THE GANNA TOUR
Tracing Madame's Footsteps in Paris

GRAFTING WORKSHOP
Why Graft, Anyway?
LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of the Garden,

As we embark on another year during these most unusual times, I’m pleased to report that in 2022 Lotusland is thriving. This past year we focused on bringing more people to experience the benefits of nature immersion. It is because of our community of dedicated supporters and staff that we are able to protect and preserve this horticultural treasure trove.

With a stunning new book, a new cohort of docents in training, and important conservation projects in full swing, we are embracing 2022. We have an ambitious agenda to draft a long-range plan to drive our activities and to sustain Lotusland forever.

In this issue you will read more about early steps in this journey, including our Fall 2021 Guardians of the Garden benefit dinner and Guardian Members Circle — new programs launched last year. On May 21, 2022 we will recognize and honor our Guardian Members together with our Book Committee in celebration of our beautiful garden and to launch our forthcoming new coffee table book, LOTUSLAND, debuting this April. Reserve your first edition advance copy now!

Lotusland’s commitment to preserve the Garden for the future takes many forms:

- Environmental stewardship drives the conservation of our precious natural resources.
- Genetic stewardship enlivens our Garden and enriches the world through horticultural trades.
- Community stewardship provides jobs, encourages tourism, and promotes education.
- Guest stewardship ensures a safe, restorative, and healthy outdoor environment that cultivates a sense of wonder.
- Volunteer docents and garden attendants steward the garden by sharing information on our diverse horticulture, history, and landscape design and cultivation.
- Our horticulture staff are stewards of our plant collections and our ecosystem using organic material that nurtures and attracts beneficial bugs, birds, and butterflies.

Our deepest thanks to each of you. You are stewards of Lotusland. I think you will be moved by the many passionate people in these pages who enliven the spirit and support the garden sanctuary of Lotusland.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Anderson
Executive Director

P.S. Mark your calendars and join for an opportunity to reconnect in the gardens.
May 21, 2022 – Lotusland Garden Party & Book Release Benefit Luncheon
July 23, 2022 – Lotusland Celebrates: An extraordinary Summertime Gala
October 8, 2022 Exceptional Plants Auction
IN MEMORIAM
Hania Tallmadge

LOTUSLAND REMEMBERS JOYFULLY the life and legacy of Hania Tallmadge, who passed away just before the printing of this issue. Hania was connected to Lotusland since 1947, when her parents Leon and Marysia Puacz were invited by Leon’s older sister, Ganna Walska, to move from their home in Poland to her Lotusland estate in Montecito, California. Hania was nine at the time.

Hania became extremely close with her aunt and remained so for the rest of Ganna Walska’s life—accompanying her on trips to Los Angeles, local theatre and musical performances, as well as helping host fundraising events and parties at Lotusland. She has remained active in the Garden as an advocate and supporter throughout her lifetime.

She was very proud of the exceptional garden that her aunt helped to create and was a face of Lotusland with her signature kindness, and a wonderful smile and lilting laugh.

Hania was a friend to many Lotusland neighbors, Members, staff, and volunteers. In addition to sharing wonderful tales and memories of her aunt, with the support of Research Associate Rose Thomas and our former Director of Marketing and Communications, Bob Craig, Hania authored the book about her aunt’s wonderful life, Portraits of an Era.

We remember Hania as supremely elegant, unfailingly upbeat, and always gracious. Hania was engaged at Lotusland, serving as our Honorary Chair of Lotusland Celebrates in recent years and attending various Lotusland meetings and events. For more than a decade, Hania has been generously gifting many of Madame’s costumes and fashion items to Lotusland’s archives, as well as sharing proceeds from the sale of several very special pieces of Madame’s jewelry in support of the Garden.

She will be missed tremendously. An extended tribute will be included in a future issue of the Newsletter.
THE GANNA TOUR

Tracing Madame Walska’s Footsteps in Paris

By Rose Thomas, Lotusland Research Associate

AS LOTUSLAND’S RESEARCH

Associate, my time in the archives has given me a birds-eye view of Madame Ganna Walska’s life story. Tracing her footsteps in Paris allowed me to follow the moments of her life and took me to places that offered a deeper understanding of the life she lived before she found her forever home at Lotusland.

Late in 2019, Lotusland was asked to share scans of two original Cartier drawings from our non-living collection for an exciting new exhibition to be held at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs. Seeing this exhibition was the original impetus for my trip to Paris.

My first appointment on the “Ganna Tour” was at the Théâtre des Champs Elysées, the first Art Deco structure built in Paris. For five decades, beginning in 1921, Madame Walska owned this theatre. It has been an important venue for traditional as well as progressive music and dance for over a century. Upon meeting with the Directoric of Editions and Multimedia, Nathalie Sergent, I was given a personal tour of the grand theatre. During an engaging two hours, she shared her passion for the theatre, and I shared my knowledge of what it meant to Madame Walska.

Madame Sergent graciously invited me to return a few nights later to attend a performance. Seated in one of the best spots in the house, I found myself musing about the hundreds of iconic musicians, dancers, and performances too numerous to name in this article. While enjoying the orchestra, I pictured Madame Walska in 1933, on the stage, performing in Debussy’s opera, Pelléas and Mélisande.

The French government acquired Madame Walska’s shares of the theater in 1970. Later, she was awarded the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres in recognition of her artistic career and her outstanding contribution and sponsorship of cultural, musical, and dramatic events through the theatre.

Unfortunately, there are no visible acknowledgments of Madame Walska’s contributions in the theatre. After a discussion about this omission with Nathalie, a plan was proposed for a bi-lingual publication about Ganna Walska and her role during the years she was in possession of the Théâtre des Champs Elysées. This paperback would be similar to their other handsome booklets that the theatre produces. I also intend to advocate for a panel about Madame Walska to be added to others on the mezzanine walls that interpret the theatre’s past.

