



Those Fascinating Air Plants

By STEVEN TIMBROOK

EPIPHYTES, NON-PARASITIC PLANTS growing on other plants, have become icons of tropical forests now that we've all seen rainforests in movies or on television, if not in person. But to Europeans of the 15th century, epiphytic flowering plants were largely unknown. One of the marvels of the New World that amazed Christopher Columbus on his voyages of discovery was a tree with "branches of different kinds, all on one trunk, and one twig is of one kind and another of another, and so unlike that it is the greatest wonder in the world."¹ To see a Caribbean tree festooned with epiphytic cacti, orchids, and bromeliads would indeed have been a wonder.

The branches of tropical trees offer a very specialized niche where plants adapted to life away from the soil that nurtures most of the vegetable world can find their place in the sun. Occupation of these sites, where plants without water-absorbing roots are often exposed to bright sun and drying wind, has led to some interesting coping mechanisms, and the most extreme examples are found in those species of *Tillandsia* known as air plants or atmospheric.

The pineapple family, Bromeliaceae, contains about 2,000 species, grouped into nearly 50 genera. With more than 400 species, *Tillandsia* is the largest of the bromeliad genera, and new species are being discovered every year. Knowledge of the group has come a long way from the dozen or so species known to Linnaeus

Continued on page 2



STEVEN TIMBROOK

Tillandsias, orchids, and ferns festoon a tropical tree in Chiapas, Mexico.

IN THIS ISSUE

Those Fascinating Air Plants	1	Make Mother's Day Special	9
Volunteer Profile: Docent Sean Hutchinson is Here to Stay	3	Welcome New Docents	10
Sightseeing in the Atacama Desert	4	Welcome Back!	10
Lotusland Celebrates: A Journey to Tibetland	5	Members' Family Day at Lotusland	11
Chanticleer Fellow Romi Ige	6	Always Room at the Top	12
New to the Collections	7	Air Plants at Lotusland	13
Horticultural Happenings	8	Garden Mapping Project Receives Initial Funding	13
Butterfly Garden Planting Project	9	Wrigley Memorial and Botanical Garden Donation	13
A Lotusland Reminder!	9	Calendar of Events	16

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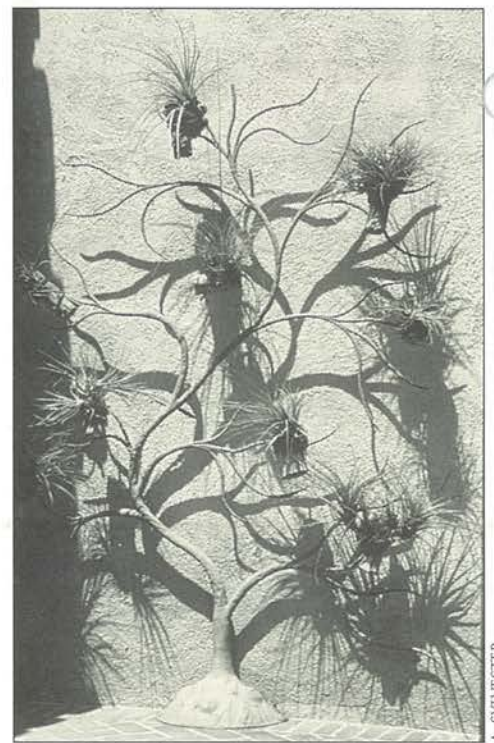
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in the mid-1700s when he named *Tillandsia* in honor of Swedish professor Elias Tillands. Poor Dr. Tillands was so fearful of bodies of water that he would go many miles out of his way to avoid having to travel over water by boat. Linnaeus couldn't resist having a little fun at his friend's expense since many of Linnaeus's

Tillandsia species were adapted to dry habitats and lacked functional roots, and thus were considered to abhor water themselves.

Diversity of the leaves, inflorescences, and overall shape of the many atmospheric species of *Tillandsia*, coupled with their general tenacity in cultivation, make them very popular with collectors. The most familiar and widespread is Spanish moss, *Tillandsia usneoides*. You can see examples of it and several other atmospheric in the two bromeliad gardens at Lotusland and perched on a metal tree on Happy's Terrace off Madame Walska's pavilion. The atmospheric's common feature is a more or less silvery, often hairy, appearance when dry; that silvery look is one of the keys to their ability to thrive in extremely difficult habitats.

Without roots in the soil like most plants, or the vases formed by overlapping leaf bases of many other bromeliads, including most tillandsias, atmospheric depend upon the highly modified epidermal hairs or scales covering their leaves to capture the moisture they need to survive and grow. When the plant surface is dry, winged projections on the hairs stand above the surface of the leaf, their hollow interiors filled with air,



Myriad tillandsias adorn an iron "tree" outside Madame Walska's pavilion.

giving the plant a silvery look that reflects light. When the hairs become saturated from rain or fog, the wing is drawn down against the epidermis of the leaf and the hair becomes transparent, revealing the green chlorophyll inside the leaf and promoting the transmission of sunlight necessary for photosynthesis. Furthermore, the hairs are multicellular and, when wet, act as a conduit for water to enter the leaf through stalk cells. When dry, they act as a plug, preventing water from escaping the leaf.

It would be hard to imagine a home that couldn't find niches for a few atmospheric. A bright bathroom window, where water-laden air from the shower bathes them in fog or tied to an outdoor deck railing in mild Santa Barbara are two possibilities. A little supplemental watering—squirt them with the hose outdoors, dunk them in the sink inside—is really all they have to have. Remember, no need for pots or soil. What could be easier? Foliar spraying with a diluted solution of special fertilizer, such as Rainforest Flora's "Epiphytes Delight" or "Peter's

Continued on page 16



Various atmospheric *Tillandsia* species in an outdoor market at Cuernavaca, Mexico. They are commonly sold at Christmas time for home nativity scenes.

VOLUNTEER PROFILE: Docent Sean Hutchinson is Here to Stay

A FORMER PROFESSIONAL rock and roll musician, Lotusland docent Sean Hutchinson was born in Santa Barbara, schooled on the east coast, and ran his own landscape gardening business locally before he began leading tours of Madame Walska's garden five years ago. After leaving college in the 1960s, Sean pursued a career in a rock band, which took him up and down the east coast, working mostly at night and sleeping by day. It was a quest to reconnect with the earth and its diurnal rhythms that led him to a career in horticulture when his band broke up in 1971.

Returning to Santa Barbara, Sean started his own landscape gardening business and then spent a year studying ornamental horticulture at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo—an experience that left him disgusted with the popular promotion of chemical fertilizers and pesticides to grow plants, which led him to the organic management of plants he prefers today. As a gardener in Santa Barbara in the 1970s, Sean worked on several old estates and often wondered what life must have been like for their original owners in the 1920s. Having grown up on the Riven Rock estate in Montecito, he had already developed a fascination with Santa Barbara's rich estate history. In 1952 when his parents built their home on the former Stanley McCormick estate, Sean walked freely through the overgrown ruins of the former home of one of Chicago's most unusual family members and talked with folks who had known him.

