and Rick Vitelle to our Board of Trustees.

STEPHEN P. SCHAIBLE is a Senior Advisor with Evercore Partners, a global independent investment bank specializing in mergers and acquisitions. In a 36 year career he has lived and worked in New York, London and Tokyo. Before joining Evercore in 2007 he headed the global chemicals industry practice at Citigroup, and prior to that, at J.P. Morgan. He moved to Santa Barbara from New York City in 2012 with his partner, Daron Builta, and is actively involved with the Music Academy of the West and All-Saints-by-the-Sea. Stephen has been a member of the Lotusland Finance Committee since 2016, and also serves on the board of the Family Independence Initiative, an innovative Oakland, CA, organization dedicated to changing the narrative around families in poverty in the United States.

Stephen has a deep love of gardens and landscape architecture, and recently completed an extensive re-landscaping of his Montecito garden, working with Isabelle Greene. He is a 1981 graduate of Princeton University with a degree in history.

RICK VITELLE is currently the Executive Vice President and former CFO of CalAmp Corp., a technology company providing wireless communications solutions. Previously he served as CFO of SMTEK International, an electronics manufacturing services provider, Corporate Controller of Data-Design Laboratories, a diversified technology company and Senior Manager with Price Waterhouse, where he earned his CPA license. He holds a B.S. in Business Administration from Cal Poly Pomona where he graduated summa cum laude and an MBA from UCLA.

Rick and his wife Sheila live in Ventura County and Rancho Mirage. During their travels they have toured dozens of public and private botanical gardens throughout Europe, Morocco, South Africa, South America and Asia. Closer to home, Rick and Sheila are supporters of Ganna Walska Lotusland (since 2003), The Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, Ventura Botanical Gardens and The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens in Palm Desert. Rick is also a member of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America and the Mediterranean Garden Society.
WHEN VISITORS MARVEL at the beauty of Lotusland during tours and events, they may never realize the tenacity it took from Lotusland’s first trustees and staff to open the gardens to the public. It was a controversial and passionate story in Montecito that led to Lotusland’s opening day 25 years ago.

When Madame Ganna Walska passed away in 1984, her Foundation focused on garden clean-up, building maintenance, and setting up an operating organization to transition the property from a private estate to a world class public garden. For decades, Madame Walska had welcomed thousands of people each year for tours of her garden, typically as fundraisers for other organizations in Santa Barbara. But after her death, the Foundation had to overcome challenges from the community to keep that tradition alive, even for a very small number of people, while it sought a formal conditional use permit (CUP) from Santa Barbara County. Key people leading the endeavor during those early years included Trustees Arthur R. Gaudi, Madame’s estate attorney, Carol Valentine, who also served as chair of the Montecito Water District board of directors from 1976 to 1991, and Reginald Faletti, Madame’s accountant and advisor. They soon hired Steven Timbrook, Ph.D. as Lotusland’s Executive Director in 1986, and the journey began.

Mr. Gaudi, still of counsel with Price, Postel & Parma, LLP, Madame Walska’s long-time law firm, recollected how surprised the early Board and staff were with reactions from some of the neighbors. “Sharing Lotusland with the public and preserving 37 acres of important botanical resources seemed like such a good thing,” observed Mr. Gaudi, while shaking his head at the memory of how hard it became.

Madame’s history of garden tours and events was the basis for the Foundation’s first application concept to the County that eventually included a request for up to 30,000 visitors annually. That application was opposed, largely by several Montecito residents who were concerned about conditional use permits in general, and had already argued against a simple request for more enrollment at Westmont College. These issues were tied to concerns about a regional drought. Several people even suggested that subdividing Lotusland for dozens of single family homes was preferable to opening it as a public garden. The request by Lotusland to establish itself as a pre-eminent botanic garden proved far more difficult than the early trustees and staff had imagined.

Following multiple town hall meetings and hearings, Lotusland eventually revised its application down to 13,700
visitors per year, and 225 days of operation and a host of other restrictions to ensure it would fit in with the neighborhood with no impacts or change, but this revised application still met with resistance. Controversy persisted in letters to newspaper editors, and at hearings of the Cold Spring School Board, the Montecito Association, the County Planning Commission and eventually the County Board of Supervisors.

During this six-year process, there were over 60 meetings that the early trustees, Steve Timbrook and his then assistant Anne Dewey attended. Some people, including neighbors, made increasingly dubious allegations to substantiate their claims that Lotusland would damage the neighborhood if it became a public garden, by doing such things as building a Ferris wheel. Through this process Lotusland attracted an increasing number of supporters who could appreciate the vision of Madame Walska and the value of a public garden in their community.