My next destination was Ganna Walska’s Parisian home from 1921–1939, located not far from her theatre. Having buzzed the intercom of the business that now occupies 2 rue de Lubeck, I tried to explain my purpose to a hesitant young lady named Clémentine. She allowed me a brief look at the interior of the entry floor and a split-level office. Everything was covered with white modern paneling, with no sign of the lovely tile
drawings, and Islamic masterpieces are dazzling and brilliantly displayed in the monumental spaces of this grand building. The exhibition is an impressive journey into the influence of the Islamic culture on the Cartier brothers and their designers. Set against the cultural context of Paris in the early twentieth century, cultural events of the era make it an important part of Cartier’s history.

Traveling the world to source pearls, Mughal gems, and carved stones, these trips also enabled the firm to collect antique jewelry, increasing their stock of apprets (fragments from disassembled jewelry and other objects). In 1937, Madame Walska purchased numerous ruby florettes from Cartier that would become primary components for their design and fabrication of a necklace, earrings, and tiara. While not featured in the exhibit, there are several pages devoted to these ruby pieces in the corresponding content rich catalog. The exhibition will be traveling to the Dallas Art Museum in April 2022.

On my last day, while strolling through the Place Vendôme, I decided to visit Van Cleef and Arpels, another jewelry house that considered Madame Walska a valued client. Leaving my card for their historian, a gentle sales representative listened as I explained my interest in the “Walska Briolette.” The firm had purchased the 96-carat, briolette cut, yellow diamond at the 1971 Parke Bernet auction of Madame Walska’s jewelry collection. Van Cleef & Arpels designers had incorporated the briolette into a brooch for a client, resembling a bird, with emeralds, diamonds, a sapphire, and the diamond briolette hanging from its beak. The sales rep explained that the brooch was currently in their collection and on display in their adjoining shop and invited me to see it.

The effect of viewing the diamond was unbelievable. Nothing could have prepared me for the impact of seeing a jewel of such quality and magnitude. This last unexpected experience was the perfect ending to my memorable tour of Ganna’s Paris.

**To learn more about Madame Walska’s life, her niece, Hania Tallmadge’s book, Ganna Walska – Portraits of an Era is available on LotuslandShop.org**
**Horticultural Happenings**

**ROSES MADE EASY**

*I AM ALWAYS AMAZED* how some rose plants seem to last forever. Certain homes in Santa Barbara have enjoyed growing the same beautiful roses for decades without having to purchase replacement plants. This fact shouldn’t come as a surprise since roses belong to a family of plants known for longevity—the Rosaceae. Some of the plants in this family such as toyon, apples, pears, and pyracantha are tough, many are capable of lasting over 100 years. Why then, do people keep buying rose bushes? It turns out growing roses organically allows them to live an extremely long time with fantastic performance. Organic soils clean the environment by digesting pollutants that land in the yard and provide food for good soil microbes, and increased biodiversity. Conversely, chemically fertilized roses sprayed with pesticides develop a host of problems, ruin soil physical properties, and kill off soil microbes. Homeowners that practice sustainable organic gardening can fully expect their plants to mature, last, and perform superbly.

Follow these three simple steps to keep your roses healthy for the long term:

1. Amend your rose beds with compost thoroughly before planting and maintain a rich layer of mulch from the start.
2. Do not compact the soil especially after deep watering – stay on paths and off the soil. When you must work on the plants lay down flat boards or similar material to protect the soil from foot traffic.
3. Feed only with natural organic fertilizers like alfalfa and fish. Labels should reflect only natural whole unprocessed ingredients you recognize.

These simple steps create a biological haven for roses to thrive. By supporting soil, and growing microbes a host of ecological services are activated, feeding and protecting your roses and other plants nearby for decades to come.

— *Corey Welles, Manager of Sustainability*

**ONLINE TUTORIAL:**

**PRUNING THE ROSES OF LOTUSLAND**

Grounds Supervisor Hannah French shares tips and tricks used at Lotusland to maintain our thriving roses.

Madame Walska’s Rose Garden was restored through the generosity of Pamela de Villaine and Charles W. Fairbanks in Memory of Henri Gaudin Villaine in Spring of 1998.

**ABOVE:** Long-time Lotus Society members Sally and Charles Fairbanks, Board Vice President David Jones, and Lotus Society members Pamela and Aubert De Villaine. Pamela and Aubert recently joined us from France, where they live full time. We were delighted to welcome them back to enjoy the Rose Garden they helped restore decades ago.

**ABOVE:** Corey Welles, Manager of Sustainability, prunes roses at Lotusland
FALL IN SANTA BARBARA brings cooler weather and the possibility of rain, making it an ideal time to establish new plants in the garden. This past October, Senior Gardener, Tim Cordero, and Assistant Curator, Anna Bower added 33 new ferns into Lotusland’s Fern Garden. These newly accessioned plants represent 15 taxa, 13 of which are new to our living collection. The bulk of the ferns were donated to Lotusland via the Hardy Fern Foundation (HFF) in addition to plants provided by longtime volunteers and donors Diane Dunhill, Ron Caird (Por La Mar Nursery), and John Goetz (San Simeon Nursery).

The HFF is based out of the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden in Federal Way, WA, and currently supports 18 affiliate gardens across the country. Lotusland has participated as an affiliate garden since 2008, serving as a trial site for the HFF annual fern distribution program. Data on fern horticultural worthiness and hardiness information are reported back to the HFF. Lotusland also takes part in the spore exchange, where spore is collected and shared among members to “encourage the study, cultivation, preservation, and propagation of ferns.”

Many thanks to these plant donors for enhancing the diversity of our collection. We look forward to watching our new accessions grow and thrive in the Fern Garden.

NEW FERN LIST:
Adiantum aleuticum var. subpumilum
Adiantum X tracyi
Adiantum aleuticum ’Imbricatum’
Anisocampium cuspidatum
Arachniodes davalliaeformis
Asplenium antiquum ‘Victoria’
Davallia canariensis
Dryopteris championii
Dryopteris cristata
Dryopteris hondoensis var. rubrisora
Parablechnum novae-zelandiae
Polypodium californicum
Polypodium scopulorum
Polystichum X dycei
Pyrrosia sp.