After his father's death in 1982, Sean returned to the house in Riven Rock and retired from professional gardening. He began actively landscaping and tending to his own garden and volunteered for many years as a Garden Grower in the greenhouses at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden in order to share his passion for plants with others. It was soon after Ganna Walska died that

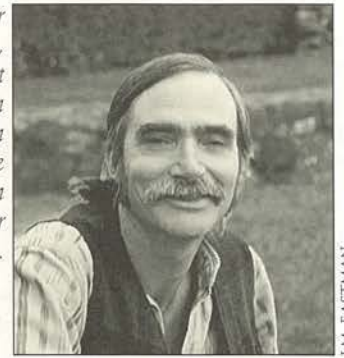
Steve Timbrook, acquainted with Sean from the Botanic Garden, asked him to consider becoming a docent at Lotusland. Sean gave a couple of tours "cold" and became a strong supporter of Lotusland at the public hearings for neighbors in the following years. When Lotusland received a Conditional Use Permit from the County of Santa Barbara and set a date for its first formal docent training in 1993, Sean signed up.

Although he had made an "unofficial" visit over the wall as a young man to experience Ganna Walska's topiary garden by moonlight, the training was the first time Sean really got to know the estate once owned by his former neighbor down the road. Sean brings a genuine respect for the magic and drama with which she infused her gardens, as well as a solid knowledge of the plant material she used, to his interpretation for visitors. Sean and his wife Dorie are staunch supporters of Lotusland and have generously donated to the Foundation. He thinks very highly of the place and thoroughly enjoys taking visitors through the garden. Sean believes it is his bent for show business, which led him to perform rock and roll and these days acoustic music, that enhances his tours.

Docenting and music making recently came together for Sean when he performed with one of his musical groups, "Swing West," at the Lotusland volunteer holiday party in December. The six-member band played 1940s swing music for more than 130 volunteers and their guests, many of whom took to the floor dancing in the main house library. It was a dream come true for Sean, who hosts an annual acoustic music concert series at his own home and often thought his music belonged at Lotusland as well.

In addition to his botanical and musical pursuits, Sean is also a published author of what has become an underground classic—his 1988 memoir of life in a rock and roll band entitled *Crying Out Loud*. In it he

*A performer
by nature,
docent
Sean
Hutchinson
takes the
stage in
the outdoor
theatre.*



J.M. EASTMAN

recounts the years his band "Far Cry" spent performing at myriad east coast venues, recording an album, and living communally in rural New England. An English major at Tufts University, Sean has a flair for expressing himself in poetic prose, attributing this facility with language to his father's reading aloud to him as a child. He wrote the book from memory with a pencil and pad of paper and had the manuscript published locally.

Personal challenges Sean has faced in recent years include the birth of his first child three and a half years ago and open-heart surgery last year. Becoming a father has made him see how important it is for parents to spend time with their children. Facing a life-threatening heart condition taught him not to take life so seriously and forced him to become "a lot less broken-hearted." Living life at a slower pace suits Sean just fine. He doesn't have a TV, computer, or FAX machine and has a limited tolerance for such electronic toys. "I don't like to invest in planned obsolescence," he notes.

Lotusland is fortunate to have Sean, with his rich and varied life experiences and many talents as a gardener and musician, interpreting the garden for visitors. His insights into the estate and its plantings, as well as his training and experience in horticulture, make him a colorful presence in the garden. We hope that, like the rock and roll he used to play and revere, Sean Hutchinson is here to stay.



Sightseeing in the Atacama Desert

By PAUL MILLS

THE ATACAMA DESERT of northern Chile and southern Peru is a mysterious place with sights that cannot be seen anywhere else in the world. This desert is one of the world's driest, with some portions never having received measurable rainfall in recorded history. The areas that do receive precipitation measure it in millimeters, often with many rainless years in between. When the rain does fall, it is often quite violent, delivering sometimes two to three times the annual rainfall in a matter of hours. To the human inhabitants, this translates into a natural disaster, but for the plants and animals of the Atacama, these events are essential to their continued survival. These heavy rains are typically associated with El Niño years.

The Atacama has a surprising human history. The Chinchorro people, who inhabited northern Chile about 3,000 years ago, were fishermen who survived in this environment because of the incredibly rich marine life nearby. An obviously

advanced culture, the Chinchorros are believed to be the first practitioners of mummification, predating even the Egyptians.

The succulent plants of the Atacama in northern Chile are very interesting and unique. Found only here (between roughly 22° S and 30° S latitudes along the coast) is the genus of cactus *Copiapoa* named after a small city in the region—Copiapó. On my recent trip to Chile in November of 1997 I was able to see four different species of *Copiapoa* in the wild. My goal was to reach Pan de Azucar, a national park along the coast, which was fairly ambitious considering my traveling companion and I had no vehicle. Travel varied from bus to burro, from hiking to hitchhiking. It had rained earlier in the year (breaking a rumored seven-year rainless streak) and the desert was alive. Yet even a lush Atacama may look like the most barren of environments to many.

On one of our many rides through the desert we passed a small herd of guanaco (a llama-like camel relative) running across the plains. In times of extreme drought these animals are known to dig up tuberous rooted cactus species to eat, despite the toxic chemicals found in many of these plants. Passing a group of buzzards feeding on some unfortunate soul, I noticed one bird standing head and shoulders above the rest, which turned out to be a condor! This was an Andean condor, cousin to our own California condor, whose immensity has to be seen to be believed.

The copiapos were as astounding as I had anticipated, which by this time was a lot to live up to. Quebrada Peralillo, a wash at the southern boundary of Pan de Azucar, was filled with massive clumps of the white-bodied *Copiapoa cinerescens*, superficially resembling a massive clump of *Mammillaria geminispina*

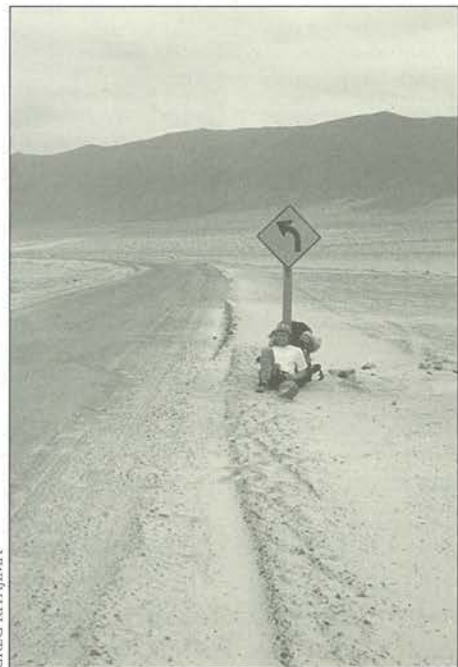


PAUL MILLS

Copiapoa cinerescens (clump) seeking shelter under a *Eulychnia* sp.

