

LOTUSLAND

NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS  VOLUME 10 NO. 3  FALL 2001

"Madame, You Will Like Them"

A CONVERSATION WITH BILL PAYLEN

By STEVEN TIMBROOK

"I DON'T LIKE THEM!" Madame Walska telephoned her new landscape designer, William Paylen, when rocks for her fern garden were delivered in the summer of 1969. "Madame, you *will* like them," Bill replied, and proceeded to create a garden that proved him right. As he talked about how the fern garden came to be, I also learned how Bill became one of Southern California's master landscape designers.

Born in Java to Dutch parents whose plantation grew rubber, cacao and coffee, Bill grew up in the midst of tropical horticulture. When it was time for high school, he was sent to Holland, going on to graduate with a university degree in agricultural engineering. By this time, World War II had disrupted Dutch interests in Indonesia and his parents no longer had their plantation. Finding no horticultural employment in Holland, Bill became a time study engineer in a Phillips Electronics plant. The cold, damp Dutch climate was not to his liking, so he applied to emigrate to the United States. After three-and-a-half years of waiting, his visa was finally approved, and Bill arrived in Los Angeles in 1951, determined to get back into horticulture. "Everyone looked at me funny when I showed up asking about nursery work wearing a blue suit. But I landed a job pulling weeds at the Paul J. Howard Nursery, one of the finest in Southern California, working for 85 cents an hour." In a few weeks, he

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Bill Paylen and the Lotusland grounds crew—from left, Mike Furner, Bill, Randy Clements, Troy Clay, Bruno Reginato and Mike Iven—begin the fern garden extension in 1986.

STAFF PHOTO

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was promoted to plant propagator with a raise of almost 30 cents.

He then began work for a landscape-contracting firm maintaining the landscaping at the billboard sites of Foster and Kleiser Outdoor Advertising. As more and more of these sites were sold, the contract was cancelled, but Bill continued to maintain the remaining sites as an independent contractor. Since he now had a truck and his own equipment, he also provided landscape care for private clients.

All the while, Bill was active in the Southern California horticultural scene, serving terms as President of the Southern California Horticultural

Institute, the Bromeliad Society Inc., the Orchid Society of Southern California, the Los Angeles International Fern Society, the La Ballona Valley Bromeliad Society and the Southern California Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society. It wasn't long before Bill was asked to design gardens, which quickly became the main focus of his business.

I asked Bill where he got his inspiration for garden design. "I always loved plants and I traveled a lot, up until just a few years ago, going back to Indonesia and to South America, Central America, the Caribbean, Malaysia, Borneo, Australia and to New Zealand, where my brother and sisters lived," Bill replied. "In 1964, 24 of us chartered a DC-3 and flew to the upper Amazon to collect bromeliads. When I visited Costa Rica, I often stayed with Robert and Catherine Wilson at their botanical garden in Las Cruces. And, of course, I grew up on a tropical isle. If I have a special interest, it is in shade gardens, and that's how I came to do work at Lotusland."

In 1969, Madame Walska saw a notice in the journal of the Los Angeles International Fern Society that William Paylen would be doing a demonstration on using ferns in landscaping. She sent him a telegram asking him to come to Lotusland to discuss designing a fern garden. He arrived on the appointed Saturday, only to discover that the Palm Society was visiting and Madame Walska was giving them a tour. He waited until late in the afternoon, but by that time she was too tired to talk with him and asked him to return the next Saturday.

The following Saturday, Bill asked where Madame wanted the fern garden, and he had to tell her that the place she had chosen was too small. He suggested that the area around her swimming pool would be much better and she agreed. "OK, Madame, I'll go home and make some sketches and bring them for you to see." "No, I want you to draw the



PHOTOS BY MIKE IVEN

Casey Sclar works with Bill Paylen in the fern garden.

garden right now." "But, Madame, I don't have pencil and paper." "That's no problem, I have them." So, Bill had to sit down and draw up sketches on the spot. Madame liked them and said, "When will you start?" "First I have to order the big stones. When they are here, we can begin."

"Well, you already know what happened next—Madame didn't like the rocks—but my difficulties continued. I arrived at Lotusland to find the boulders, a crane and a crew of Madame's gardeners waiting for my instructions." The crane picked up the first stone and began to move it to where Bill was pointing, about 30 feet ahead. The crane drove slowly forward and promptly bogged down in wet ground. Fortunately, Madame Walska was called to the telephone just at that moment, so Bill called out, "Drop the rock. We'll start the garden from this spot." That's typical of the way Bill approaches garden design. He does it on the spot, picking a focal point and moving out from there, with a lot of moving about to see how something will look from a number of different vantages.