Lotusland asked me to share this story about the noble efforts and steadfast commitment by the first Board and staff to a difficult and protracted process because I lived through much of it with them. As the County's transportation consultant during the last three years of the process, I attended many of those hearings and heard the arguments and debate until the Board of Supervisors granted approval to open the garden in a narrow 3-2 vote – and for less than what Lotusland requested. This first original permit had a three-year phased implementation plan whereby the gardens could have 5,000, then 7,500, then 9,000 people per year, only following a successful compliance hearing before the County Planning Commission each year.

After the Board of Supervisors' approval, Lotusland asked me to join its staff as a project planner to help meet all the conditions of approval in the CUP, and manage the visitor center construction. It was an honor to join this amazing team and help open Lotusland to the public as the treasure it is today. During most of those days I admired the persistence of the people who made it happen, and even now I think back to how devoted those first trustees were to Madame Walska’s vision, “…to develop Lotusland to its maximum capacity into the most outstanding center of horticultural significance and of educational use.”
Horticultural Happenings

LESSONS FROM LOTUSLAND

Madame Ganna Walska has often been referred to as Lotusland’s head gardener, but she was also in many ways the lead garden designer. As a maker — rather than a follower — of fashion, Walska directed the design of her wardrobe, costumes, jewelry and stage sets. At Lotusland, Ganna Walska found a new creative outlet - the art of garden design. Her unique, aesthetic eye flowed seamlessly from the world of fashion and opera to that of plants and gardens, where she once again imposed her own style. In the 1940s, renowned landscape architect Lockwood de Forest wrote to Madame Ganna Walska, “You are wonderful! I never would have thought of using cactus at the front door or many of the other plantings you suggested. They are very handsome and I congratulate you.”

NEW GARDENERS

Holly Huff and Marshall Stymer

HOLLY HUFF joined the garden crew in February after interning at Lotusland for the previous seven months as part of the Santa Barbara City College Environmental Horticulture program. Originally from Chicago, Holly earned a BFA in Photography/Film from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her great love of the outdoors and plants motivated her move to Santa Barbara and to pursue her studies in Ecological Restoration and Management. She visited Lotusland several times and knew she wanted to work in the gardens. Holly focuses her energies on the Australian Garden and the Main Drive agaves. She says she “could not be happier” that her internship led to a full-time position. Outside of work Holly enjoys hiking and camping.

MARRIALL STYMER was first introduced to Lotusland in 2017 as the Sustainable Plant Healthcare Summer Intern and later he transitioned to a full-time position working specifically in the Aloe Garden. He grew up in Corvallis, OR, and earned a bachelors degree in Agricultural Science from Oregon State University. Marshall says, “working in the Aloe Garden has been enjoyable as I can contribute to not just the health of the plants in this garden, but to the visitor experience throughout Lotusland. Each garden provides a unique and transformative experience.” He goes on to say that, “working alongside the staff and the unique plants has been amazing and I’m so happy to have been given this opportunity.”

Thank you to the John Percival and Mary C. Jefferson Endowment Fund for the support of our Sustainable Horticulture Summer Intern and to the Towbes Foundation and Ted Friedel and Coleen Richardson Friedel for their support of the Santa Barbara City College Work Experience Program.
COLLECTIONS NEWS
Exceptional Plants: 
Jubaea chilensis, A Monumental Palm

LOTUSLAND is known worldwide for its exceptional plant collections, some of the most impressive being the palms. palms are some of the oldest plants at Lotusland, dating to the late 1800s when the property belonged to Ralph Kinton Stevens, one of the area’s early nurserymen. They were prominently featured in his “Catalogue of The Palm and Citrus Nursery” with 49 different palms being offered. Stevens stated they “are among the finest and handsomest of all plants, and my collection contains all the best and hardiest varieties.” Of the almost 200 different palms currently at Lotusland, one stands out from all the rest — Jubaea chilensis, the Chilean wine palm.

Containing only the one species, Jubaea is found in central Chile and in modern times has been harvested for its sweet sap, greatly reducing its population. Known as kan-kan to the indigenous of the area, the coquitos (small coconut-like seeds) were an important food source. Once numbering in the millions, it is now estimated that there are about 120,000 individuals existing in the wild with the two largest populations in protected areas — La Campana National Park, north of the capital city Santiago, and Hacienda Cocalán, a private reserve to the south. Jubaea is the most massive of all palms and the southernmost in the Americas. It grows in an extreme environment of hot, dry summers and occasionally below freezing temperatures in the winter, making it one of the hardest of palms.

Ralph Kinton Stevens offered Jubaea chilensis, then as J. spectabilis, for sale in his 1893 catalog for $1.50 each, describing it as “a majestic tree.” Stevens’ source of Jubaea seeds, and many other seeds, was from ship captains travelling the coasts of the Americas. Stevens once noted that his crop of seed wasn’t germinating only to find that the neighborhood boys had found they were good to eat and dug them all up.