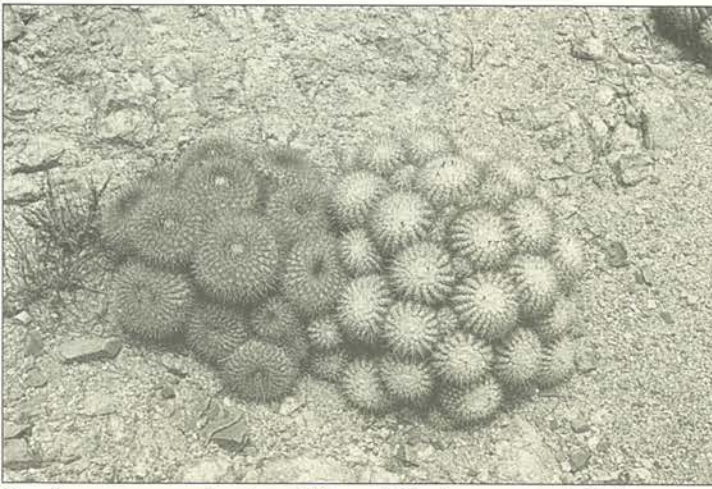
(which can be seen along the main drive at Lotusland). One can only guess at the age of these plants that grow up to three to four feet in diameter with fifty or more individual heads. Very little is known of the growth rates of these cacti, or any cacti for that matter. As well, one has to remember that rain doesn't fall every year, further slowing their growth. Some people speculate that the plants are able to utilize moisture from the consistent fog.

Growing on the hillsides along the wash, occasionally side by side with *Copiapoa cinerescens*, was *C. serpentisculata*, a beautiful purple-bodied, black-spined cactus with larger individual heads but not as readily clumping as *C. cinerescens*. Also found here was *C. marginata* in much smaller numbers. *Euphorbia lactiflua*, a succulent shrub, grew on the same hillside and was in full growth and flower at the time of my visit. There are a fair number of succulent euphorbias in South America, of which a few species are known from northern Chile. *Oxalis gigantea*, an ocotillo-like shrub, also

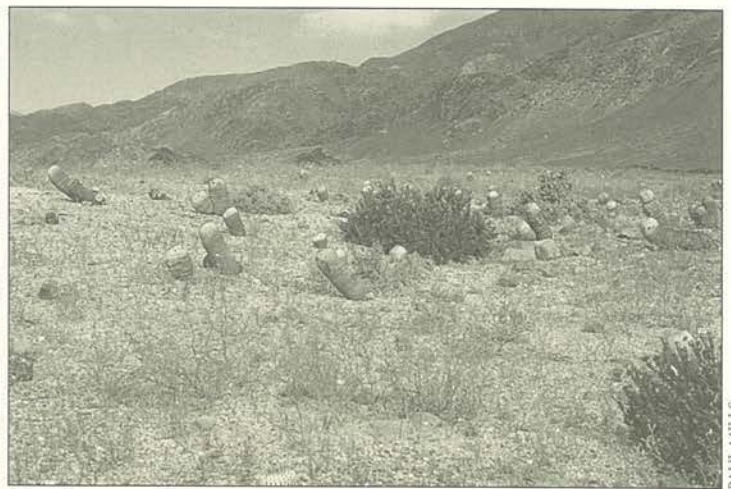


GREG KITAJIMA

Paul by the roadside hitching a ride south of Pan de Azucar National Park in the southern Atacama Desert.



PAUL MILLS



PAUL MILLS

Copiapoa serpenticulata (left) and C. cinerescens (right).

C. columna-alba, all leaning north, at Pan de Azucar.

grew on the hillside along with a species of *Deuterochonia*, a bromeliad that often provides shelter to copiapoa seedlings.

The most spectacular sight was unintentionally saved for last. *Copiapoa columna-alba*, the white-columned copiapoa, grows to about one meter, usually solitary, with the lower two-thirds of the plant being jet black and the top third pure white. Already appearing odd as individuals, they are even stranger as a population because they all lean to the north toward the sun, which is always north of this point in the southern hemisphere. The angle they take

seems to minimize the incident solar radiation on their growing tips in the summer. They have a similar morphology and habit to that of *Notocactus leninghausii* from the other side of the Andes (also a species found massed in the main drive cacti plantings at Lotusland). The first locality where we encountered the plant seemed to have been burned, but it had not; there was simply an ancient flow of pure black lava. Just about the only plant living in the vicinity was *C. columna-alba* with its ghost white heads providing fantastic contrast against the blackened terrain. This habitat appears not to

be the plants' first choice for as we traveled farther up and to the other side of the wash this species was found in greater numbers than in the lava habitat. Many juvenile plants were present, causing one to wonder how old even a two-inch seedling was and how it had survived years without precipitation.

This second trip to Chile allowed me a brief glimpse of the Atacama Desert and the genus *Copiapoa*, leaving me with many questions and an incredible desire to see more. From its forests and fjords in the south to its cacti and towering Andes in the north, Chile offers a lifetime of sights to see.



SAVE THIS DATE!

SAVE THIS DATE!

SAVE THIS DATE!

SUNDAY, JULY 26, 1998

Lotusland Celebrates: A Journey to Tibetland

SPONSORED BY U.S. TRUST COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA AND NEW JERSEY

LOTUSLAND'S 4TH ANNUAL gala fund-raising event will focus on the estate when Madame Walska purchased it in 1941 with her sixth husband Theos Bernard (a Buddhist white lama) and called it Tibetland. The historical exhibit for the gala will feature an outstanding collection of Tibetan art from the Pacific Asia Museum in Pasadena, including some wonderful pieces that belonged to Madame Walska. Tibetan dancers wearing colorful and exotic costumes will perform in the theatre garden, and the sound of Tibetan prayer bells will echo throughout the Japanese garden. This event is always a sell-out, so please watch for your invitation, which will be mailed to all members at the beginning of June.

Chanticleer Fellow Romi Ige

THE CHANTICLEER FELLOWSHIP is a newly developed, two-year program awarded to horticulturists interested in public garden management and committed to the future of public gardens. It is the inspirational idea of Christopher Woods, Director of the Chanticleer Foundation, a pleasure garden in Wayne, Pennsylvania.

This fellowship is unique in that it provides hands-on experience at various public gardens around the world. Fellows work with garden directors, horticultural managers, and administrators to gain insight into the different situations and management techniques for each garden setting. To supplement the experiences, the fellows also are educated in business management courses and workshops.

