



CACTUS GARDEN DEDICATION

By STEVEN TIMBROOK

ON A WARM, SUNNY Saturday in June, major donors to Lotusland's Cactus Garden gathered to honor Lifetime Honorary Trustee Michael Towbes for his exemplary record of philanthropy in Santa Barbara and 13 years of service on Lotusland's Board of Trustees, and to dedicate Lotusland's newest garden in honor of Mike's grandchildren, Allison and Zachary Towbes. The ceremony celebrated the completion of fundraising for the Cactus Garden, created in 2003.

Under ordinary circumstances, a Lotusland project dependent upon donor support would not commence until funding had been secured. However, with the Cactus Garden, the work had to go forward on a strict timeline in order to preserve the Dunlap Cactus Collection, donated to Lotusland in 2000 by Merritt "Sigs" Dunlap, cactus aficionado and friend of Madame Walska. In 2001 the collection of several hundred large cacti was moved from Sigs' home in Fallbrook, California and placed into a temporary nursery at Lotusland. The health of the plants would be seriously compromised were they to remain in the nursery longer than 18-24 months.

The project commenced in February of 2003 under the supervision of noted Santa Barbara garden designer Eric Nagelmann. Knowing that Lotusland had no funding at that point and seeing the great potential a garden of several hundred cacti had to become a major feature of Lotusland, Eric donated his design services and

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PHOTOS BY NELL CAMPBELL

FROM LEFT: Michael Towbes' sister-in-law Barbara Goldenberg, his fiancée Anne Smith, son-in-law John Lewis, Michael Towbes with his grandchildren Allison and Zachary Towbes, and daughters Carrie Towbes and Lianne Towbes, in front of the Cactus Garden dedication plaque. Carrie and John are Allison and Zachary's parents.

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Lotusland. Other significant donors
in the year of the Cactus Garden's
creation were the LLWW Foundation,
the GVRG Castagnola Family Founda-
tion, and Carol Valentine.

In March 2005, with \$140,000 yet

to be raised to complete the funding of
the Cactus Garden, a special *I Like Mike*
campaign was initiated. The *I Like Mike*
Committee, under the direction of its
chairman, Mason Farrell, approached
selected Lotusland supporters and



The unveiling of the dedication plaque was a highlight of the event. Steven Timbrook, third from left, helps Zachary Towbes and Michael Towbes (left) unveil the plaque while Robert Emmons looks on.

The Cactus Garden

Primary Funding for the Cactus Garden Was Provided by
Michael Towbes in Honor of His Grandchildren, Allison and Zachary Towbes

With additional support from
The GVRG Castagnola Family Foundation
Merritt "Sigs" Dunlap
The LLWW Foundation
Eric Nagelmann
Carol L. Valentine
Wallis Foundation

And with the following donations in honor of Michael Towbes

David and Lyn Anderson
The John Braun Family
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Byron and Nancy Wood
The Zimmerman Family

Continued from page 1

more than four months of day-to-day
supervision of the garden's creation.
Eric's considerable talent resulted in
the stunning garden that Lotusland
visitors will enjoy for years to come.

As the work began, Mike Towbes
pledged \$200,000 toward the Cactus
Garden, more than half of the anti-
cipated cost of its installation. Wallis
Foundation donated \$70,000 to help
defray the \$115,000 Lotusland had
spent to move the collection to

Lotusland is honored to preserve THE DUNLAP CACTUS COLLECTION in memory of Merritt Sigsbee Dunlap. Sigs, a friend of fellow cactus enthusiast Ganna Walska, gathered his collection over a 70-year period and donated it to Lotusland in 1999. The 530 specimens represent over 300 different kinds of cacti, 40 percent of them grown from seed. On August 22, 2003, Sigs celebrated his 97th birthday in the new Cactus Garden.

friends of Michael Towbes, requesting that they consider honoring Mike with a contribution toward the Cactus Garden. Donors of \$5,000 or more would have their names engraved on the Cactus Garden dedication plaque, which was to be created to honor the original donors to the Cactus Garden project.

Lotusland is happy to report that \$211,000 was raised from friends of Michael Towbes in less than three months. The additional funds will be used for the on-going maintenance of the Cactus Garden. Lotusland is very appreciative of all the generous donors who made the Cactus Garden possible.



Michael Towbes chats with Laura-Lee and Robert Woods, generous donors to the Cactus Garden through the LLWW Foundation.



This Echinopsis terscheckii was all decked out for the dedication of Lotusland's new Cactus Garden.

WM. B. DEWEY



Eric Nagelmann, Esau Ramirez, Michael Towbes, Steven Timbrook and Paul Mills. Esau and Paul supervised moving the cacti to Lotusland and planting them in their new home.



Jack Baker, a trustee of the Wallis Foundation, garden designer Eric Nagelmann, and Virginia Castagnola-Hunter of the GVRG Castagnola Family Foundation. All are generous donors to the Cactus Garden project.