The collection of Jubaea at Lotusland is one of Stevens’ greatest legacies. Although we don’t know exactly when they were planted, the two massive specimens guarding the Sycamore Canyon gate are thought to be around 120 years old and are among the oldest specimens in the state. Lotusland has more than 40 mature plants of Jubaea on the property in what must be one of the greatest concentrations in a public garden. As well, we have planted second generation plants to assure this species will tower over the garden for hundreds of years to come. — Paul Mills

EXCEPTIONAL PLANTS
Lotusland Auction & Sale, Saturday, October 6

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES THIS EVENT POSSIBLE. The Exceptional Plants Sale includes an extensive array of hard-to-find silent auction selections, culminating with an exciting live auction where the most exceptional specimens, donated by friends of Lotusland, go under the gavel.

We invite you to join the festivities!

PLANT DONATIONS To donate rare plants or inquire about the event, please contact Paul Mills at pmills@lotusland.org. Depending on the value of the donation, the donor will be eligible for one or two tickets to the event.

EVENT SPONSORS To become an event sponsor please contact Rebecca Anderson, at randerson@lotusland.org. Sponsors receive tickets to the 500-person capacity event and are featured in the printed program, on Lotusland’s website, in digital and print Newsletters, and in our Annual Report.

All proceeds from the auction are used to care for and support Lotusland’s botanical collection.

Our Exceptional Plant Committee is a small group with a huge impact! These dedicated volunteers work tirelessly to spread the word about Exceptional Plants and to reach out to prospective plant donors, while donating plants themselves, to assure this event continues to grow and is the best of its kind.

EXCEPTIONAL PLANTS COMMITTEE
Randy Baldwin (San Marcos Growers), Robert Bett (PlantHaven), Cristi Walden (Sea Crest Nursery), Jeff Chemnick (Aloes in Wonderland and Lotusland Research Associate), Mike Tully and Tony Krock (Terra Sol Garden Center).
**Auction Items**

**A Belmond Andean Adventure**

*ESCAPE IN LUXURY* with a five-night trip for two. Your adventure begins at the Belmond Miraflores Park in Lima, Peru. You will travel to spend two nights at the Belmond Hotel Montesario and venture by the Belmond Hiram Bingham train to the 15th century Incan citadel Machu Picchu. Then spend the night at the Belmond Rio Sagrado beside the Urubamba River before returning to Lima for a final night at Belmond Miraflores Park.

**A Dinner Party in Paradise**

*ENJOY AN INTIMATE EVENING* of fine dining with a private dinner for ten at Lotusland. Elizabeth Colling and Joe Hafner of MERCI will create a delectable dinner expertly paired with wines by sommelier Stephane Colling. Valerie Rice of Eat Drink Garden will adorn your table. This is a rare opportunity to host an unforgettable evening at Lotusland.

**Lotus Rising: A Ring by Daniel Gibbings**

*THE LOTUS RISING RING* is a one-of-a-kind piece, brilliantly designed and handcrafted with precious metal. This 18K royal yellow gold ring with custom-cut blue sapphires surrounded by 3D diamond accents is a jewelry collector’s dream. High karat gold, vibrant precious gems and multi-layered metalwork characterize the distinctive look of esteemed jeweler Daniel Gibbings.

**Enemy of the Average:**

*“Bouton” Earclips by Suzanne Belperron*

OWN A PIECE OF HISTORY from the jewelry collection of Ganna Walska. Created by revolutionary jeweler Suzanne Belperron, these platinum and gray gold earrings are set with two mabé pearls and surmounted by two sparkling European cut diamonds. Gifted from the collection of Madame Ganna Walska by her family.

When shopping at Verdura and Belperron through August, mentioning Lotusland will provide a donation to the garden.

**Party of Eight: An Unforgettable Wine Lovers Exclusive Trip to Napa**

YOUR PARTY WILL ENJOY a day away beginning on a private jet journey from Santa Barbara to Napa. A limousine will transport you to a luncheon, tour and tasting at the famed Napa Valley Reserve. After a day of dining and tasting, you will complete your journey back to Santa Barbara and end with a stay at the beautiful Belmond El Encanto.

**Russell Young Masterpiece: Coco Chanel**

OWN A DIAMOND DUST silk screen masterpiece of Coco Chanel created by renowned British-American artist Russell Young. Famed fashion designer Coco Chanel is remembered for her trademark suits, little black dresses, and timeless designs that continue to inspire. Printed in gold atomic on linen, the piece measures 38 x 30 inches.

**Club James: Host a private event at the Famed Sheats Goldstein Property**

HOST AN INTIMATE GATHERING in the modern John Lautner masterpiece, the Sheats Goldstein House. You and your guests will tour the spectacular hillside home, enjoy cocktails poolside and be led by landscape designer Eric Naglemann to explore the gardens and a James Terrell art installation. Complete your event at the private nightclub, Club James, complete with a DJ and lightshow.
THIS LAST MAY, Anne Towbes graciously hosted the West Coast debut of the full collection of exquisite Verdura and Belperron jewels for special guests, including the Lotusland Celebrates Gems of the Garden Committee and Honorary Committee.