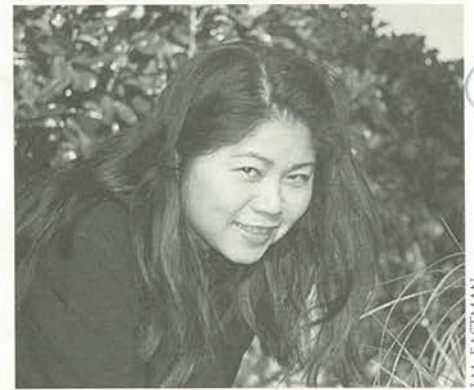
Ganna Walska Lotusland is the first garden to collaborate with Chanticleer in providing an educational experience for the fellows. Dr. Steven Timbrook, Lotusland Executive Director, and Chris Woods have decided on a project that will benefit Lotusland as well as provide a good experience for the fellow.

The first of two fellows chosen last year to spend time at Lotusland is Hiromi Ige, a California native who has a background in landscape design, retail nurseries, and garden maintenance. Romi, who arrived at Lotusland in December, describes her task while at the garden:

"The first assignment for my three-month stay here is to develop a proposal for a new horticultural complex. It will relocate greenhouses, nursery facilities, and gardeners' workrooms to a modern facility in the large open field behind the garage at the top of the property, freeing the existing nursery spaces for expansion of the gardens. A second proposal will be to renovate the former Studio next to the garage into an education center to be used for activities now held in the Main House.

"After gathering information for the proposals from interviews and meetings with the Lotusland staff, I will synthesize it into recommendations to the director as to how he should proceed with the projects. Everyone on staff has been supportive and generous in offering information and opinions. The staff has even joined me on field trips to other gardens, including Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo Arboretum, and Wrigley Memorial and Botanical Garden on Catalina Island, to see how other gardens operate their facilities: greenhouses, shade houses, potting sheds, storage facilities, and break rooms.

"The Central Coast is a familiar and welcoming place to live in again, having graduated from Cal Poly San



Romi Ige outside the pavilion where she resided during her three-month fellowship at Lotusland.

Luis Obispo with a BS in Landscape Architecture and having earned a two-year Technical Certificate in Horticulture. Garden internships at Filoli in Woodside, California, Powell Gardens near Kansas City, Missouri, and Old Westbury Gardens on Long Island, New York, have allowed me to learn the operations of many public gardens, to meet garden staff and visit gardens all over the country. Lotusland is unique—with its dramatic design, colorful history, and charismatic creator.

"When chosen as the first Chanticleer Fellow, I knew it would be the opportunity of a lifetime as well as a challenge of my creative and organizational abilities. This first endeavor at Lotusland is already fulfilling to me and is allowing me to expand my skills and develop new ones. It is a privilege to be part of the vision and future of Lotusland."



Chanticleer gardeners (from l to r) Przemyslaw "Przemeł" Walczak, Lisa Crock, and Dan Benarcik enjoy the casual reception held for them on the pavilion patio to meet the staff of Lotusland during their recent California trip.



Romi Ige and Chanticleer Director Chris Woods on the pavilion patio at the reception for Chanticleer staff. The Chanticleer Foundation of Wayne, Pennsylvania, is sponsoring Chanticleer Fellow Romi during her stay at Lotusland.

New to the Collections

With JENNIFER DENNIS, Assistant Curator

GERMINATING FERN SPORES

PROPAGATION OF FERNS from spores is an interesting technique that has been used successfully at Lotusland for several years. By germinating spores acquired from LAIFS (the Los Angeles International Fern Society), as well as from other botanical gardens, we have been able to add several new ferns to the collection. The following steps illustrate the technique used in the Lotusland nursery.

First, peat moss is thoroughly moistened and pressed into a clean 6-inch pot. The moss must be sterilized to prevent fungus, algae, and other spores that may be present from contaminating the ferns. This can be done by pouring boiling water over the container, placing it in a 200°F oven for 30 minutes, or even putting it in a microwave for 10 minutes. Afterwards, the soil media is allowed to cool until it is only slightly warm.

Next, the spores are sprinkled thinly across the peat moss. The container is quickly covered in plastic wrap to prevent contamination and set in a tray of water. The plastic wrap is not removed until after the spores germinate, usually in 10 to



Fern spores germinate at long last in the Lotusland nursery.

20 days. At first they are barely visible and look like green moss. Then the plants form the prothallus, a shield-shaped structure on top of the soil. After several months, the ferns develop their first true leaves and a few roots. At this time they are separated into 2-inch pots to continue growing.

Some interesting ferns grown at Lotusland by this method include *Drynaria rigidula*, a fern with long weeping fronds which prefers to grow on rocks or in a hanging basket.

Stenochlaena tenuifolia, the vine fern, has creeping rhizomes that make it a good groundcover. Another rhizomatous fern is *Davallia fejeensis*, the lacy hare's foot, a native of Fiji that has finely divided fronds. It gets its common name from its woolly scale-covered rhizomes, which grow on top of the soil and resemble furry "feet." Another new fern is *Adiantum pedatum* v. *aleuticum*, five-finger maiden-hair, a small fern native to California and the Northwest United States. It has fronds that are bronzy-pink when they first unfold.

These and other ferns grown from spore propagation will be used to expand the collection in the Lotusland fern garden.

DON'T MISS THIS CHANCE TO LEARN ABOUT
A UNIQUE AND BEAUTIFUL GARDEN.

Chanticleer: A Passion for Plants
with Chanticleer Director Christopher Woods
Friday, March 20, 2:00 p.m.

IN THIS ILLUSTRATED lecture, Chris Woods will detail the development of the former private estate Chanticleer, located near Philadelphia, into a pleasure garden and one of the most prominent ornamental gardens on the East Coast. Call Amanda Jones at 969-3767 ext. 230 to make a reservation.



DISCOVER THE AUSTRALIAN GARDEN

On your next visit to the garden, why not explore the Australian plantings around the Visitor Center parking area? Pick up a self-guided tour map from the Garden Shop to discover a world "down under" right here in Santa Barbara.

Horticultural Happenings

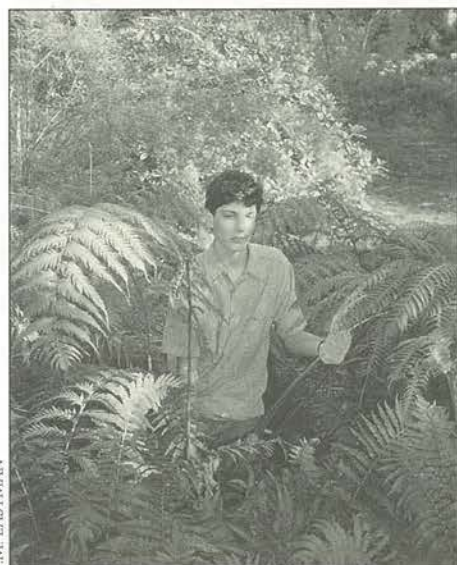
With MIKE IVEN

MIDDLE SCHOOL INTERNS

FOR THE THIRD consecutive year, Lotusland participated in Santa Barbara Middle School's Work Internship Week. The program provides adolescent students with an opportunity to learn important lessons about work, people, and responsibility. Job sites become their classrooms, and the people they meet and work with their teachers.