He also takes advantage of things unique to the site. In 1986, 17 years after he created the fern garden for



Lotusland grounds crew and Bill Paylen plant a new specimen.

Madame Walska, Lotusland's Trustees asked Bill to design an extension of the fern garden that more than doubled its original area. In the new area, an acacia tree had fallen over, but was still rooted, and two former branches had begun to form as new upright trunks. Most people would have cleared the old tree away, but Bill incorporated it as a focal point to add height and interest in much the way a huge landscape boulder might be used. Although it's

no longer alive in 2001, the old acacia still supports a growth of epiphytic ferns in a jungle of *Heliconia*, *Clivia* and palms.

When he neared completion of the original fern garden, Bill decided to add a number of kinds of begonias to relieve the green of the ferns. Madame Walska said, "I don't like begonias." And, once again, Bill responded, "Madame, you *will* like them." Once the garden was finished, she told him, "You were right."

Bill wanted to be sure that I understood that as headstrong as Madame Walska could be at times, she could change her mind when she found herself in the wrong. "One time Madame Walska was preparing the garden for a large charity tour," Bill recalled. "She gave me instructions on how she wanted the fern garden spruced up, and at the end of the day she returned and scolded me in front of the gardeners and Mr. Thielst, her head gardener, for not following her instructions. I drove home feeling pretty bad that I'd been chewed out in front of everyone when I had done what she had requested that morning. When I got home to Los Angeles and was unlocking my door, I heard the telephone ringing. It was Madame calling to apologize. Mr. Thielst had



Bill Paylen is hard at work digging in the fern garden.

explained to her that I had done exactly as she'd asked."

Bill comes up from his new home in Camarillo on a regular basis to advise the gardeners on the ongoing care of the fern garden and the bromeliad gardens. Bill willingly shares the expertise he's gathered from a lifetime in horticulture with the gardeners he works with in Lotusland's shade gardens. Thanks to Bill, Lotusland has it made in the shade.

Mason Farrell Joins the Board of Lotusland



LOTUSLAND IS PLEASED to welcome Mason Farrell to our Board of Trustees. Mason has been a Santa Barbara area resident since 1975 and is a graduate of Laguna Blanca School and North Carolina State University. After working in an Italian shipyard and traveling abroad, Mason returned to Santa Barbara and began his career with Michael Towbes Construction & Development. In 1994, he and a partner started a residential development firm, Martin Farrell Homes, Inc. Mason and his wife, Julia, married in 1991, and have two young children, Cooper and Henry.

Mason is a trustee at Laguna Blanca School where he chaired the Buildings and Grounds committee for three years. He currently serves as Vice-President, as well as Chairman of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, at the Santa Barbara Boys and Girls Club, where he also co-chaired a successful \$1.7 million capital campaign. He is also involved with the Santa Barbara Foundation and is a participant in its Katherine Harvey Fellowship program. Mason is eager to help Lotusland accomplish its goals of preservation, education and conservation.

Launch Your Own Endowment to...

1. Lock in your own annual giving to Lotusland.
2. Create a lasting, personal legacy in the community.
3. Preserve Lotusland as an oasis of beauty and serenity that educates and delights.

UNENDING ANNUAL GIFTS

AS A FRIEND OF LOTUSLAND, you make at least one annual gift, your membership, to support this unique botanic treasure. Our Endowment Program allows you to make sure that these annual gifts continue in perpetuity after you are gone.

Endowment gifts are basically investment funds that preserve principal and provide annual interest earnings to Lotusland. In other words, after you are gone your endowment will take your place in providing annual support for Lotusland. A gift of \$10,000 will provide at least \$500 per year of ongoing funds for Lotusland's educational programs and garden care, year after year.

A LASTING LEGACY

ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL reasons people launch endowments is to create lasting legacies. The ongoing nature of these funds provides an unending way not only to support

Lotusland, but also to remind family and friends of your values and commitments. Grandchildren, great-grandchildren and future generations will see your endowment at work. If you want to inspire people for years to come, consider launching your own endowment.

CARRYING OUT YOUR PERSONAL VISION IN THE GARDEN

ENDOWING ONE OF Madame Walska's unique gardens, structures, programs (such as the youth education program) and staff positions that support the garden ensures the ongoing care, maintenance and facilities that will preserve and protect Lotusland for the enjoyment of generations to come. Suitable recognition is provided in ways compatible with the aesthetics of the garden.