The day before, Jim Haag, Managing Director of Verdura and its sister company Belperron, gave a riveting talk to Lotusland supporters in Hahn Hall at the Music Academy of the West in his lecture entitled: The Artistry of 20th Century Jewelry: Verdura and Belperron. Here he shared the remarkable history of two master jewelers, Duke Fulco di Verdura and Suzanne Belperron, and their emergence onto the world scene in 1920s and ’30s Paris. Despite unique styles that evolved a world away, Verdura and Belperron became sought after by the same influential clientele, including Ganna Walska, Mona von Bismarck, Daisy Fellowes, Elsa Schiaparelli, the Duchess of Windsor, and Diana Vreeland. Event Chair Belle Hahn Cohen welcomed guests and Gwen Stauffer, Chief Executive Officer, opened the program with a presentation on Ganna Walska Lotusland, discussing the Innovative, Transcendent and Timeless beauty of the garden, along with the history of its genesis and beloved and audacious founder, Ganna Walska.

Oscar de la Renta Collection to Debut at Lotusland

Oscar de la Renta will show Pre-Fall and Fall 2018 looks in Lotusland’s gardens beautifully illustrating the botanical prints of the collection and the surroundings of Lotusland.

“Oscar was as an avid gardener and adored Lotusland. In fact, he had a succulent ‘room’ in his garden in the Dominican Republic, the design of which was inspired by what Oscar saw at Lotusland. Given the opportunity to be part of the Lotusland Gala seemed like a great fit and a perfect way to honor Oscar.” — Alex Bolen, Oscar de la Renta Chief Executive Officer

In anticipation of the event, friends of Lotusland are invited to experience the new Oscar de la Renta collection at the Montecito pop-up boutique. The shop, located at Montecito Country Mart, will be open from July 16 to August 26 and a portion of the proceeds will benefit the Santa Barbara Bucket Brigade to advance our community’s recovery.

Generous Corporate Sponsors of Gems of the Garden include Oscar de la Renta, Verdura and Belperron, Belmond, Daniel Gibbings Jewelry, duo Events and Catering, with media sponsorship by Santa Barbara Magazine.
We are excited to welcome Steve Hanson and his incredibly talented team as new partners on the project to take over construction of the wheelchair accessible paths, which has already begun on the south side of the garden, and all landscape installation.

In late 2017 we broke ground on this project with 75% of funds raised. The Thomas fire and mudslide interrupted the campaign as well as the project. With our goal in sight, we hope all our members and supporters will be inspired to join us in rebuilding this iconic garden.

OVER A YEAR AGO WE STARTED taking the Japanese Garden apart, carefully and deliberately, to save trees, lanterns and koi that are iconic to the garden. We drained the pond to dry it out over the summer so that equipment could enter without getting mired in the clay mud. This process of “de-construction” is a key step in garden renovation, but it can be emotionally difficult to see a beautiful space destroyed. Pablo Picasso famously said, “Every act of creation is first an act of destruction.” Now, a year later, the Japanese Garden is showing signs of its rebirth as the most tranquil and loved garden at Lotusland.

With the excavation of tons of clay complete, we are now forming the new edges of the pond to prepare for the installation of the liner. We have built the foundation for the new Torii landing, which will allow visitors to gather at the bottom of the Torii steps. The concrete foundations for the south bridge and lotus viewing deck have been constructed, and the wood bridge and deck are being fabricated in the shop of master carpenter Jamie Nelson. At the same time, a new foundation is being built for the garden’s iconic stone bridge.

Shortly after the foundations are constructed, the liner will be installed on the pond’s south side in three layers. First, geotextile fabric will be placed on the bare ground to protect the liner from protruding objects like rocks and roots, then a 30-millimeter PVC liner is set in place, neatly tucked in at the pond’s top edge. Then this is sealed with a layer of concrete to protect the liner on top. As the concrete is installed, rocks that previously graced the pond edge will be put back in place. We anticipate the pond to be fully constructed by this autumn.

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TOP: Foundation for the lotus viewing deck is nearly completed.
ABOVE: The Torii landing will create a gathering place at the bottom of the steps.
ON JUNE 3 The Lotus Society members gathered for our annual appreciation event and enjoyed the opportunity to explore an extraordinary plant collection and toast its inspiring collector, event host Dr. Richard Ross. Dr. Ross is a horticulture aficionado and retired Santa Barbara pediatrician. He received his medical degree from Tufts University School of Medicine and shortly after became a collector of rare agaves, palms, cactus, as well as pythons and freshwater stingrays. Dr. Ross has donated plants to Lotusland’s Exceptional Plants Auction and Sale, and this year made arrangements to join The Lotus Society by making future provisions to gift his entire plant collection to Lotusland. Chief Executive Officer Gwen Stauffer, describes this gift as “visionary” and says Richard’s collection includes the exceptional examples of the plant world. Peggy Wiley, Chair of The Lotus Society, thanked our founding members Dr. Robert Emmons and Mr. Arthur Gaudi for their leadership in developing this group and acknowledged Dr. Ross for following in their tradition of transformational philanthropy through support of Lotusland’s endowment.