Esau Ramirez and Seth Napel kept Middle School intern Zack Mozes busy in the fern garden in November.



Middle School intern Milard Nazarian worked amid ferns in the Japanese garden.

Middle School students Zack Mozes and Milard Nazerian worked approximately 25 hours each with Lotusland's grounds staff. Zack worked with Esau Ramirez, Seth Napel, and other team members raking, weeding, transplanting, and installing a subsurface drainage system. Milard worked with other grounds staff on the maintenance of ferns and bamboo and helped Jay Hinkle set up a pump to lower the water level in the Japanese pond. Both students asked a lot of questions about plants and grounds maintenance issues, and Lotusland staff appreciated their help, their enthusiasm, and their eagerness to learn.

STORM DAMAGE

WINTER STORMS THROUGH the first week of February caused extensive damage to the garden, including the loss of 30 trees. Most were blown over by gusty winds on the night of February 2; however, several trees were removed after root inspections indicated hazardous conditions and imminent failure. In the fern garden the loss of a large *Quercus agrifolia* and the shade it provided for understory plantings near the swimming pool will require relandscaping of a large area. An 80-foot-tall *Calocedrus decurrens* (incense cedar) was removed after a Hazardous Tree Inspection Report indicated an unsafe condition caused by the high winds and an underground flow of water through the root zone. Because failure of the tree could have resulted in extensive damage to surrounding plantings and structures, staff made an emotionally charged decision to remove the tree.

Several *Cedrus deodara* and another large *Q. agrifolia* were lost in the fern garden. A variety of other tree species down throughout the garden include *Pinus radiata*, *Cupressus*



A 40-foot *Eucalyptus* sp. tree in the Visitor Center parking area fortunately missed the kiosk when it fell during February's storms.

macrocarpa, *Acacia baileyana*, *Olea europaea*, and *Eucalyptus* sp. A 20-foot *Howea fosteriana* palm snapped at the base when a Monterey pine fell on it. Additionally, pathways in all areas were washed out, while rocks, dirt and debris flowed into the water garden and aloe garden ponds.

No one on Lotusland's grounds staff could remember a storm more devastating to the garden than this one. The necessary planning of garden restorations, renovations, and new landscape installations has already begun. Just as change is constant in nature, so it is in the maintenance and preservation of an historical botanical garden.

OLIVE TREE REMOVAL

A NUMBER OF OLIVE trees were removed along the main drive and in the Australian garden to improve cultural conditions in both areas. The Australian garden olives were transplanted to another Montecito home at the owner's expense, saving Lotusland the cost of their removal and saving the trees to grace another garden. The tree removal along the main drive was a portion of a major renovation of the cactus and euphorbia plantings funded in part by a \$10,000 grant from the Dan Murphy Foundation.

Butterfly Garden Planting Project

LOTUSLAND'S GROUNDS STAFF is eager to work with volunteers in all areas of the garden this year and has designed a special project that may be of interest to Lotusland members. Staff would like a team of volunteers to install and develop a butterfly garden in the area adjacent to the citrus orchards with plants that have been proven to attract butterflies and other beneficial insects to the garden.



Several beds in and around the dawn redwood and bird cage could be planted and maintained. The project would also involve removing poinsettia and jade now in the beds. This is an opportunity for a group of like-minded gardeners to get their hands dirty and participate in Lotusland's exciting new foray into the world of biological balance for the exotic collections of Ganna Walska. To join this team, please call Janet Eastman, Volunteer Coordinator, at (805) 969-3767 ext. 227; e-mail: jeastman@lotusland.org.

A LOTUSLAND REMINDER!



Call the
Reservation
Office to
book your
spring or
summer tour:

(805) 969-9990

*Monday
through Friday
9:00 a.m. to noon*

DRAWING BY GAIL LUCAS

Make Mother's Day Special

TREAT THE MOTHER in your life to a wonderful gift this Mother's Day—a membership to Friends of Lotusland. Every Mother's Day gift recipient and her guests are invited on a docent-led tour of the garden on Saturday, May 9 (the day before Mother's Day). Tea and refreshments will be served on the Terrace in honor of Mother's Day. What a great opportunity to share the garden with Mom!

To purchase a Mother's Day gift membership, complete this coupon and mail it to:
Ganna Walska Lotusland, Attn: Member Events, 695 Ashley Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93108

MOTHER'S DAY GIFT MEMBERSHIP RECIPIENT

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

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

PERSON GIVING GIFT

Your Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

PAYMENT METHOD

☐ Check Enclosed ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard Expiration Date _____

Card Number _____ Signature _____

PLEASE SEND THE INFORMATION ABOUT MAKING A RESERVATION FOR THE MOTHER'S DAY TOUR TO:

☐ The gift recipient ...or... ☐ The gift giver (you) ...or... ☐ Both



Welcome New Docents

THIRTY-FOUR NEW DOCENTS have joined more than 50 returning veteran docents to lead tours of the garden in 1998. Trainees spent all fall attending classes that featured Lotusland staff and local speakers lecturing on the history of the estate, its plant collections, the garden designers who contributed to the garden, and Madame Walska. Also included was a class on the role of botanic gardens in promoting plant conservation.

Most classes featured an indoor slide presentation followed by an outdoor portion to see the plants in the garden. All trainees worked hard to prepare themselves for practice tours in January and public tours, which began February 18. We thank them for their efforts and look forward to having them interpret the garden for visitors—including members—this year. We welcome:

Michael Alden
Connie Buxton
Janice Chelini
Jane Gail Copelan
Barbara Dixon
Mary Anne Dudash
Trina Gault
Heidi Henes-VanBergen

Katherine Holden
Patty Jacquemin
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Marilyn McCarty
Sandra Millender
Leslie Moed
Hugh Murphy
Stella Natale
Joyce Painter
Maggy Pendleton

Barbara Siemon
Ellen Somdahl
Bernice Sutherland
Joyce Vigneaud
Mary L. Wagner
Dorothy Warnock
Jackie Williams
Lynn Willmarth

Nancy Wood
Georgia Young

Note: Due to damage in the garden, graduation ceremonies were postponed. A group photo of graduates will appear in the Summer newsletter.

Welcome Back!

LOTUSLAND THANKS ALL those volunteers returning in 1998 to serve the garden in its mission to "preserve and enhance the spectacular collections of exotic plants on the Montecito estate of the late Madame Ganna Walska, and through interpretation of those collections to foster increased knowledge and appreciation of the importance of plants and the need for their conservation."