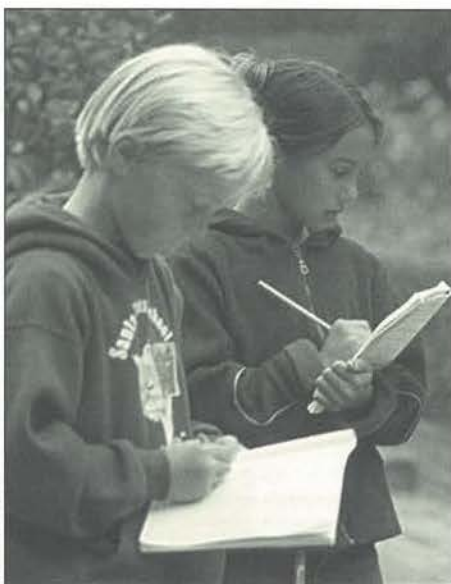
SEVERAL POSSIBILITIES

YOU CAN LAUNCH your endowment in several ways. You can do it all at

once by making a major gift of cash or marketable assets. Or you can make all the arrangements now and defer the launch date until activated by your will. You can also start now with a modest amount and add to your endowment later. Other ways might involve the use of a charitable trust that provides you with lifelong income and tax savings.

Endowment building is one of the most satisfying ways to support Lotusland, and many *Friends of Lotusland* have discovered this firsthand. Your gift may qualify for lifetime, charter membership in our new, prestigious *Lotus Society*, with invitations to an exclusive, annual *Lotus Society* event and other Lotusland activities.

To learn more about our Endowment Program and how you can participate, please call Anne Dewey, Lotusland's Director of Development, at (805) 969-3767, ext. 105. Or use the convenient response form below. —Anne Dewey



STAFF PHOTO

Students take notes while on a tour of the garden as part of Lotusland's Education Outreach Program.

----- CLIP AND MAIL -----

- ☐ Please send me information about Lotusland's Endowment Program.
- ☐ Please send me your complimentary Wills Kit.
- ☐ Please send me information about *The Lotus Society*, your special endowment contributor recognition program.
- ☐ Please contact me. The best time to reach me is _____.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please mail completed form to:
Anne Dewey, Director of Development
Ganna Walska Lotusland Foundation
695 Ashley Road
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New to the Collections

NEW SPECIES OF GIANT TIMBER BAMBOOS ARRIVE AT LOTUSLAND

WE RECENTLY RECEIVED a wonderful donation of eight new species of bamboo from the American Bamboo Society. Six of them, along with a few in the nursery, will join several that are already planted along the Sycamore Canyon Road side of the cycad garden. With the removal of most of the volunteer eucalyptus in this area, the cycad garden is now quite exposed to passersby, and visitors inside the garden are distracted by views of neighboring houses. Eventually the bamboos will provide a tropical screen that will complement the cycads and bring back the privacy that makes a visit to Lotusland feel like stepping into another world.

All of these species are generally referred to as timber bamboos. Typically their culms will reach from 40 feet to as high as 100 feet with



Each new culm is taller than the last on this *Bambusa textilis* located at the edge of the cycad garden.

individual diameters from 2 to 8 inches. All but one are clumping bamboos, meaning they send up new shoots just a few inches to a foot away from the main clump, so are practically non-invasive when properly spaced. The planting plan calls for staggering the clumps on either side of our service road so that they have maximum area for growth and yet provide the visual effect desired.

The majority is in the genus *Bambusa*, a tropical and subtropical genus widespread in Asia from India to China. The largest is *B. bambos*, the giant thorny bamboo, capable in its native habitat in India of reaching a height of 100 feet. Other *Bambusa* species include *B. blumeana*, another thorny bamboo from Indonesia and India, *B. eutuldoides*, *B. longispiculata*, *B. membranacea* and *B. tulda*, all native to China. Others already in the garden are *B. beecheyana* and *B. textilis*, the weaver's bamboo. We also have two of the more commonly planted species: *B. oldhamii*, giant timber bamboo, and *B. vulgaris* 'Vittata' with its distinctive yellow striped culms.

The other genus of timber, or mountain, bamboos that will be represented is *Dendrocalamus*. Most of these are native to the Himalayas and are thus very hardy here in Southern California. The new species, *D. strictus*, known as the male bamboo, is the most common bamboo in use in India. It will join *D. hamiltonii*, *D. latiflorus* 'Mei Nung' and *D. brandisii*. *Dendrocalamus* bamboos are notable for their relatively large leaves. Many are up to a foot long and quite wide, giving the plant a very tropical look.