Lifetime Honorary Trustee and former president Carol Valentine with board president Robert Emmons.



Lotusland trustee Mason Farrell (left) and Michael Towbes. Mason was the hard-working chair of the very successful I Like Mike Committee.

NEW TO THE COLLECTIONS

Cycads

WHILE LOTUSLAND'S CYCAD collection has been one of the most complete in a public garden for many years, it is never good to rest on one's laurels. With that in mind, Research Associate Jeff Chemnick and I recently completed

a review of the taxa in the collection and explored the possibility of filling in any gaps. Although there have been many cycad species newly described in the past decade, not all are available and quite a few of them are from areas of the tropics and not likely to thrive in Santa Barbara. Fortunately Jeff and I were able to identify a number of species that could be obtained fairly easily. Jeff then went shopping.

In all, 35 new species of *Dioon*, *Ceratozamia*, *Encephalartos*, and *Macrozamia* were procured. Because the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) restricts trade of field-collected cycads, but not seeds, the majority of the plants were young seedlings and will spend some time in the nursery before appearing in the garden. In a few instances, larger plants of species that have been under cultivation longer were available. These will be planted out this year along with a number of other cycads that have been waiting for the recently renovated beds to be prepared for them.

In exchange for the plants that he purchased for Lotusland, Jeff harvested several offsets of two rare species of *Encephalartos*, *E. woodii* and *E. heenanii*, from the garden. These pups are now rooting in his greenhouses. Since Lotusland's plants were imported to the United States and purchased by Madame Walska before the initiation of CITES, they and their offspring may be freely traded within this country.

In keeping with the collections policy adopted for Lotusland's cycads, staff will continue to maximize the collection to include all the taxa that are suited to growing outdoors in Santa Barbara. With these latest additions, we are well on our way to reaching that goal. As the plants mature, a further assessment will be made of their reproductive potential. If we can also obtain both male and female plants (through future purchases or trades), Lotusland may be able to produce seed and/or seedling plants of desirable species for sale and distribution to landscapers and collectors. —Virginia Hayes



WM. B. DEWEY

This juvenile *Dioon* plant was grown from seed obtained in Mexico. It represents a species of cycad that has yet to be officially described.

100% Agave or How to Go from Maguey to Margarita

AN ILLUSTRATED LECTURE BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DR. STEVEN TIMBROOK

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 • 3:00 TO 5:00 PM



STEVEN TIMBROOK

A field of *Agave tequilana* growing in Jalisco, the heart of tequila production.

AMONG THE MANY good things that Mexico has given the world—such as chocolate, chiles, and corn—let's drink to the agaves, and you can make mine a margarita. Join Lotusland's Executive Director, Dr. Steven Timbrook, to learn about the botany, chemistry, and techniques behind the production of tequila, mezcal, and pulque, the three most common alcoholic beverages that come from the century plant.

A reception featuring the food and drink of Mexico will follow—with margaritas, of course.

Please register by using the coupon on page 15.

HORTICULTURAL HAPPENINGS

Drainage Improvements Benefit the Garden

PHASE ONE OF A FOUR-PART comprehensive plan designed by Penfield and Smith, civil design engineers, to improve surface drainage on the Lotusland property and protect the garden from flood damage was installed by Granite Construction Co. in April. Flood damage has occurred in varying degrees almost every time there has been significant or prolonged rain. A curbed asphalt road through the deciduous fruit orchard terminates at the Santa Barbara County storm channel that runs through Lotusland and exits into a pipe under Sycamore Canyon Road. Runoff from the northern portion of the property will be channeled to the storm drain in a

more direct manner. Lotusland's newest garden, the cactus garden, is protected from runoff with the completion of phase one.

The project, which was approved by Santa Barbara County and funded by a generous grant from the Andrew H. Burnett Foundation, includes a Tree Protection and Replacement Plan. Potential impacts to oak tree root zones required Lotusland to identify, protect, and nurture 60 oak seedlings located throughout the property. In order to be consistent with county water quality goals, a vegetated swale (bio-swale) was installed along the lower reach of the road to treat water before it exits the Lotusland property.

Phases two, three, and four of the comprehensive plan include a few grading modifications in certain areas of the property, minor improvements to the visitor parking lot, and construction of a drain inlet and storm drain to capture newly diverted runoff across the southern end of the estate. The garden will be protected from landscape and hardscape damage by directing storm water runoff away from the center of the estate by forcing it to drain down the east and west sides of the property. The Japanese, aloe, and water gardens will benefit from future work, which will proceed as funding becomes available.

—Michael Iven



The unpaved utility road and garden areas were damaged by storm runoff almost every time there was a prolonged rain.



A 2 percent grade toward the six-inch curb channels storm runoff away from landscaped areas.