HIGHLIGHTS:
Adiantum aleuticum ’Imbricatum’ - A dwarf version of our western maidenhair fern. This delicate and low growing fern has densely overlapping imbricate leaflets resembling fish scales.

Asplenium antiquum ‘Victoria’ – A cultivar of the bird’s nest fern from Japan. Displays wavy ruffled leaf margins.

Parablechnum novae-zelandiae – A New Zealand native with dramatic salmon-pink new fronds that can reach 3-4’ long.

Pyrrosia sp. #12547 - Divisions of a specimen wild collected by Steve Hootman, Executive Director and Curator of the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden. This is a possible form of Pyrrosia lingua with dark purple veins.

COLLECTIONS NEWS
Fern Garden Plant-Out
By Anna Bower, Assistant Curator of the Living Collections

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CYCAD GARDEN
Renovation and Remediation

THE MUCH ANTICIPATED cycad remediation project is well underway and has already proven successful. More than 100 plants have been removed and those that were infected by Armillaria, (an oak root fungus) are now recovering in the new hoop house “hospital.” One of the main goals of the remediation was to excavate the existing soil to uncover buried woody material known to harbor Armillaria. A large amount of this host material was discovered in the form of stumps and roots. A detailed network of new subterranean drains has been installed and a sandy, fast draining soil mix imported and installed. Plants are already being replanted. This first phase of the project is also allowing us to create some much needed tour gathering areas and to regrade the pathways with the help of Derrik Eichelberger and Arcadia Studio. One path has already been made to be ADA accessible and a new view area with an overlook of the garden is being created. There is still much work to be done, and we are off to a great start.

— Paul Mills, Director of Conservation and Curator of the Living Collections

To learn more, or support this critical project, please call 805.969.3767, ext. 125.
SERVING THE COMMUNITY
Lotusland Gives Back

By Nikki Evans, Ph.D., Director of Visitor Services and Public Programs

GANNA WALSKA LOTUSLAND serves the community through programs that provide education, connection, and enjoyment. Recently, we hosted our second annual Healthcare Heroes Day. The day was attended by seventy visitors representing Santa Barbara Neighborhood Clinics, County Public Health, Emergency Medical Services, and the University of California-Santa Barbara COVID Response Team. The idea originated in 2020 to honor and thank hardworking healthcare providers in our community for their work during the pandemic. Lotusland staff and volunteers have enjoyed the opportunity to share the Gardens with these heroes!

In the midst of this global pandemic, Lotusland is proud to serve as a community asset, bolstering the wellbeing of those who experience its supernal spaces and tranquil vistas. However, as a public garden nestled in a private neighborhood, Lotusland is limited to just 20,000 visitors per year. In order to serve the broadest diversity of visitors within this attendance limitation, our array of public programs are offered strategically to identify and remove barriers to access. Our Open Pathways program allows us to partner with select Santa Barbara County organizations to bring to the Garden underserved segments of the population who might otherwise find it challenging to visit. Our Fourth Grade Outreach program gives students the opportunity to visit and learn about the importance of plants in their lives. Last year, Lotusland became part of Museums for All, a program of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), administered by the Association of Children’s Museums (ACM) designed to encourage people of all backgrounds to visit museums regularly and build lifelong museum-going habits. Those receiving food assistance can visit, at no charge with the presentation of a CalFresh (SNAP Electronic Benefits Transfer – EBT) card.

As we carry on Ganna Walska’s commitment to sharing the educational and horticultural significance of Lotusland, it is our goal that the only barrier to access should be our 20,000 annual visitor limit (as is required by the County of Santa Barbara).
Lotusland’s World Famous Gardens Revealed in New Book

WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE the launch of the upcoming book release. Years in the making, and entirely volunteer driven and donor-funded, this is the garden book you have been waiting for!

Stunning New Coffee Table Book
LOTUSLAND features a foreword by Marc Appleton and photography by Lisa Romerein.
Hardcover / 10” x 12” / 288 pages / 200 color illustrations

A beautifully crafted volume on the world-renowned gardens of Lotusland—the first such book in more than two decades and the first ever magnificent tribute to this international treasure. Marc Appleton is a celebrated architect and author of numerous books on architecture and design, including Ranches: Home on the Range in California. Lisa Romerein is a Los Angeles-based photographer and principal photographer for The House That Pinterest Built and The Art of Outdoor Living. Pre-order at lotuslandshop.org for $60. Members receive 10% off. Widely available in your local bookshop and online.

“To experience Lotusland is to appreciate the idiosyncratic character of its creator. The publication of this long-awaited book is finally an opportunity to share this unique garden with a wider audience.”

— Marc Appleton from the foreword to LOTUSLAND

Marc Appleton is a former Lotusland Trustee and an acclaimed architect and author. He, with Trustees Dorothy Gardner, Alex Morse, and Suzanne Matthews joined forces in support of creating a visionary, exquisite book of photography of the gardens at Lotusland. Their success is evidenced in this masterpiece of images by Lisa Romerian.

Tickets on sale March 1. Join the Garden Circle and receive a complementary ticket as a thank you for your generous support. For more information visit lotusland.org.

BACK IN STOCK:
LOTUSLAND X HERETIC Osmanthus, a new fragrance inspired by the Japanese Garden
Madame Walska was the proprietor of a popular line of cosmetics and perfumes in Paris during the 1920s and 1930s. Douglas Little, perfumer and founder of Heretic Parfum returned to Lotusland to collaborate in the creation of an organically based fragrance. Our inspiration was a fall flowering shrub planted in the Japanese Garden in the 1970’s — Osmanthus.

Mr. Little donated his time for this collaboration with Lotusland’s Garden Shop. The limited edition 10 ml roll-on perfume is available for purchase in the Garden Shop or online at lotuslandshop.org for $45.
A COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Aloes and Abalones

GANNA WALSKA LOTUSLAND’S ICONIC Aloe Garden continues to be a favorite destination for our visitors and Members. Ganna Walska’s design created a dramatic effect by bringing together different species of Aloe, a very diverse group of plants whose native geographic range spans from South Africa and Madagascar to the Arabian Peninsula, with abalone shells.