Yet another species, a "running" type, is *Phyllostachys pubescens*, the most commonly used bamboo in China. It is used for everything from its edible shoots to paper-making, woven mats, furniture and building construction. We will plant it in its own corner so that we can keep it contained.

It will be a few years before you really notice these beautiful bamboos enclosing the garden once again. But it will be worth the wait.

—Virginia Hayes



To get an idea of what the bamboos around the cycad garden will look like, check out the old clump of *Bambusa oldhamii* in the Japanese garden.

Horticultural Happenings

THE DUNLAP CACTUS COLLECTION UPDATE

MATURE PLANTS AND CUTTINGS from Merritt Dunlap's donated collection of primarily South American cacti are being moved from Fallbrook, California to Lotusland at the rate of one 12-foot stake-bed truckload per week. Paul Mills and Esau Ramirez are spearheading the effort with occasional help from other Lotusland grounds staff.

While on staff at Lotusland from 1995–99, Paul Mills put his extensive knowledge and field experience with cacti and succulents to use maintaining and improving Lotusland's collections. Interestingly enough, in 1994, after graduating from UCSB, Paul worked with Charles Glass, Ganna Walska's garden manager for many years, conducting field studies of endangered Mexican cacti. In 1999 Paul completed the International Diploma Course on Plant Conservation Techniques at the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew, England. Shortly after his return to the States, the Dunlap cactus collection relocation project planning process began.

Esau Ramirez began working at Lotusland in January 1994 after being employed in the landscape maintenance industry for more than eight years. Esau had worked with



Paul Mills in the midst of the Dunlap cactus collection at Merritt Dunlap's property in Fallbrook.

Jeff Chemnick, Lotusland volunteer and cycad collector, who encouraged Esau to apply for an open grounds position at Lotusland. Jeff's loss was Lotusland's gain. Esau maintained the fern garden for several years and is one of two grounds staff team leaders. He is Lotusland's assistant grounds superintendent and is also responsible for maintenance of the cactus and succulent plantings.

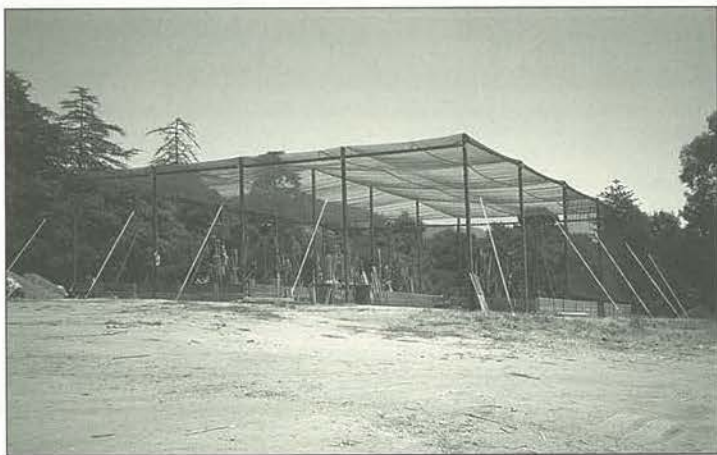


PHOTOS BY MIKE IVEN

Assistant grounds superintendent Esau Ramirez is responsible for maintaining Lotusland's cactus and succulent plantings.

The collection, as described by Dr. Steven Timbrook in the Spring 2001 Lotusland Newsletter for Members, comprises more than 700 specimens, including 30 or so plants to be moved with the aid of a crane and a large truck.

Temporary facilities, including a shade structure with raised planting beds and a cold frame with pumice rooting beds, house the plants and



Guy wires secure the temporary shade structure needed to accommodate 15' tall specimens. Removable shade cloth fabricated to fit the top and sides protects the plants from sunburn.



As the Dunlap plants arrive at Lotusland from Fallbrook, they are planted in 24" raised beds filled with a sandy soil mix amended with compost.



Cuttings are rooted in pumice (left) and smaller plants are planted in pots in the hoop house.

cuttings in Lotusland's northernmost field. Concurrently, the site design of a new garden for permanent display of the Dunlap collection is being developed for the area behind the recently renovated topiary garden.

A one- to three-year process will include the relocation of the collection from Fallbrook to Lotusland, maintenance of the collection at Lotusland, design of the new garden, improving access to the new garden and drainage in and around the area, preparing planting beds and the final installation of paths, drainage lines, irrigation, landscape rocks and plants. Ideally, planting beds will be prepared at

least one year in advance in order to encourage a healthy soil foodweb with the addition of compost, selected cover crops and soil injections of beneficial microorganisms to a sandy topsoil. The collection will be available for viewing in the temporary holding facilities once the relocation of all plant material is completed.