The Lotus Society endowment totals nearly $3.7 million — an eight-fold increase in the past nine years. We attribute this incredible success to the 170 members of The Lotus Society, who cherish Lotusland as a gem in our community.

To discuss your legacy, call Rebecca Anderson at 805.967.3767, ext.104 to learn more about the conservation work at Lotusland, which is supported through your planned gifts.
**THANK YOU TO OUR GARDEN LOVERS MEMBERS**

**CHAMPION**
Rachel and Meir Bartur

**VISIONARY**
Amanda Bacon & Gregory Rogove
Ted Friedel & Coleen Richardson Friedel

**STEWARD**
Patricia & Larry Durham
Linda & Fred Gluck
Katherine Kims & Eric Ng
Mercedes Millington & Jack Mithun
Connie and John Pearcy
Patty and Michael Rosenfeld
Lynda Weinman & Bruce Heavin

**GUARDIANS**
Tania and John Burke
Sophie and Derek Craighead
Hermine and Gary Gallup
Mr. Arthur R. Gaudi
Cyndee Howard & Lesley Cunningham
Kim L. Hunter & Paulo P. Lima, Ph.D.
Carole MacEhenny
Suzanne and Gilbert Mathews
Dennis McGowan & Rudsie van Brussel
Lady Leslie Ridley-Tree
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Uwe Rollé
Jeffrey F. Romano & Stan A. Shayer
Stephen P. Schaible & Daron S. Builta
Mrs. Judy Shea
Mrs. Anita P. Sheen
Susanne and Gary Tobey
Mr. Christopher J. Toomey
Alison and Lyle Turner

**BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP**

**Shop and Save**

**AS A LOTUSLAND MEMBER**, you enjoy many members-only privileges and discounts. *The Lotusland Members Shop and Save* program allows you to show your valid membership card — prior to a cashier ringing up your order — to receive valuable discounts at many nurseries and garden specialty stores.

Just in time for sprucing up your garden, we are pleased to announce three new partners offering you discounts, as well as highlight the complete list of longtime participants.

The generosity of these partners is very much appreciated. In order to receive a discount it is very important for you to ask for your discount prior to the cashier ringing up your order. Please be prepared to show your current membership card; some retailers may ask for photo identification.

Your discounts are not applicable for gift certificates, special orders, sale or consignment items, and may not be combined with other special offers or promotions. You can download the current list at www.lotusland.org/Join/MembersShopandSave

**NEW PARTNERS:**

| **7 Day Nursery** | 10% discount; excludes sale items |
| **Carpinteria Valley Lumber and Garden Center** | 15% discount; only applies to Garden Center |
| **Pro Garden Supply** | 20% discount; excluding sod |

**SUPPORTING PARTNERS:**

| **Australian Native Plants** | 10% discount |
| **Baron Brothers Nursery** | 20% discount; excludes sod, citrus or avocados, or other offers |
| **bō-tan-ik** | 20% discount on succulent gardens and succulent plants |
| **Carpinteria Landscape Nursery** | 15% discount |
| **Eye of the Day** | 15% discount: may not be combined with other offers or promotions, excluding sale items, consignment items or special orders |
| **Green Thumb Nursery** *in Ventura, Newhall, Canoga Park, El Toro and San Marcos* | 10% discount; excludes sod, gift certificates and promotional offers |
| **Island Seed & Feed** | 10% discount; excluding gift certificates and other offers |
| **Island View Nursery** | 15%; excluding sale and consignment items |
| **Knapp Nursery** | 10% discount ; excluding sale items |
| **Mediterranean Antiques & Garden** | 20% discount; excluding sale items |
| **Seaside Gardens** | 10% discount |
| **The Lotusland Garden Shop** | 10% discount: in person as well as online |
ON THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY of Lotusland being open to the public, we celebrate our volunteers, without whom the garden would cease to exist.

On Monday, June 11, Chief Executive Officer Gwen Stauffer welcomed Lotusland volunteers and thanked them for helping make Lotusland so amazing. At a picnic in the Theatre Garden, we honored these valuable members of the Lotusland team and thanked them for their service to the garden. The picnic always falls near Ganna Walska’s birthday, June 24, so marking her birthday is a part of the celebration. Other staff members joined Gwen to offer thanks and recognition to all those gathered. The 243 volunteers contributed an astounding 22,548 hours to Lotusland in 2017! More than half of our volunteers are docents who lead both regular public tours and fourth grade outreach tours. Other volunteers help maintain the grounds, staff the Garden Shop, help in the greenhouse, assist with administrative projects and the newsletter, support special events and assist with our library and archives. Thank you so much to all of our dedicated volunteers!