Currently, Lotusland’s Aloe Garden features over 160 species. The shallow kidney-shaped pool dates from when Erastus and Marie Gavit owned the property. Ganna Walska converted the pool into a unique abalone lined pond with hundreds of shells framing the pond and two large cascading fountains of giant clam shells (Tridacna sp.). The pond is an amazing expression of Ganna Walska’s artistic sensibility.

Over the years, the pond and shells have experienced deterioration due to being exposed to the natural elements – rain, sunlight, and visitor missteps.

In partnership with the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History (SBMNH), Lotusland has become the recipient of abalone to replace the damaged shells.

Beyond the exhibits at SBMNH, the Invertebrate Zoology Collection houses over 2.5 million mollusks (seashells). Shell specimens that do not have scientific data or research value are put aside for exhibit purposes. Lotusland is grateful to be the recipient of exhibit-grade abalone shells. This partnership will enable the Garden to keep the legacy of Madame Walska’s creativity and vision alive.

If you would like to learn more about supporting the Abalone Shell Pond restoration, please contact Patricia Sadeghian, Director of Development, psadeghian@lotusland.org or 805.969.3767, ext. 125.

GIFTS FOR THE GARDEN

Goal Achieved!

IT IS BECAUSE OF YOU — our generous friends — that Lotusland exists as a regenerative sanctuary, in its horticultural collections, landscape design, garden history, and as a cultural asset meriting international recognition. Just like water and sunlight, your support is an essential ingredient to Lotusland’s care and tending.

Your gifts ensure this verdant garden maintains and enhances its far-reaching conservation efforts and educational programs. Thank you for your support. Because of you Lotusland is here for the community’s wellbeing and greater good.

Thank you to all of our valued donors.

THANKS TO A VERY GENEROUS GRANT from Kevin O’Brien in memory of Dorothy E. O’Brien, gifts received by December 31 were matched resulting in a $50,000 gift.

When member Kevin O’Brien first visited Lotusland he was awestruck by the beauty and magic of the Garden. He knew his mother would have loved this tranquil space with its rich history and diverse horticultural collections. He shares, “Like Ganna Walska, my mother was a tenacious entrepreneur and garden lover. She would have cherished this communal sanctuary.”

Kevin wanted to honor her memory while supporting the Garden and inspiring others. He proposed a challenge grant to Lotusland’s year-end fundraising campaign Gifts for the Garden. Each year, donors give generously to Gifts for the Garden, and provide vital funds that support the Garden’s on-going operations, including its conservation efforts.

“Kevin’s choice to propel Lotusland forward with this challenge grant is exciting because it memorializes the passion of Dorothy E. O’Brien and accelerates the impact gifts made by each of our donors. We are thrilled to announce that we achieved this challenge and as a result received $50,000 in matching funds. We are honored by Kevin’s decision to keep his mother’s spirit vibrant through this special gift.” — Rebecca Anderson, Executive Director

To learn more about making an honorary or memorial gift, please contact the Development Office at 805.969.3767, ext.125.
CELEBRATING
Ten Years of Commitment

We celebrate DIANE FIGUEROA, Lotusland’s Director of Finance, on her tenth anniversary at Lotusland. The Garden has been well-served by her keen financial acumen and strong background in business that includes an accounting degree from Loyola Marymount University, previous work as an auditor for Arthur Anderson and as the CFO for Studio Electronics in Los Angeles. Diane, her husband and two children, moved to Montecito and she jumped into the community by volunteering as the treasurer for the Montecito Union School PTA. During her decade long Lotusland career, she has helped safeguard Lotusland’s finances, always providing valuable insight and advice. She enjoys the workplace comradery and speaks of having the “utmost of admiration for everyone here who are so dedicated to their jobs.” Diane’s favorite place in the Garden is the Great Lawn with its vast open and calming vistas.

MIGUEL OBREGON-PADILLA joined the garden staff in 2011 after a five year tenure with Steve Hanson Landscaping. His Lotusland career started in the Rose Garden and his responsibilities also included the Great Lawn, hedges, citrus and deciduous orchard. Miguel spent several years in the Cactus Garden before his current role maintaining the Cycad Garden and the many surrounding areas that include the pine forests, the Tropical Garden, bamboo groves and Main Drive aloes and agaves. Miguel enjoys working with Lotusland’s horticultural team and finds the work fun, challenging, and interesting. He relishes in the fact he is “always learning.” Miguel’s wife, Anna, is a long-time, and much appreciated, volunteer in the Garden. One of Miguel’s favorite places in the Garden is the maze next to the Horticultural clock. Miguel is a Senior Gardener and respected horticulturist whose breadth of knowledge and positive attitude are greatly appreciated by everyone at Lotusland.

THE LOTUSLAND TEAM
Staff Updates

NIKKI EVANS returned to Lotusland in November as Director of Visitor Services and Public Programs. Prior to this role she was Assistant Director at Sedgwick Reserve where she oversaw the field science research program, educational use, and public programs for the 6,000 acre nature reserve. During her previous time at Lotusland, Nikki revamped the Fourth Grade Outreach program, developed the Junior Botanist program and was part of the team that created the public self-guided tour model.

Nikki has a long-standing interest in the connections between people and nature. She holds a BA in Anthropology and Sociology from North Central College, and a Master’s and Doctorate in Human Dimensions of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. She looks forward to applying her knowledge of the human-nature connection to the visitor experience and public programs at Lotusland.