THE NEXT TIME YOU VISIT LOTUSLAND

DA ROS MASONRY replaced the cement pavers on the terrace overlooking the rose garden with a brickwork pattern, designed by landscape architect

Susan Van Atta, that mimics the shape of the star fountain just below the roses. All pathways and fountains from the topiary garden through the roses and beyond have been renovated and/or activated. Wheelchair accessibility to this terrace is a major new improvement to the garden.

Six newly acquired 4'-5' *Aloe dichotoma* enhance the aloe garden in a planting bed just behind the shell pond. Soil renovation in the area included the addition of a sandy topsoil amended with compost, compost tea treatments and mycorrhizae inoculations.

—Mike Iven



Red brick replaced cement pavers on the parterre terrace.



The recently planted *Aloe dichotoma* in the aloe garden.

LOTUSLAND THANKS U.S. TRUST COMPANY FOR ITS SPONSORSHIP OF

Lotusland Celebrates the 20's

Honoring the Gavit Family who built "Cuesta Linda" and designed the original gardens

THE GENEROUS SPONSORSHIP of U.S. Trust Company helped make our celebration of the 20's on July 29 a smashing success. We were delighted to have Barbara and John DeGroot and Peggy and Joseph Gallagher represent U.S. Trust at the event.

We are grateful to Bryant & Sons Jewelry and Haagen Printing, who underwrote the striking invitation. Our event committee members Kelly Boss, Ella Brittingham, Merryl Brown, Anne Dewey, Rick Drewry, Bob Emmons, Julia Farrell, Robin Fell, Chana Jackson, Karen Kolb and Carolene Tacconelli, with the creative talents of Tamara Feller and I.D.O. Events, spearheaded the transformation of Lotusland into a magical 20's experience.

As guests arrived, they were greeted with champagne and a "toy chest" filled with accessories in the style of the 20's—fedoras and wooden yo-yos for the men; cigarette holders, parasols, feather boas, fans, big rings and long strands of pearls for the women. The next stop was the Japanese garden, where a jazz guitarist serenaded a lovely lady in a boat, floating in the pond, while

Meredith Brooks Abbott put the finishing touches on her oil painting of the Japanese garden, which she very generously donated for the live auction. Our thanks also go to Maureen Murphy and Maureen Murphy Fine Arts for her part in the donation. Meredith Brooks Abbott is a prominent *plein air* painter and member of the Oak Group. After leaving the Japanese garden, guests enjoyed the sophisticated sounds of a jazz trio at the water garden.

A 1929 Rolls Royce, on loan from Charles Bronson and complete with a gorgeous "flapper," dazzled guests in the courtyard, and a very large "thug" checked to see if guests had their "Club Card" before admitting them to the house, where the dining room became Lotusland's own **speakeasy**. One wall was artfully decorated by Karen Kolb with replicas of 1920's sheet music from Carol Valentine's collection. Costumed dancers beckoned guests to join them for a spin around the floor to the sounds of the "Ulysses" Dixie Land Band playing on the terrace. The theatre garden was the site for entertaining 20's dance performances by Swing Fever Productions.



Joseph Gallagher of U.S. Trust, a major sponsor of Lotusland Celebrates the 20's, with Joan Jackson.

Guests were seated on the main lawn for dinner, which was beautifully complemented by a 2000 Sauvignon Blanc donated by Buttonwood Farm Winery and a 1998 Merlot donated by Wild Horse Winery. Lotusland's Executive Director, Steven Timbrook, welcomed guests, and the very talented jazz singer Windy Barnes entertained during dinner.

A highlight of the evening was Lotusland Board of Trustees President Bob Emmons' presentation of a plaque to Palmer Jackson, Sr.,



Event committee members Ella Brittingham (center) and Robin Fell accessorize Joyce Hameetman.



Christine Emmons and Lotusland's President, Bob Emmons, are greeted by a flapper perched on Charles Bronson's 1929 Rolls Royce.



Palmer Jackson, Sr. enjoys the spirited bidding for the painting by Meredith Brooks Abbott.