WHEN PEOPLE ASK AL, “Now that you are retired, what far-away places and exotic sites do you want to visit?” Al responds, “Why go anywhere when I live in one of the most desirable vacation spots in America and every week, I visit one of the most exotic gardens in the world?”

Al originally hails from a small steel town near Pittsburgh and received a mechanical engineering degree from Penn State University. He moved to Los Angeles and worked first in aerospace and later as a diesel engine designer. Al later moved to San Luis Obispo and took a job with their County Air Pollution Control District and by night participated in stage productions, radio theater, and light opera. In the 1980s Al relocated to Santa Barbara and worked for the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District.

"...and every week, I visit one of the most exotic gardens in the world..."

Jeri Moulder, a member of his church and a long-time Lotusland docent, encouraged Al to enroll in Lotusland’s docent training class of 2014. He is forever grateful to Jeri for her suggestion. He said the docent training was well rounded, fact filled, and just plain fun. Al learned about the plant kingdom and made many interesting friends.

Al has turned his patio into a mini-Lotusland using plants from Lotusland’s Garden Shop. His favorite garden is the Cycad Garden and he has several species including a Cycas revoluta. Every time Al walks through the Cycad Garden, he whistles the theme from the movie Jurassic Park.

Al has experienced highs and lows in his life; he hiked to the peak of Mt. Whitney and visited Death Valley. He currently enjoys taking an occasional day hike in the nearby mountains or on the beach. He enjoys singing, historical novels, the arts and writing plays and comedy. He plans to become fluent in a foreign language and visit that country, and perhaps as an homage to Madame Walska, he will learn Polish.

One of the principles that Al lives by is to respect the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. What better place to practice that principle than at Lotusland?
WISH LIST
Help Make Lotusland’s Wishes Come True

Trimble Geo7X
This hand held GPS device will upgrade our plant records surveying technology and work directly with our existing mapping system. Plus Terrasync Standard and Pathfinder Office software. $10,600.

Acer C771T-C1WS Chromebook
These cost effective tools will be used for opinion collection surveys at the Visitor Center, processing memberships, purchases during events and for record keeping. The cost for two Chromebooks is $680.

Six Hystera PD502 Two-Way Radios
These radios are integral to our guests’ safety while on tours. Effective communication with the office and kiosk is an important part of our safety program. $450 each.

TO DONATE, please contact 805.969.3767, ext. 104. Thank you for your help with our Wish List. These tools make a big difference in our day-to-day operations.

WISHES FULFILLED
New Golf Cart Funded!

With the support of our community foundation and a select few special contributors, we are thrilled to debut our new passenger cart this summer. It is used daily for mobility-challenged guests, and during special tours and events. The new cart seats six for a safe, reliable and smooth ride. We are pleased to provide a truly first-class experience for all of our guests.

Special thanks to the following donors:
Celia Book
Judith Cardinal
Janice Potter and Robert Meadows
Santa Barbara Foundation
Gwen Stauffer and Mark Taylor

BECOME A LOTUSLAND DOCENT
Reception for Prospective Docents

Monday, August 27 • 9:30 AM
Docent Training Begins September 10

A RECEPTION FOR prospective docents will be held on Monday, August 27, offering an opportunity to learn about becoming a Lotusland docent, and to meet some of our current docents and friendly staff members. Many of our docents were Lotusland members before they joined the docent corps. On September 10, 2018, Lotusland begins a 12-week docent training course providing all the necessary information for conducting a tour. Instructors include Lotusland staff and other experts. These informative and enjoyable Monday morning sessions last from 9:30 AM to noon. Please tell your neighbors and friends about this fun opportunity to learn about, and experience, one of the top ten gardens of the world.

For more information or to make a reservation, contact Kitty Thomassin, Volunteer Coordinator, at 805.969.3767, ext. 112, or kthomassin@lotusland.org.
UPCOMING EVENTS

June 1 to July 21 • Daily During Tours
Darshan Photography Exhibit

PHOTOGRAPHER MANJARI SHARMA, born and raised in Mumbai, India, makes work that is rooted in portraiture addressing the issues of identity, multiculturalism, and personal mythology. Manjari, who has been recognized, awarded, published and exhibited internationally, exhibits nine large pieces from her Darshan series of stunning photographically recreated, classical images of Hindu Gods and Goddesses that are pivotal to mythological stories in Hinduism. The exhibit is part of the regular garden tour.

Sunday July 8 • 2:00 to 6:00 PM
LotusFest!

EXPERIENCE LotusFest! - a wine and beer tasting festival in Santa Barbara’s most exquisite setting. Join us for an extraordinary afternoon of libations, live music and delectable hors d’oeuvres as we celebrate the spectacular flower that is Lotusland’s namesake. This is a unique opportunity to spend an afternoon exploring the garden while sampling some of the area’s finest wines and beers. There is no better place for a party than Lotusland. Tickets are $100 for members and $115 non-members. Reservations are required, please call 805.969.9990.