Hampton Bell
Danyel benShea
David & Nora Berklich
John Boyer
Adi Brewer
June Bristow
Merryl Brown
George L. Burtress
Jayne Murray Burton
Heda & Bob Carpenter
Karole & Russ Christian
Pati Clark
Frances D. Connors

Sharon Crawford
Nancy Cross
B. Jo Dake
Lori Ann David
Nina Delgado
Jolene DeLisa
Jean DeVilbiss
Henrietta di Suvero
Poney Eagleton
Christine Ellis
Robert Emmons
Doris Fienga
Donald & Suzanne Fine

Carolyn Fleg
Grace Florez
Lee & Bud Francis
Brenda Freeman
Virginia T. Gardner
Arthur R. Gaudi
Rosanne K. Germain
Sherry Gilson
Anna Griffin
Joan Haber
Valerie Halverson
Patricia R. Harris
Norm & Helen Hilleman
Nancy Huebner
Janet Hunter
Sean Hutchinson
Kyle Irwin
Phil R. Jackson
Patricia Harris Johnston
Anne Jones
Beth Jones
Fred Keller
Marianne Kelley
Marge Kelly
Dana Kent
Cherif Khoury
Lynn Kirby
Kathé Klock
Karen Kolb
Sonja Lane
JoAnn Lewis
Maude H. Lowry

Dorothy Marking
Marcelle M. Martin
Malcolm McCabe
JoAnn Mermis
Chantal Murphy
Annette Myck
Lee Neill
Mary Nelson-Perry
Kirsten Olson
Dorothy Openshaw
Margo Osherenko
Stanya Owen
Joyce Painter
Craig Palonen
Maija-Liisa Pekkanen
Pam Pesenti
David Potter
Dave Prowell
Bob & Ginger Puddicombe
Jane Kimball Quesada
Richard Riffero
Ted Ross
Nancy Salvucci
Veloyce Schmidt
Casey Schneider
Jim Scorso
Hilda Siebert
Mary Sheldon
Alice Sheldon
Martha Shiffman
Sharon Slade
Jennifer Stafford



Volunteer Dorothy Openshaw reaches for oranges, which were donated to the Food Bank.

Jean Stevenson
Carolene Tacconelli
Hania Tallmadge
Patricia Tarkowska
Judy Thielscher
Mary Thieme
Rose Thomas
Michael Towbes
Carol Valentine
Cathy Vasek
Jo Wagner
Diana Wilk
Nancy D. Wilkinson
Adele Wojciechowski
Joyce Ziman



Volunteers Nancy Wilkinson (with cat) and Marlena Handler greet visitors in the Lotusland garden shop.



Members' Family Day at Lotusland

SATURDAY, APRIL 18 • 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

Sponsored by Smart & Final Inc.

Lotusland wishes to thank you, our members, for your support by providing this special opportunity to share the garden with your family (even children under 10 years old)

Activities will include:

- Story telling by Michael Katz in the theatre garden
11-11:30 a.m. & 2:30-3 p.m.
- Games and crafts from the garden for children and adults
10-11:30 a.m. & 1:30-3 p.m.
- Picnic lunch, cake, and drinks on the main lawn
- Live music on the main lawn, featuring *The Sons of Bluegrass*
from noon to 2 p.m.
- Exhibits
- Silly souvenir photographs by Robert DeBris

Box lunches for adults and children can be reserved, or guests are welcome to bring their own picnic lunch. Cake and beverages will be provided for all.

Bring a blanket or borrow one from us so you can sit on the lawn. Whether you prefer sun or shade, there is ample room for everyone on the lawn. Limited seating at tables will be available on a first-come basis.

THIS MEMBERS' FAMILY DAY IS FREE!

Reservations are necessary, as well as prepayment for box lunches ordered. We expect this event to fill very quickly and space is limited. Please complete and mail the coupon below as soon as possible, and include payment for your lunch if you wish to order one.

RESERVATION FORM

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

Member Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Number of Adults attending _____ Number of Kids attending _____ Number of cars _____

You may bring your own picnic or order Box Lunches here:

Box Lunches: Adult's lunch \$10 each _____

Kid's lunch \$ 5 each _____

Total enclosed _____

Do you wish to borrow a blanket? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Payment Method:

☐ Check enclosed ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

Expiration date _____

Card number _____

Signature _____

Always Room at the Top

GANNA WALSKA'S MEMOIRS *Always Room at the Top* may have referred to spiritual heights, but Lotusland arborist Mark Kyriaco and tree trimmer Brett Warner have experienced arboreal heights nearly as splendid. As these views of the garden show, trimming or felling trees gives them the opportunity to see the garden from a whole new perspective. Photos by Mike Iven and Brett Warner.



IN MEMORIAM: Remembering Pat Scott

By STEVEN TIMBROOK

LOTUSLAND LOST A TREASURED FRIEND, neighbor, and creative partner with the passing of master stone mason Patrick E. Scott on February 14. Pat's artistry and craftsmanship with stone, tile, and other masonry materials have contributed greatly to the restoration of Lotusland's former glory and the enhancement of its gardens. Beginning in 1987, Pat and his fellow craftsmen at Pat Scott Masonry matched existing paving stones for an expansion of the fern garden, followed by the creation of a raised stone shrine platform in the Japanese garden in 1988. In subsequent years he crafted a curved stone bench for the deck at the head of the swimming pool and was responsible for restoration of the brickwork and fountains in the formal gardens on the east side of the main house and the pavilion patio. At the time of his death, Pat was in the midst of the olive tree transplanting project mentioned in Horticultural Happenings on page 8, awaiting dry weather to complete it.

At the request of his wife, Mary Scott, a memorial fund has been established at Lotusland that will honor Pat's contribution to Lotusland and further its mission of preservation, education, and conservation. Tax-deductible contributions in Pat's memory may be sent to Ganna Walska Lotusland, 695 Ashley Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93108. For additional information, please contact Assistant Director Anne Dewey at 969-3767, ext. 225.

Members Who Have Increased Their Level of Support

November, December 1997, January 1998

LEVEL II

Mr. Keith Birkenfeld
Ms. Celia Book
Ms. Blythe Coulter
Ms. Sue Dodds
Ms. Grace Florez &
Ms. Dianne Schnitzer
Ms. Inge Gatz
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Ibarra
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Irvin
Ms. Louise Jansen
Ms. Raminta Jautokas
Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Krischer
Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Machtinger
Ms. Suzanne Vivian Makuch
Ms. Joyce Painter

Ms. Dorcas Robson
Ms. Mary L. Roesler
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Schley
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Tisler
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard White

LEVEL III

Richard E. Hughes, M.D. &
Mr. Todd Birns
Mr. Phil R. Jackson
Ms. Robin Grace Warren

LEVEL IV

Mr. & Mrs. John Gillespie
Mr. Paul Legvold

Air Plants at Lotusland

SATURDAY, MAY 16
1:30 TO 3:30 P.M.