Members of the Palmer Jackson family are (left to right) Palmer Jackson, Jr., Charles (C.J.) Jackson, Palmer Jackson, Sr., Jim Jackson and son-in-law Bill Jameson.

grandson of the evening's honorees, the **Gavit family**. Palmer Jackson, Sr. accepted the plaque on behalf of his family and shared memories of time spent at "Cuesta Linda" during his childhood. Seated at the Jackson table were his wife **Joan Jackson**; his son **Palmer Jackson, Jr.** with his wife **Susan Jackson**; his son **Jim Jackson** with his wife **Chana Jackson**; his son **Charles (C.J.) Jackson**; and his daughter **Patti Jameson** with her husband **Bill Jameson**. The plaque, which will be placed on the wall at the front entrance of the house, reads

1916-1939
"Cuesta Linda"
The Home of
E. Palmer and Marie Gavit

A live auction with auctioneers **Bob Emmons** and our newest Trustee, **Mason Farrell**, raised more than \$100,000 for Lotusland's programs, including the popular Outreach to Santa Barbara fourth graders. Bidding was spirited for items that included:

- A private dinner for 10 in the garden at Lotusland. Thank you to the Four Seasons Biltmore for donating the catering.
- Croquet for 16 at Casa Cima Linda. The high bidders and their guests will enjoy champagne and croquet at the home of **Christine and Bob Emmons**, who kindly donated this item.
- An oil painting of the Japanese garden by **Meredith Brooks**

Abbott. Palmer Jackson, Sr. was the lucky high bidder for this beautiful painting.

- A "Stork Club" party for 24 people. Thank you to **Village Catering**, who donated the catering for this event, which will take place in Lotusland's theatre garden. Included is dancing and a live 20's dance performance by **David Alvarez** and **Carolene Tacconelli**.

Guests lingered over coffee and dessert and, while waiting for their cars, were entertained by the "candy girl"—not the "cigarette girl"—who handed out O'Henry and Mars bars, both created in the 20's, along with Lifesavers and Wrigley's gum. The party was over at sunset...until next year.



Joan Jackson with daughter-in-law and Lotusland Celebrates event committee member Chana Jackson and her husband, Jim Jackson.



Susan Jackson, with accessories from the "toy chest," and her husband, Palmer Jackson, Jr.



Kathleen Wathen, Trustee and former Board President Carol Valentine and Isabelle Greene arrive at Lotusland Celebrates the 20's.



Marlene Veloz, Pierre Claeysens and Genevieve Reitman follow the auction bidding.

Lotusland wishes to thank the following sponsors, whose support ensured the success of Lotusland's major fundraising event:

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Lord and Lady Ridley-Tree, Ray Winn and Peter Kavoian enjoy the evening.



Trustee Mason Farrell with event committee members Carolene Tacconelli, Julia Farrell and Merryl Brown (who is also a Trustee).



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A flapper gets into the spirit of the party.

Sustainable Santa Barbara

HORTICULTURAL PROFESSIONALS TO ATTEND LOTUSLAND'S SUSTAINABILITY WORKSHOP

LOTUSLAND WILL HOST a sustainability workshop on October 13. This professional workshop will offer five continuing education units from the State Department of Pesticide Regulation. A similar workshop for Lotusland members is scheduled for June 2002. Look for more information in the Spring 2002 Newsletter for Members.

In addition to members of Lotusland's horticultural staff, workshop presenters will be from the Community Environmental Council (CEC), Dietrick Institute for Applied Insect Ecology, Plant Health Care and Growing Solutions. These organizations are all committed to promoting education about improving the health of plants by environmentally safe methods that are more representative of a natural system.

The concept of sustainable gardening incorporates the use of environmentally safe methods of pest treatment, nurturing of healthy soil and plants, wise plant selection and green waste management. The road to better, healthier, safer gardens lies in making intelligent choices that stress prevention of potential problems rather than drastic cures. Lotusland's horticultural staff has been perfecting

its sustainable gardening techniques without the use of pesticides by incorporating innovative soil-building and fertilizing methods, as well as by recycling green waste into mulch.

Through a compilation of the latest research and their collective experience, they have developed a set of "Best Management Practices" for each common garden problem. This system serves as a model that

can help other institutions transition from conventional to sustainable gardening practices. Lotusland's sustainability program received the Green Award, for its pesticide-free and renewable resources approach to horticulture, from a consortium of environmental groups including the Santa Barbara Air Pollution Control District and the CEC.

—Connie Buxton



Lotusland's Plant Health Care Manager, John Lafleur (far left), leads a "behind-the-scenes" sustainability tour for members of the Santa Barbara City College horticultural staff.