PAUL MILLS’ title has been updated to more accurately reflect his important role at Lotusland. His new title is Director of Conservation and Curator of the Living Collections. His more than 30 years of experience working with and studying plants includes a degree in biogeography from the University of California, Santa Barbara and studies in plant conservation at the prestigious Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, in London. Paul has done field work in Mexico in conjunction with CANTE Botanical Garden and Desert Botanical Garden, Phoenix. His extensive travels in Latin America to study plants in their native habitat has furthered his understanding of the plant collections he is charged with caring for at Lotusland. Paul started his career at Lotusland 27 years ago as a cactus and succulent specialist. He spearheaded the Dunlap cactus project and later became Lotusland’s Assistant Curator. He is currently the Chair of the APGA Plant Collections Community, has served as president of the Santa Barbara Cactus and Succulent Society. Paul received the 2014 Bouquet of the Year award, the highest honor of the Santa Barbara Horticultural Society and is a member of the IUCN Species Survival Commission’s Cycad Specialist Group, BGCI’s Global Consortium for Cycad Conservation and most recently the Wild Cycad Conservancy in South Africa. He continues to represent Lotusland at many national and international conferences and is an invaluable asset to Lotusland.

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EXCEPTIONAL PLANTS

Lotusland Rare Plant Auction

ON OCTOBER 9, plant lovers from near and far convened on the Great Lawn for the ultimate plant party with great food, specialty cocktails and an impressive silent auction.

The grand finale, an exciting live auction by Lotusland Research Associate and Event Committee Chair, Jeff Chemnick, brought the region’s top plant aficionados, collectors and serious gardeners together to vie for the opportunity to take home the finest specimen plants. The afternoon bidding to take home a prized bromeliad gifted by John and Dorothy Warnock brought a frenzy of fun competition, all in support of Lotusland’s collections.

Special thanks to all of our plant specimen donors and the devoted Exceptional Plants Committee:
Jeff Chemnick, Chair, Aloes in Wonderland
Randy Baldwin, San Marcos Growers
Robert Bett, PlantHaven International
Mike Tully, Terra Sol Garden Center
Cristi Walden, Sea Crest Nursery

We are so grateful for the generosity of our Exceptional Plants 2021 sponsors:

COLLECTOR
Lucifer Lighting Company

CONNOISSEUR
John Jackowski & Neil Spidell
Lampson Team at Homeowners
Financial Group
Joseph Marek Landscape Architecture
Elizabeth & Fee Waybill

GROWERS
Daniel Bifano & Allan Brostrom
Maureen & Edward Bousa
Peter & Susan Cheney
Crystal & Cliff Wyatt

Suzette Chafey and Lady Leslie Ridley- Tree
Members Paulo Long, Connie Pearcy and Kim Hunter
Nicola Kubzda, and Jeff Chemnick and Satie Airame
Members Maury Treman and Richard Ross

Carol Terry, John Warnock, Jeff Chemnick and Dorothy Warnock

(Exceptional Plant committee Diane Dunhill Members Paulo Lima, Connie Pearcy and Kim Hunter Nicola Kubzda, and Jeff Chemnick and Satie Airame Members Maury Treman and Richard Ross)
PHILANTHROPIC MEMBERSHIPS
Sustain the Garden

LOTUSLAND’S VALUED MEMBERS PROVIDE THE CRUCIAL FUNDING NEEDED to keep the Garden open to the public, protect and preserve our globally significant plant collections, and continue our sustainable horticulture practices.

If you are able to join as a Philanthropic Member please consider joining Lotusland’s Guardian Circle.

Guardians memberships include all the benefits of being in the Garden Lover Circles of Giving ($1,000+), as well as more opportunities to enjoy Lotusland and to multiply the impact of your support.

Benefits include:

• Access to the Garden
• Dedicated staff available to help customize your Lotusland experience
• Invitation to our Guardian Circle Recognition Event – New for 2022!
• Private home consultation with Lotusland horticultural staff
• Personal picnic in the Garden
• Exclusive private garden tours and events
• Guest Admissions
• Recognition in the Lotusland Newsletter

To find out more about the benefits of joining the Guardian Circle, please contact: Patricia Sadeghian, Director of Development, 805.969.3767, ext. 125 or visit lotusland.org/membership

A VERY SINCERE THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS IN THE GUARDIAN CIRCLE

VISIONARY
Dina & David Saalisi

STEWARD
Vickie & Bob Craig
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LOTUSLAND.ORG 13
SUSTAINABLE HORTICULTURE

Wish List

Below are a few items we need to advance our sustainable gardening activities:

Attachment for Greenwaste Composting
Gearmore Flail Mower GRF69 • $11,000
This piece of equipment is critical to our green waste program. Our current flail mower has proven itself invaluable but is old and just can’t do the job anymore. With this new equipment our processing time will be greatly reduced and the quality of compost produced will be improved enabling less compost from other suppliers.

Compost Screener
EZ-Screen 600 • $20,000
Lotusland has hand sifted our own compost for decades which is extremely labor intensive. The EZ-600 is a proven machine that will automate the compost screening process reducing labor, and creating consistent material critical to our sustainable horticulture program.

Storage Shed for Organics
$10,000
Lotusland prides itself on using the latest sustainable horticulture products. Our list of organic products includes microorganisms, organic fertilizers, and soil conditioners. Currently, products are stored in containers throughout the property and are sometimes exposed to weather. The new shed will house all our landscape materials in a singular, safe, and dry location.

We are gratefully accepting donations of any size to support these projects.
TO DONATE, please call, 805.969.3767, ext. 104.

FIRST ANNUAL BENEFIT WINE DINNER

GUARDIANS OF THE GARDEN gathered on Friday, September 10, 2021 at Lotusland for a most resplendent evening. Advanced Sommelier Mladen Stoev educated the intimate group and the masterful culinary experience was interwoven with music by the Santa Barbara String Quartet.

The enchanted evening featured a six course tasting menu by duo Catering & Events was curated and co-chaired by Past Presidents Dan Bifano and Connie Pearcy. Special thanks to our volunteer leaders and our delightful guests for their support of the Garden.

Through their generosity and participation, these Guardians provide a lifeline of sustenance for Lotusland and are an integral part of the Lotusland family. These attendees are advocates, promoters and protectors of the Garden.