If the lead article on atmospheric tillandsias has you up in the air for more information, sign up for *Air Plants at Lotusland*. Executive Director Dr. Steven Timbrook is offering this class for members that will show slides of various species in their natural habitat, talk about their biogeography, biology, and cultivation, and look at those grown in Lotusland's two bromeliad gardens. See page 15 for registration information.

Garden Mapping Project Receives Initial Funding

TWO GENEROUS GIFTS from the Braun Charitable Annuity Trust and Pesenti Foundation have provided \$19,000 of the \$25,000 needed for Lotusland's garden mapping project. Surveying work is in progress to produce a digital topographic map, which will show one-foot contour lines covering the entire Lotusland estate; all roads, paths and buildings; and a number of landmark trees. An additional \$6,000 must be raised to complete funding for the software and computer equipment necessary to allow Lotusland staff to update the map in the future and to add special overlays such as irrigation systems, outdoor sculpture siting, and specimen plant locations.

Your contribution toward this important grounds and collections management tool will move Lotusland ahead in its constant quest for gardening excellence. For additional information about this project, please contact Assistant Director Anne Dewey at 969-3767, ext. 225.



Paul Mills and Virginia Hayes prepare to wrap two rare *Pachypodium namaquanum* for their journey back to Lotusland. This generous donation was made by the director of the Wrigley Memorial and Botanical Garden, Mark Hoefs, during a recent Lotusland staff field trip to Catalina Island. The Chanticleer Fellowship sponsored the January trip made by seven gardeners to assess the horticultural and maintenance facilities there as well as tour the garden of cacti, succulents, Catalina Island endemics and other California island natives.

Friends of Lotusland

We Welcome New Members Who Joined in November, December 1997, January 1998

Mr. & Mrs. William M. Alverson
 Mr. Albert Angier
 Mr. & Mrs. Mark A. Bacon, Jr.
 Ms. Marya A. Bammer
 Mr. Barry Bartron &
 Ms. Kay Long
 Mr. & Mrs. Edward Bates
 Mr. & Mrs. Earl Beck
 Mr. Michael Berman
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Bijou
 Ms. Patricia Blake
 Ms. Lana Bodnar
 Ms. Laura Braswell
 Ms. Vicki Brinkman
 Mrs. Rosemary Carton Brown
 Ms. Jean L. Cady
 Mr. Garrett Carlson
 Ms. S. Jan Chamot
 Mrs. Alger Chaney
 Mr. & Mrs. George Chapman
 Mr. David R. Clarke
 Mr. & Mrs. Luke Connolly
 Ms. Florence Cooper
 Mr. Richard Curtis
 Ms. Diane Daley-Smith
 Ms. Cora Dalton-Whittier
 Mr. Frank Daniel
 Mr. Dean Davidge
 Ms. Sharon E. Davie
 Mrs. Emy Davies
 Judge & Mrs. John G. Davies
 Mr. & Mrs. John G. Davies, Jr.
 Mr. Kenneth G. Davies
 Ms. Nan Deal
 Mr. & Mrs. Frederick Dentinger
 Mr. & Mrs. Jim Dixon
 Mr. & Mrs. Lauren Dow
 Mr. & Mrs. Lou Drobnick
 Ms. Maryanne Dudash
 Mr. & Mrs. Terrence E. Dunn
 Ms. Debi Dykzeul
 Mr. & Mrs. Don Fegner
 Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Ferris
 Mr. & Mrs. Milan Fiala
 Assemblyman & Mrs.
 Brooks Firestone
 Mr. Kevin Flint
 Ms. Iris Howell Flowers
 Mr. & Mrs. Jay Fortman
 Foundation for Santa Barbara
 City College
 Mr. & Mrs. Clinton C. France

Ms. Alice Gallo &
 Mr. Mickey Manning
 Ms. Betty Garner
 Mr. & Mrs. Ron Gillio
 Mr. Miles Goldrick &
 Ms. Paula Hatley
 Ms. Slim Gomez, Montecito
 Natural Foods
 Mr. & Mrs. Larry Gordon
 Ms. Koleen Hamblin
 Mr. Nicholas Hamilton
 Dr. Van R. Hamilton
 Mr. & Mrs. John Hancock
 Mr. & Mrs. James Haverland
 Ms. Carol Hawkins &
 Mr. Laurence Pearson
 Ms. Myra Hochman &
 Mr. Lawrence Gipe
 Ms. Barbara K. Hopper
 Ms. Karen Howsam
 Ms. Lisa Hugo
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hummer
 Mr. & Mrs. Fritz Huntsinger
 Mr. & Mrs. Larry Jacobson
 Mr. & Mrs. Ned Jacoby
 Mr. & Mrs. Barry Keller
 Ms. Marianne Kelley
 Mr. Eugen Koffmann
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph La Rosa
 Ms. Denise M. Laing
 Ms. Rebecca Lascoe
 Ms. Brita Lemmon
 Mr. & Mrs. Hank Levkoff
 Mr. & Mrs. William Levy
 Mr. Russell Long
 Mr. Daniel Lowe
 Dr. Emile Masthoff
 Ms. Karen D. Mattox
 Mr. John L. Mayer &
 Mr. Gavin Kern
 Mr. & Mrs. John McCarthy
 Ms. Sara Miller McCune
 Ms. Marcia McDonough
 Ms. Elaine McKinlay
 Mr. Duke McPherson
 Mr. & Mrs. David Messick
 Mr. Alfred Moir
 Ms. Katrina Morris
 Natural History Museum
 of Los Angeles
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Nichols
 Ms. Rise Ochsner

Ms. Jane Ouweleen
 Mr. Randy Owens
 Ms. Cherry Parnell
 Ms. Rebecca J. Passonneau
 Ms. Cindy Pearson
 Ms. Maggy Pendleton
 Mr. & Mrs. Donald E. Petersen
 Ms. Tina Petra & Mr. Ken Wong
 Mr. & Mrs. Don Prows
 Mr. & Mrs. Keith Puccinelli
 Ms. Jane Kimball Quesada
 Mr. Carlos Quilez &
 Ms. Jessica Puccinelli
 Mr. Brad Quinn &
 Mr. John Clarkson
 Ms. Karen Roberts
 Ms. Mary Jo Ross
 Mr. Stephen Sadowsky &
 Ms. Maria Stratton
 Mr. & Mrs. David Schott
 Ms. Rochelle See &
 Ms. Jacqueline Niland
 Mr. & Mrs. Harris Seed
 Mr. & Mrs. Gene Servin
 Mr. Ron Singer
 Ms. Adreinne Smyth
 Mr. Michael J. Snyder
 Ms. Beth Soloway
 Mr. & Mrs. Frank Stevens
 Mr. Nicholas Stonnington
 Ms. Barbara Tacker
 Mr. & Mrs. Mamoru Takeuchi
 Ms. Meg Taradash
 Dr. & Mrs. Roy Taylor
 Mr. Mike Terre & Mr. Joe Terre
 Mr. Brian Tichenor
 Mr. & Mrs. James Urmston
 Ms. Theadora Van Runkle
 Ms. Kathy Vanslyke
 Ms. Winifred W. Vedder
 Mr. Michael A. Vorhaus
 Ms. Mary L. Wagner
 Ms. Barbara Wagner &
 Mr. Martin Scharlemann
 Mr. & Mrs. Hartmut Walter
 Ms. Marge Wardlaw
 Mr. & Mrs. Andre Weckstrom
 Ms. Anne Wentling
 Ms. Elizabeth Whitney
 Ms. Victoria Wood
 Mrs. John Woolley
 Ms. Susan Young