Designing Men...and a Woman

AN ILLUSTRATED LECTURE WITH MAGGIE LAMB

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8 • 2:00 PM

MAGGIE LAMB HAS the latest dirt on *Designing Men*. She happens to have the earliest dirt on them, as well, because men dominated the field of landscape design for centuries. Subtitled her talk "From Capability Brown to Christopher Lloyd," Maggie will indulge us in this odyssey of



ANTHONY LAMB

Maggie pots up some plants on a garden table created by her husband, Anthony (her very own designing man). The watering can behind her was her dad's and granddad's before that. Her lovely woodland garden can be seen directly beyond.

designing men...and woman. We would be remiss if we didn't include one extraordinary female garden designer—namely, Madame Ganna Walska. After all, we are on her home turf.

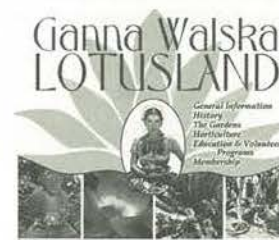
Also included in this virtual tour of innovative historic and contemporary garden design is Prince Charles' garden at Highgrove, the estate he shared with the late Princess Diana and their two children.

A much sought-after speaker in her native England, Maggie gives presentations for the Royal Horticultural Society, is a part-time Horticultural lecturer for Brighton College of Technology and is involved in many garden-inspired projects at the historic, horticulturally important Borde Hill Gardens, Sussex, where she works.

Please join us for this delightfully entertaining presentation. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served on the terrace following Maggie's talk. The cost is \$40 for members and \$45 for nonmembers. Please use the coupon on page 15 to reserve a space.

—Connie Buxton

On the Web



TAKE SOME TIME to check out the newly updated Lotusland website (www.lotusland.org). The expanded horticulture information page now contains four sections: plant health care, curation of the living collections, environmental parameters and affiliated organizations. Also recently added are several forms that can be printed and mailed, including the Lotusland membership application, volunteer application and docent training registration forms.

Lotusland's curator, Virginia Hayes, has been appointed by the International Water Lily and Water Gardening Society as the International Cultivar Registration Authority (ICRA) for the genus *Nelumbo* (Lotus). The website now includes online forms for registering new or existing cultivars of *Nelumbo*, as well as information about the purpose of an ICRA and the duties of the *Nelumbo* registrar.

Lotusland Fall Docent Training

THERE'S STILL TIME TO SIGN UP for fall docent training, which begins on Monday, September 17.

This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about the history and horticulture of Lotusland, and docents really love their job of interpreting the garden to visitors from around the world.

To find out more about docent training and to receive an application, please call Connie Buxton, Education Coordinator, at 969-3767, extension 107 (e-mail cbuxton@lotusland.org), or Debbie Hild, Volunteer Coordinator, at extension 116 (e-mail dhild@lotusland.org).



New to the Staff

PHOTOS BY DEANNA HATCH



BAMBI LEONARD, Lotusland's new **Membership Coordinator**, grew up in San Diego, attended San Diego State University and moved to the Santa Barbara area in 1982. She worked for 15 years with Kinko's, Inc. world headquarters in operations, special projects and national sales. Bambi's experience in sales and customer service is a perfect fit for the Lotusland membership team. Moving from the corporate environment to the non-profit world was not so big a jump as Bambi's past clients included many non-profits.

Bambi and her husband, Chris Leonard, have been married 14 years and have a 10-year-old daughter named Kelsey. Bambi's interests include volunteering on the Carpinteria American Youth Soccer Organization Board of Directors and on the fundraising committee for Kelsey's school. Like many families, most weekends are spent on home remodeling, soccer games, gardening and entertaining. Camping trips are highlights the family shares with Tar, their lovable black lab.

Bambi oversees membership database development and is responsible for Members' Family Day. "And yes, thanks to Walt Disney and my big sister, Bambi is a nickname." As a member, please call Bambi if you have questions regarding your *Friends of Lotusland* benefits...it will be easy to remember her name.



MARILYN FOREMAN, our new **Membership Assistant**, is a native of Glendale, California and attended Chouinard Art Institute in Los Angeles. After working many years in retail sales, office management and store display, she moved to Santa Barbara in 1995 and comes most recently from the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden where she was Shop Assistant with responsibility for display design. Her experience as office manager for a retail business owner in Los Angeles gave her the training for her present position.

She shares a house with her daughter and a gray cat and enjoys visiting her son's family in Glendale, where she watches with amazement as her 12-year-old granddaughter becomes a young lady.

Her grandfather was the inspiration for her love of plants as he spent his days tending the family garden after his retirement. When he was away, Marilyn was the caretaker, starting the bond that continues to this day.