Saturday, August 18 • 3:30 to 6:00 PM
Summer Twilight Tour

THE TWILIGHT TOUR allows you to enjoy the late afternoon light that enhances this magical setting. Begin with a cool beverage or wine in a commemorative Lotusland wine glass that is yours to keep. A light snack is served midway through in the sunken drawing room overlooking the lawn. Lotusland can take on a whole different feeling and appearance on the Summer Twilight Tour. Members and their guests can explore the garden on their own. Cost is $80 members; $90 non-members. Reservations are required. Please call 805.969.9990.
UPCOMING EVENTS

Space remains for the final three tours.

Please call now 805.324.8424, ext. 104 for more information or to make a reservation for the remaining garden events on:
• September 20
• October 20
• November 15

A special thank you to our Angel Series Sponsors
Peggy and Kurt Anderson
Pat and Ron Caird
The Garden Conservancy
LLWW Foundation
Suzanne and Gilbert Mathews
Mimi Michaelis
Gretchen and Jack Norqual
Connie and John Pearcy
Lady Leslie Ridley-Tree

Gardens in Paradise

A RARE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE THE MOST EXQUISITE AND STUNNING PRIVATE GARDENS.

We are well into our series of private garden tours, hallmarked by a collaboration with the Garden Conservancy, to benefit Lotusland in its 25th Anniversary year.

The series launched on April 26 and included two extraordinary private garden visits and a beautiful sit-down dinner. With the generosity of our hosts, Lotusland receives 100% of the proceeds from sponsorships and ticket sales! The second tour on May 31 was also fully subscribed, and began with a luncheon at Lotusland followed by a lecture by David Streitfeld, an historian of landscape architecture and retired professor in the Department of Landscape Architecture at the University of Washington. Mr. Streitfeld's book, *California Gardens: Creating A New Eden* (1994) was selected in 1998 by the American Horticultural Society as one of the "75 Great American Garden Books in 75 Years." He presented his lecture Historic Gardens of Montecito in Lotusland's Sunken Drawing Room, followed with a visit to two remarkable local gardens. The last tour of the day included remarks from the property architect, Mark Shields and a wonderful garden tour led by Lotusland research associate, Jeff Chemnick and property landscape architect, Derrick Eichelberger, and was followed by a wine reception.

Saturday, October 6 • 1:30 to 5:30 PM
THE ULTIMATE PLANT PARTY
Exceptional Plants
Lotusland Auction & Sale

THIS IS LOTUSLAND’S 7TH spectacular plant lover’s event—Exceptional Plants: Lotusland Auction & Sale. An exceptional day on the lawn at Lotusland features rare and specimen plants in an extensive silent auction; for a grand finale, there is a rousing live auction. The region’s top plant aficionados, collectors, serious gardeners and those who come out just for a great party all congregate to enjoy camaraderie, great food, specialty cocktails and an idyllic setting. Auctioneer Jeff Chemnick provides a lively commentary on the numerous rare and fascinating plants, many grown right here at Lotusland. Proceeds from the event are used to care for and support Lotusland’s botanical collection. Come for the plants, stay for the party! Early bird pricing before Sept 1; $65 members and $85 for non-members. After September 1 members $75; non-members $95. Call 805.969.9990 for reservations.
LOTUSLAND GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES DONATIONS

March, April and May 2018

JAPANESE GARDEN ENDOWMENT
Mr. Christopher J. Toomey

GRANTS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

MEDIA OUTREACH GRANT
Hutton Parker Foundation

QUICK RESPONSE CRISIS GRANT
Hutton Parker Foundation

SPEAKERS
James Hall, The Garden Conservancy
David Streatfield

VISITOR SERVICES DATABASE
Suzanne & Gilbert Mathews

PASSENGER CART FUND
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HAND HELD RADIOS
Ozzie Da Ros
Patti & Brian Herman
Gwen Stauffer & Mark Taylor

JAPANESE GARDEN RENOVATION
Garden Club of Santa Barbara

ADOPT A LANTERN
Scott Rowland in loving memory of Karen Ann Rowland

GARDENS IN PARADISE

UNDERWRITERS
Daniel Bifano & Allan Brostrom
The Garden Conservancy
Dorothy & John Gardner

GIFTS FOR THE GARDEN

Ms. Jacqueline E. Andrew
Tom Barton
Jennifer Bensinger
Mari Brooker
Rebecca Brooks in appreciation of docent Arlene Belmontes
Ms. Janet Caroline Brown
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Judith Anne McLaughlin
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Mari & Hank Mitchell in appreciation of docent Rachel Douglas
Mosher Foundation recommended by Alixe & Mark Mattingly
Bobbie Offen
Sarah & Sonny Phillips
Ashley Platz to honor her mother, Dawn Platz
Peggy Rand
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Valerie Spadoro
The Pasadena Garden Club, Inc.
Polly Turpin
Mary Weisenberger
Alexandria White & Brad Weals
Peggy P. Wiley & Wilson Quarré in appreciation of Corey Welles for A Buzz in the Insectary Garden! Focus Tour and in appreciation of Paul Mills & Anna Bowers for the Curious About Curation? Focus Tour