EVENT SPONSORS

Wines
David and Judy Jones
Renegade Wines

Décor
Town & Country Event Rentals

Cuisine
duo Catering & Events

Design and Production
Merryl Brown Events

Floral
Dan Bifano, Connie Pearcy, David and Judy Jones
Moss Floral

Photography
Isaac Hernandez
MAKE A LASTING CONTRIBUTION
Join The Lotus Society

MAKING A GIFT TO THE GARDEN in your estate plans is not only a future event. The Lotus Society offers the opportunity to learn and connect through exclusive Garden experiences. Explore the impact of the Garden’s community through two annual events just for members.

You can play a vital part in ensuring this important role of the Garden to connect people with the plant world, both now and for generations to come.

If you are ready to join, or if you have already included the Garden in your estate plans, simply let us know, so that we may invite you to Lotus Society events and add your name to the Wall of Honor.

To inform us of your intentions, or for more information, please contact the Development Office at 805.969.3767, ext. 125.

LOTUSLAND WELCOMES
New Trustees

LOTUSLAND IS DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE the addition of Lisa Bjornson Wolf to the Board of Trustees. We also are excited to announce the return of Lifetime Honorary Trustee Connie Flowers Pearcy to the Board.

Lisa Bjornson Wolf is an Executive Director at Morgan Stanley in New York. Prior to joining Morgan Stanley, Lisa spent 13 years at JP Morgan in their Investment Bank and Asset Management divisions, most recently at the Private Bank’s Financial Institutions Group.

We have been fortunate to have enjoyed Lisa’s volunteerism on the Lotusland Celebrates Event Committee and are ecstatic to welcome her as a Trustee. Lisa was awarded a Master of Science in International Economics and Japan Studies from Johns Hopkins University’s School for Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in Washington D.C., holds a B.A. cum laude from Cornell University’s College of Arts and Sciences, and is a graduate of the Hotchkiss School. She has served on many non-profit boards including Lapham’s Quarterly, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, The State Street Ballet, and the Healthcare Chaplaincy.

Connie Flowers Pearcy’s involvement with Lotusland started in 2010. She has held numerous key positions including on the Lotusland Celebrates and Executive Committees. She was the Board’s Vice President from 2015 through 2017, served as Board President. Connie’s leadership has not been limited to the extraordinary amount of time that she dedicated to Lotusland, she has also been an incredibly generous donor. Her gifts include funds that enabled us to drill a new well during times of critical water shortages. Connie has been an ardent supporter of events and has consistently made generous gifts to our Gifts for the Garden annual campaigns. Connie is an indispensable leader and her wise council is a powerful force contributing to the continued success and future of Lotusland. We are thrilled by her return to the Board, and with her most recent volunteer role, as chair of the new Lotusland Philanthropy Committee.
Author Daniel Stone, Featured Guest for Lotusland Annual Meeting

ON MARCH 16, LOTUSLAND opens the season by hosting its annual meeting of the Board of Trustees in the Theatre Garden followed by dynamic presentation. This is the moment where we welcome incoming trustees, celebrate the contributions of outgoing trustees, and hear the strategic goals and plans of the Garden.

There will be a talk by guest speaker, Daniel Stone, a writer on science, botany, history, and adventure. Daniel is a former staff writer for National Geographic and a former White House correspondent for Newsweek and The Daily Beast. Daniel’s novel The Food Explorer, balances botany, culinary history and travel and was the 2019 winner of the American Horticultural Society Book Award. This lively and fascinating book recounts the turn-of-the-century adventures of David Fairchild, a globe-trotting agent for the U.S. government. Daniel’s rallying cry to “Get Planting” reinforces his belief in botanical and backyard gardens alike. Look for a recording of the program following the meeting on our website.

Signed copies of Stone’s book The Food Explorer will be available for purchase at lotuslandshop.org.

LOTUSLAND SALUTES AND COMMEMORATES Departing Trustees for Their Service

ALEXANDRA MORSE has served on the Board since August of 2017. During the past five years she has been an invaluable leader, creative contributor, and positive driving force always steering the conversation towards constructive and sensible solutions.

Alexandra attended Briarcliff College and Parsons School of Design in New York, and owned and operated a design business for 45 years. Along with her husband, Charlie, Alex spent most of her adult life in Seattle, where she was a member of the Seattle Garden Club. She served on the boards of Swedish Hospital Foundation, University of Washington Arboretum, ARCS (Achievement Rewards for College Scientists), a Contemporary Theater and Pacific Northwest Ballet. Alex is a member of the Garden Club of Santa Barbara. When she moved out of the area, Alex decided her Board service must conclude with her latest project, the Lotusland Book. Lotusland has a lasting tribute to Alex’s contributions. While we miss her valuable wisdom and guidance, we will surely look forward to her continued involvement on the Development and Lotusland Celebrates Committees.

SUZANNE MATHEWS has been a valued Lotusland Trustee since 2013. Her nine-year tenure and keen vision has helped the Garden achieve numerous significant accomplishments and surpass our strategic goals. In addition to her devotion and support of Lotusland, Suzanne has served on the Boards of the Brackenridge Park Conservancy, the Drama League in New York City, and the San Antonio River Foundation. Suzanne is a graduate of Finch College, where she majored in art history. She has an extensive background as an art gallery owner and private art dealer and is a Director of Lucifer Lighting Company. Suzanne’s tireless work has created meaningful change at Lotusland, most recently with the creation of the new Lotusland coffee table book. Lotusland is deeply indebted for her generosity, insight, and many years of dedication.
FORMING A UNION OF PLANTS

Why Graft, Anyway?

By Agnes Philpot, the Exotic Fruit Lady
(Condensed from CONFESSIONS OF A SERIAL GRAFTER)

THE HORTICULTURAL TECHNIQUE
of grafting is the art of attaching scion wood (a small branch or bud of the desired tree) to a compatible rootstock (the root system of a newly sprouted tree or an existing tree), all in the same botanical family.

The part of the tree that creates new cells is called the cambium layer. It is the green circle you see when you cut a branch and look at it from the cut part. The art of grafting is matching the scion's cambium layer with the cambium layer of the rootstock. Once joined there is a molecular reconnection of the plant so it can resume the transfer of fluids and sugars in the grafted plant. The scion starts to grow as if it were on its own rootstock.