Chanticleer: A Special Garden

With CHANTICLEER DIRECTOR
CHRIS WOODS

Friday, March 20, 1998 • 2:00 p.m.
\$15.00 per person

Air Plants at Lotusland

With DR. STEVEN TIMBROOK

Saturday, May 16, 1998 • 1:30 p.m.
\$15.00 per person

Check one:

- ☐ Friday, March 20, 2:00 PM
☐ Saturday, May 16, 1:30 PM

Number attending _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

Ganna Walska Lotusland Registration Form

PAYMENT METHOD: ☐ Check enclosed ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

Expiration date _____ Card number _____

Member name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Signature _____

*Fees are refundable only if cancelled one week before class or lecture.
If minimum enrollment is not reached, classes may be consolidated or cancelled.*

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

Lotusland Gratefully Acknowledges Donations

November, December 1997, January 1998

ALOES FOCUS DAY EXHIBIT

Montecito Natural Foods
Forever Living Products

GRANTS

Mericos Foundation
Dan Murphy Foundation
The Pesenti Foundation

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

Mr. John E. Bleck
Ms. Dee Carlson
Mr. Sean Hutchinson
Mr. Bruce Van Dyke

LOTUSLAND CELEBRATES A JOURNEY TO TIBETLAND

U.S. Trust Company of California
and New Jersey
Virginia Castagnola Hunter

MISCELLANEOUS

Allen and Associates
Ms. Marie Bergstedt
Ms. Celia Book
Judge & Mrs. John G. Davies
Ms. Nadine Feldheim
Ms. Phyllis Archer Haskell

Mr. & Mrs. John M. Maloney
Mr. David F. Myrick
Mr. Arthur W. Schultz
Ms. Winifred W. Vedder

PLANTS AND PLANT SUPPLIES

Mrs. Joan Churchill
Mrs. Joseph R. Osherenko
Wrigley Memorial and
Botanical Garden

1997 YEAR-END APPEAL

Mr. Lester J. Anixter
Ms. Yvonne P. Ashton
Mr. & Mrs. H. Hampton Bell
Ms. Nancy D. Burrows
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Connelly
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Crawford
Ms. Elizabeth Dake
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Emmons
Ms. Grace Florez
Mr. & Mrs. Alvin W. Friedman
Ms. Melinda K. Goodman
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Granat
Mr. George Hutchinson
Mr. & Mrs. Sean Hutchinson
Ms. Josephine Ireland
Mr. Phil R. Jackson
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Jacobson
Ms. Barbara E. Jones

Mr. & Mrs. Robert M. Jones
Mr. Thomas W. Jones
Ms. Regina Kaufman
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Kolb
Herbert Koteen, M.D.
Ms. Susan Montpas
Mr. & Mrs. John Naftzger
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Oldham
Ms. Kathleen Palmer
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Palonen
David H. Ruja, Ph.D.
Ms. Mary Mori Scarcello
Mrs. Elman Service
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Simpson
Mr. & Mrs. Jan E.G. Smit
Dr. & Mrs. Dean Smith
Ms. Sue Swartz
Ms. Louisa E. Thielst
Ms. Lucke Thorensen
Mrs. Edward R. Valentine
Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Webster
Ms. Christie William
Ms. Jeanne Woods

Correction

A PAINTING WAS MISTAKENLY identified in the Winter newsletter. The oil painting depicted as part of Art At Lotusland was actually *Pink Plant Palace*, painted by Arturo Tello.

Ganna Walska Lotusland Foundation

695 Ashley Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93108

Address Correction Requested
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Santa Barbara
California
Permit No. 163



Continued from page 2

Peat Lite for Tillandsia," will enhance growth and bloom, but I must confess that mine at home don't get such pampering, nor do Lotusland's.

To learn more about atmospherics, you are invited to attend a class by Executive Director Dr. Steven Timbrook, which will focus on Lotusland's *Tillandsia* collection. See page 15 for enrollment information. Two good reference books are Isley, Paul T. III 1987. *Tillandsia: The World's Most Unusual Air Plants*. Botanical Press, Gardena, California, and Benzing, David H. 1980. *The Biology of the Bromeliads*. Mad River Press, Eureka, California.

Avid airplant aficionados, Executive Director of Lotusland Dr. Steven Timbrook and his wife live at home with their two cats, but no Catopsis. Yet.

¹Morrison, S.E. 1977. *Admiral of the Ocean Sea*. Franklin Library, Franklin Center, Pennsylvania, pgs. 194-195.



Toy trucks and tillandsias for sale in Oaxaca, Mexico.

1998 Member Events

Lotusland has lots of exciting events planned for members in 1998. Look for these upcoming events and activities in this and future newsletters. Space is limited for all events, so please sign up early!

Friday, March 20

Member Lecture

Chanticleer: A Passion for Plants with Chris Woods, Director of Chanticleer (see coupon on page 15 to sign up).

Saturday, April 13

Family Day for Members

Lots of activities for you and your family such as picnics, music, and games for kids; 10 AM to 4 PM (see page 11).

Saturday, May 16

Member Class

Bromeliads at 1:30 PM.

Saturday, June 13

Focus Half-Day for Members

Water Gardens

Enjoy the garden on your own 1:30-4:30 PM with refreshments served at the Main House.

Saturday, June 27

Garden Tour for Members

Join Curator Virginia Hayes for a day-long tour of some of Santa Barbara's private gardens.

Sunday, July 26

Lotusland Celebrates

The garden's annual gala fund-raiser.

Saturday, August 15

Member Class

Aquatic Plant Propagation at 10 AM.

Sunday, September 13

Music in the Outdoor Theatre

Saturday, October 10

Focus Half-Day for Members

Cycads

Enjoy the garden on your own 1:30-4:30 PM with refreshments served at the Main House.

Saturday, October 17

Garden Tour for Members

Join Curator Virginia Hayes for a second day-long tour of some of Santa Barbara's private gardens.

Saturday, November 14

Member Class

Holiday Craft Workshop at 1:30 PM.

Saturday, December 12

Focus Half-Day for Members

Holiday Shopping

Enjoy the garden on your own 1:30-4:30 PM. Purchase your favorite Lotusland items to give as gifts during a relaxed afternoon in the garden with refreshments served at the Main House.