Marilyn especially enjoys working with the staff and volunteers. "I am fortunate to be at this beautiful location with an organization involved in such important work—at a point in history where our relationship with plants requires more than a nod at their beauty and taking advantage of their usefulness, but instead requires an examination of our responsibility to all living beings."



AFTER A TOUR OF LOTUSLAND in August of 1999, **Debbie Hild** was so enthralled that she joined the docent training class and graduated with the class of 1999/2000. When she heard there were opportunities for docents to participate in an Educational Outreach program with Santa Barbara fourth graders, she became part of the 2000 group of specially trained docents who give classroom presentations and lead tours for these students. And, in 2001, Debbie joined the Lotusland staff in a part-time position as **Volunteer Coordinator and Educational Assistant**.

After graduating from UCLA with a degree in Fine Arts, Debbie obtained a Secondary Teaching Credential and taught art, photography and yearbook to grades 7 to 12 in both private and public schools for 20 years. She and her husband of 28 years share a love of books, gardens, animals and art. They have one son, a sophomore at USC Thornton School of Music.

Debbie is descended from generations of gardeners and says that her grandmother's beautiful gardens were her earliest inspiration. "Lotusland is a dreamy place. I feel at home here. I love the creativity that it exudes and I enjoy the people that it attracts. I am very grateful for the opportunity to work here." If you are interested in finding out more about the volunteer opportunities at Lotusland, Debbie is the person to call.



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We Welcome New Members Who Joined in May, June and July 2001

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Designing Men: FROM CAPABILITY BROWN TO CHRISTOPHER LLOYD

AN ILLUSTRATED LECTURE
with BRITISH HORTICULTURALIST
MAGGIE LAMB

November 3, 2001 • 2:00 PM
SORRY, NO PASSES
ACCEPTED FOR THIS LECTURE

\$40/members
\$45/nonmembers
INCLUDES WINE AND REFRESHMENTS

Number of
people attending _____

Number of cars _____

Total \$ _____

Ganna Walska Lotusland Registration Form

PAYMENT METHOD:

☐ Check enclosed ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard Expiration date _____

Card number _____ Signature _____

Member name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Phone _____

*Fees are refundable only if cancellation is received one week before class or lecture.
If minimum enrollment is not reached, classes and lectures may be canceled.
No phone reservations, please.*

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

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May, June and July 2001

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Mr. Lloyd Applegate
after touring with
Curator Virginia Hayes
Merryl Brown
honoring Storyteller Teachers
Mrs. William Scott, Jr.
honoring Carol Valentine
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Our Apologies...

PHOTO CREDIT WAS inadvertently omitted for the engaging photographs of Members' Family Day in the Summer 2001 issue of our Newsletter for Members. Our thanks go to Nahid Khaki for the appealing photo spread, which was very evocative of the event. An exhibition of Nahid's artwork is currently at the Karpeles Manuscript Museum, 21 W. Anapamu, through November 13.



NAHID KHAKI

Family Day happily coincided with the miraculous emergence of monarchs in the butterfly garden.

Member Events

September through December

MANY LOTUSLAND EVENTS are open to non-members, so let your friends and neighbors know about the great activities we offer. Family Tour days are scheduled twice every month (see the last item in the listing). We hope you continue to enjoy the year 2001 at Lotusland.

Thursday, November 8

Designing Men:
From Capability Brown to
Christopher Lloyd
*Illustrated lecture by British
Horticulturist Maggie Lamb*
2:00 PM

Maggie Lamb has traveled the world over learning about and photographing gardens, both famous and obscure. Her illustrated lecture, *Designing Men*, is certain to educate and delight. A celebrated and sought-after speaker in her native England, her highly entertaining style has made her lectures a must-see for English gardeners in the know. Followed by wine and refreshments on the terrace. MEMBERS \$40; NONMEMBERS \$45. Sorry, passes cannot be used for this event. Use the coupon on page 15 to sign up.

November 15

Garden is closed to regular tours until February 15.

Saturday, December 1

*Holiday Shopping and
Self-guided Tours*

1:00–4:30 PM

MEMBERS \$15 or free admission pass; NONMEMBERS \$20. Beginning October 1, call 969-9990 for reservations 9 AM–noon, M–F.



FAMILY TOURS

Remember, family tours for all ages are offered the first Thursday morning of each month at 10:00 AM and the third Thursday afternoon of each month at 1:30 PM. Family tours are kid and parent friendly and are separate from regular adult tours.

ADULT MEMBERS \$15 or use admission passes; CHILDREN UNDER TEN \$10; CHILDREN UNDER TWO free. Call 969-9990 for reservations 9 AM–noon, M–F.