The grafted tree will produce the same fruit as the fruit produced by the parent tree, as a generalization the fruits produced will be indistinguishable. The rootstock, in most cases, will not affect the quality of the fruit.

Many fruit trees are site specific requiring exacting growing conditions. Once you leave the original home of the orange, probably somewhere in China, you may not be able to grow them. By grafting these oranges onto rootstock that is both compatible with your local growing conditions and the scion wood, you can grow them outside their native home. Often the rootstock is the determining growing factor. Here in Southern California, our Valencia oranges are grafted onto Trifoliate rootstock that is not only suitable to our growing conditions and disease resistant but is also compatible with the Valencia orange scion wood. No matter where these Valencia oranges are grown, regardless of rootstock, the fruit of the grafted Valencia orange is essentially the same. Any detectible difference is due to the growing environment.

The rootstock determines the size of the tree as well as its vigor, its adaptability to soil conditions, resistance to disease and pests, its longevity and influences the early maturity of the tree. The Gala apple fruit will be the same, growing on dwarf rootstock, limiting the mature tree to under 18 feet, as grown on its native roots that can reach 40 feet or more. So, not only does the rootstock determine the trees growing compatibility, but also influences the ultimate size of the tree and in some instances its productivity.

Because you are taking a piece of a mature tree and attaching it to a rootstock you shorten the time necessary for the newly grafted tree to reach fruit bearing age. It is generally accepted that a grafted tree comes into production sooner than a tree grown on its own roots.

Top grafting is often used in commercial orchards and vineyards to rework existing trees no longer economically viable. In the wine industry there is always the flavor of the year. One year it may be a white wine, Chardonnay, and next rage is a red wine, Zinfandel. To rip out the existing vines and replant new ones, the grower would lose perhaps seven to ten years, whereas if he cuts back the old vines and grafts the new variety onto them, he can be in production within perhaps three years and in full production by the fifth growing season.

The entire French wine industry was nearly destroyed in the late 19th century. The cause was a louse carried to France on experimental American rootstock. The salvation was to graft French grape stock onto the very same American rootstock immune to the pest. Today, virtually all French grapes are grafted.

Please join us for a Grafting Workshop at Lotusland on Saturday, February 19, 9:30 -11:30 AM. $95 Members, $125 non-members. Visit www.lotusland.org/events for more information and to reserve your space.
ADDITION TO THE NON-LIVING COLLECTION
The Journey of a 16th-Century Istrian Wellhead

By Stanya Owen, Former Lotusland Trustee

As far back as I can remember, I have always been a collector. It was a Southern way of life in those days. After Jim (Jim Owen) and I married, we continued this collecting tradition over 53 years of marriage. We love the research, especially the history of each object and getting to know interesting and knowledgeable antique dealers.

We were fortunate to move to Santa Barbara with our two children and purchase a home with a collectors’ garden of Camellias along with a diversity of beautiful and exotic plant material. Our family became hooked on a journey of learning about this garden.

On a trip to Italy, Jim and I kept seeing wellheads in lovely gardens and town squares which reminded us of the wellheads we had seen and loved in Southern Florida gardens. These wellheads were not only ornamental but they were vitally important in providing much needed fresh water to properties as populations grew and water shortages began.

After many inquiries, we learned of an Italian 16th century Istrian wellhead with octagonal carved panels, complete with a wrought iron aperture and base. It found its way into our Santa Barbara garden and we felt it was now complete. Years later, we moved away and realized our beloved wellhead needed another garden home.

Our dear friend and mentor had taken us to Lotusland to see Ganna Walska’s creation. This is a very unique and personal garden and one that Madame Walska felt deeply about. Several years later, I felt honored to become a Member of the Lotusland Board of Trustees. Those next six years were an inspiring education filled with the wondrous journey of this strong willed, passionate woman and her dream of creating a world-class garden.

Lotusland has meant a great deal to our family over the years and we feel our wellhead has found harmony in its next home and will be a wonderful addition to the ongoing excellence of Lotusland.
NEW FOR 2022!

Wheelchair Accessibility Guide and Path Markers

Lotusland is committed to providing a wonderful guest experience for all visitors. Wheelchairs in particular can sometimes be difficult to navigate, especially over uneven terrain and winding Garden pathways. For decades, volunteer docents have helped visitors in wheelchairs to navigate the Garden, and we are now allowing guests in wheelchairs to self-guide. Lotusland has developed a new Wheelchair Accessibility Map and installed Wheelchair friendly path markers to support our guest experience. We value inclusion, and are proud to make more clear routes for easier navigation.

This work was made possible by a grant from Jim* and Judy Cardinal.

*in memoriam

EXCHANGE VOWS IN AN ENCHANTED GARDEN
Say “I Do” at Lotusland

RESERVE YOUR EXCLUSIVE SPACE for an intimate ceremony, photos and an immersive garden experience. Attendees may include the couple, officiant, photographer and select guests. No additional rentals or vendors are permitted. Packages start at $2,500 and some restrictions apply. Lotusland offers the quintessential backdrop for any of life’s special events. Engagements, family photos, personal portraits, and wedding photos are all enhanced by the beauty of the Garden. Commercial and Fine Art Photography Informal pictures and videos are allowed and encouraged in the Garden. Lotusland imagery is protected by copyright law. Commercial or Art Photography or sales of any Lotusland imagery requires permission, a contract, and a location release.

Please contact Kerstin Horneman, Events Manager for more information at 805.969.3767, ext. 130 or events@lotusland.org.
UPCOMING EVENTS

Lotusland Hosts Two Dates of Art Workshops with the Santa Barbara Museum of Art

WE ARE THRILLED to announce a program in partnership with the Santa Barbara Museum of Art drawing inspiration from Through Vincent’s Eyes: Van Gogh and His Sources. For more information visit sbma.net/exhibitions/vincentseyes.

Sunday, February 27
Session I, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Session II, 1:00 – 4:00 pm
Family Painting Workshop

Family Painting Workshop inspired by Through Vincent’s Eyes: Van Gogh and His Sources
To register visit https://lotusland.ticketspice.com/van-gogh-family-day
$125 Lotusland + SBMA Members/$155 Non-Members
Recommended for children ages 6 -12.