Mary & Chuck Wilson

IN HONOR OF LEO SMITH’S 1st BIRTHDAY
Dinah & Ricardo Calderon
Stefani & David A. Jackson
Scott Reed
Beth & Will Skidmore
Merryl & Chuck Zegar

IN MEMORY OF VIRGINIA HAYES
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Ms. Lori Kraft Meschler
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IN MEMORY OF JILL VANDER HOOF
Mr. Harlis Maggard

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Christine Allen & Gerald Jacobs
Mark & Laura Bacon
Mr. Michael Furner
NEW LOTUSLAND MEMBERS

We welcome new members who joined in March, April and May 2018

GARDEN LOVER MEMBERS

CONSERVATOR
Stacey & Harry McMullan

CULTIVATOR
Melika & Tom Adams
Alexandra & Charles Morse
Mr. & Mrs. Trevor Patiison
Jeannette & Kevin Root

ADVOCATE
Sally & Mark Egan
Judith Leon
Anastasha Rousso & Evan Schoolnik
Leslie Von Wiesenberger

GENERAL MEMBERSHIPS

FRIEND
Denise Filotas & Tom Fenole
Nicole & Tyler Furek
Arline & Robert Gray
Holly Kirkpatrick
Ashley & Jay Lott
Marcus Lundell & Bill Basiliko
Christine & Joseph Means
Anais Pellegrini & Jim Kearns
Ron Ritchhart & Kevon Zehner
Alexandra Vorbeck
Cindy & Ken Yuen

FAMILY
Diane & Sudhir Anand
Kristy & John Braud
Sara Brucker & Jake Rand
Mia & Joshua Chancer
Pamela & John Craig
Crystal & Michael Francis
Richard Gioiosa & Simon Jones
Terri & Ross Harris
Elizabeth & Robert Koenen
Sarah Kuehl
Susan & Glenn Lerner
Michele & Harry Medved
Sim & Brett Morrison
Terry Ryken
Stefani & Craig Shuman
Saundra & Will Wilson
Joseph & Hyang Yuhanna

DUAL
Kerry & Mike Allen
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Melinda & Alan Blinken
Erica & Lawrence Blitz
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Margaret & William Callahan
Rosemay & Chris Cameron
Elizabeth Case & Anthony Branco
Joyce Chen & Bryant Yung
Shelly Cole Moritz & Max Moritz
Linda Cooper & David Bell
Victoria Cooper Ph.D. & Shawn S. Magee
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Nicholas Di Liddo & Kaela Simeonoff
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Jennifer & David Eveloth
Kristen Franz Cantor & Zachary Cantor
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Ginette & Evan Pohlmeier
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Meredith Treadwell & Hilary Treadwell
Aida & Carl Troedsson
Sarah & Don Wolfe
Aaron Oliver Wood & Leah Brisby
Debbie & Robert Wright

INDIVIDUAL
Tommie Rae Barnett
Linda Bednarski
Valerie Bentz

SUMMER 2018
LOTUSLAND GARDEN SHOP
Locally Handcrafted Gifts

These limited edition coasters feature the artwork of the late Joseph Knowles, Sr. They depict the ink wash drawings of several shell fountain designs he proposed in the late 1950s for Ganna Walska.

Available in Lotusland’s Garden Shop and online at lotuslandshop.org. Members save 10% on all purchases.

RIGHT: $12.00 each; Set of four $45
Summer 2018 Events

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

Sunday, July 8
LotusFest!
Wine & Beer Tasting Festival
2:00 to 6:00 PM
See page 15

Through July 21
Darshan
Photography Exhibit
See page 15

Saturday, July 28
Lotusland Celebrates Gems of the Garden
3:30 PM
See page 8

Saturday, August 18
Twilight Tour
3:30 to 6:00 PM
See page 15

Monday, August 27
Prospective Docent Meeting
9:30 AM
See page 14

September 10; Mondays
Docent Training Begins – 12 weeks
9:30 AM to noon
See page 14

September 20,
October 20, November 15
Gardens in Paradise
See page 16

Saturday, October 6
Exceptional Plants Auction & Sale
1:30 to 5:30 PM
See page 16

Saturday, November 3
Spirit of Lotusland
3:00 to 5:00 PM

Arrival Times for Members

AM Visit
Gate opens at 9:30 and closes at 10:00 AM.

PM Visit
Gate opens at 1:00 and closes at 1:30 PM.

Call 805.969.9990 for reservations.