Saturday, February 12 • 2:00 – 4:30 pm
Valentine’s Picnic in the Garden

WHAT COULD BE MORE ROMANTIC than an afternoon at Lotusland? Bring your sweetheart to the Garden to enjoy a picnic and live music by local flamenco guitarist Tony Ybarra.

Pack your blanket and a basket of goodies and claim your spot under the oaks for some very romantic ambiance. Guests receive a complimentary glass of champagne to enjoy as you explore the Garden. Adults only please. Please bring your own picnic (alcohol is allowed) and blanket.

$50 for Members and $75 for non-members. Space is Limited. Please call 805.969.9990 for reservations.

Vincent van Gogh (Dutch, 1853–1890), Les Vessenots in Auvers, May 1890. Oil on canvas, Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza, Madrid.

Saturday, March 5 • 1:00 – 4:00 PM
Adult Art Studio Class in the Garden
Plein air Painting: Earth and Sky inspired by Through Vincent’s Eyes: Van Gogh and His Sources

Online reservations at lotusland.ticketspice.com/van-gogh-workshop
$125 Lotusland + SBMA Members/$150 Non-Members

Saturday, February 19 • 9:30 – 11:30 AM
Apple Grafting At Lotusland

LEARN THE ART OF APPLE GRAFTING from master grafter and rare fruit grower Arnold Bernstein. In this hands-on workshop you will graft and take home a semi-dwarf producing apple tree, ideal to our climate. We will provide all the materials for grafting, as well as light refreshments. Masks are required during the workshop. Members $95 and $125 for non-members. Visit www.lotusland.org/events for more information and to reserve your space.
Friday, March 4 • 3:30 – 5:30 PM
Garden Golden Hour Wine Walk

VIEW THE GARDEN in the magical light of late afternoon when the botanical colors and textures come alive. Wander the garden at your leisure or take part in a docent-guided tour as you enjoy complimentary wine and light hors d’oeuvres. The chance to stroll the gardens at sunset only comes around a few times a year, so don’t miss out. **This is a special opportunity reserved for Lotusland members and their guests only.**

Admission is $50 for Members, $75 for Member’s Guests. Reservations 805.969.9990.

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Saturday, March 12 • 2:00 – 4:30 PM
Saturday, April 16 • 2:00 – 4:30 PM
Spring Picnics and Al Fresco Concerts

SEE THE GARDEN IN ALL ITS SPRING GLORY! Pack a picnic and a blanket, enjoy a stroll through the Garden and relax with live music on the Great Lawn. Please check our website for performance details. $50 for Members, $75 for non-members. Reservations 805.969.9990.

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2022 Focus Tour Series: Senses of the Garden

**OUR POPULAR FOCUS TOURS ARE BACK!** These intimate events are a complimentary benefit reserved for Garden Lover Members. Space is limited. To discuss your Membership, please contact Shannon Grant, Membership Manager, at 805.969.3767, ext. 115 and learn more about these Garden Lover tours.

**Taste: Agave and Tequila**
March 15 • 3:00 – 5:00 PM, gates open at 2:30 PM

JOIN PAUL MILLS, Lotusland’s Director of Conservation and Curator of Living Collections, for a discussion on one of the Garden’s most significant plants, the Agave then enjoy tequila-infused craft cocktail creations by Boondock Botanicals. Space is limited. Please RSVP to Elizabeth Macias; emacias@lotusland.org or 805.969.3767, ext. 105

**Save the Dates!**
Enlighten the Senses
Future Focus Tours
**Sound: The Birds of Lotusland**
November 15

**Sight: Treasures from the Archives**
December 5
LOTUSLAND GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES DONORS
August, September, October and November 2021

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Cyndee Howard & Lesley Cunningham
Judy & David Jones
Suzanne & Gilbert Mathews, Lucifer Lighting
Connie & John Pearcy
Stephen Wayne & Jenna Allensworth, Renegade Wines

DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS
Michael MacElhenny & David Wine

SANTA BARBARA CITY COLLEGE HORTICULTURE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM
Ted Friedel & Coleen Richardson Friedel

THE LOTUS SOCIETY ENDOWMENT CONTRIBUTIONS
Pamela and Aubert De Villaine

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Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania in honor of Anna Bower

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Winter 2022

Sunday, February 27
Family Painting Class with Santa Barbara Museum of Art
See page 16

Saturday, February 12
Valentine’s Picnic in the Garden
See page 16

Saturday, February 19
Apple Grafting Workshop
See page 16

Friday, March 4
Garden Golden Hour
See page 17

Saturday, March 5
Adult Art Class with Santa Barbara Museum of Art
See page 16

Saturday, March 12
Al Fresco Spring Picnic with Live Music
See page 17

Tuesday, March 15
Focus Tour: Taste Agave and Tequila
See page 17

Saturday, April 16
Al Fresco Spring Picnic with Live Music
See page 17

SAVE THE DATES
May 21 Book Release Garden Party
July 23 Lotusland Celebrates
October 8 Exceptional Plants Lotusland Rare Plant Auction

Lotusland Tour Schedule
We look forward to welcoming you to Lotusland! This year, we are offering docent and self-guided tour options at select times. In order to maintain social distancing, we are continuing with staggered arrival times and masks required when indoors and at the visitor center.

Docent tours are available Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings and all day Saturdays. Self-guided tours are available Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons and all day Saturdays.

Call 805.969.9990 to check availability and reserve your tour.

All visits require advance reservations and space is limited. We recommend making reservations more than one month in advance of your desired visit.

For Your Safety: Staggered Arrival Times for Tours

Wednesday–Friday:
Docent-led tours are at 9:15 and 9:30 AM
Members may still self-guide at these times.
Self-guided tours are at 1:15 and 1:30 PM

Saturday:
Self-guided and docent-led tours are at 9:15, 9:30, 9:45 AM, and 1:15, 1:30, 1:45 PM
Please call 805.969.9990 for reservations.