Welmoët Glover Joins Lotusland's Visitor Services Team

ALONG WITH Dorothy Shaner and Madeline Petrini, Welmoët Glover handles reservations for public tours and events, coordinates docent scheduling, and helps provide a high-quality experience for visitors to the garden. She also serves as a Lotusland docent with the Fourth Grade Outreach Program.

A woman of many talents, Welmoët is a painter and photographer, and she and her daughters are accomplished hula dancers.

Welmoët says that Lotusland is a wonderful addition to her life, and Lotusland definitely thinks she is a wonderful addition to our life here in the garden.

—Connie Buxton



The LOTUS SOCIETY

LUNCHEON HONORS MEMBERS OF THE LOTUS SOCIETY

LOTUS SOCIETY MEMBERS Fred and Linda Gluck hosted the Fourth Annual Lotus Society Recognition Luncheon at their beautiful home and garden on May 22. Members of *The Lotus Society* have each made a gift or bequest of \$10,000 or more to Lotusland's Endowment Fund. To learn more about *The Lotus Society*, or arrange a personal consultation with an experienced estate planner on *The Lotus Society* Committee, please call Lotusland's Director of Development, Anne Dewey, at (805) 969-3767, ext. 105.



The Glucks' home was the setting for a delicious luncheon created by Chef Pietro Nasta for Lotus Society members and their guests. The stunning patio looked out over the swimming pool and koi pond.



Lotus Society committee member and recently elected Lotusland trustee Sherry Gilson, pictured with her husband Bob Gilson, did a great job in her role as luncheon chairperson.



Jackie Stevens, a charter member of The Lotus Society, and new member Amanda McIntyre enjoyed the elegant event.



Lotusland President Robert Emmons chatted with new Lotus Society member General Henry Huglin.



From left, Elenore Hugunin and Tom Hugunin enjoyed the sunny afternoon with Christine Emmons. Tom recently retired as a trustee, but remains actively involved with Lotusland and The Lotus Society.



New Lotus Society member and Lotusland volunteer George Burtess talks with Virginia Castagnola-Hunter before sitting down to the scrumptious luncheon.



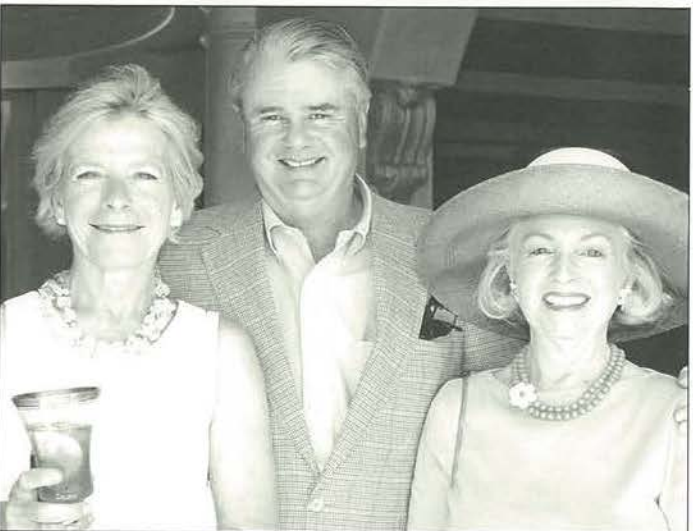
We are very appreciative of Fred and Linda Gluck's generosity in hosting The Lotus Society luncheon at their lovely home and garden.



Trustee Nancy Wood and her husband Kent Wood admire the beautiful garden setting from the Glucks' patio.



Lotus Society committee member Sally Walker and Ruth Mahoney, one of the society's first charter members, catch up at the annual luncheon.



Sally Rivera, Charles Fairbanks and Stanya Owen are picture-perfect on the Glucks' patio.

Members' Family Day, April 30, 2005

THE GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY THOMAS & NANCY

Lotusland is grateful for the generous support provided by our sponsors, Thomas and Nancy Crawford, Jr. Nancy is shown here surrounded by her grandsons, family and friends.

THANK YOU
Thomas & Nancy Crawford, Jr.
in honor of their grandchildren

SPONSORS OF
Members' Family Day at
LOTUSLAND



Nancy Crawford (center) was charmed by Mark Collier performing juggling and magic in the theater garden.



Many guests found time to roam in the Japanese garden, which was looking particularly beautiful.



Face painting artists Angie Lawson and Kevin Anderson delighted guests of all ages with their whimsical creations.



Artist Gail Lucas drew the giant "incredible" mural for guests to paint throughout the event. A young guest (right) picked up his Incredible black mask at the Welcome Desk.



Our Incredible plant people Tillandsia Tree Cactus and Lotus (A Curator Virginia Hay Executive Director Steven Timbrook and Director of Development Anne Dewey,) answered questions and delighted guests.



credibles, Starring Lotusland's Amazing Plants

WORD, JR. IN HONOR OF THEIR GRANDCHILDREN



Two girls were transformed into adorable dogs, much to the delight of her guests.



This family brought their own little red wagon for easy transport as they began *The Incredible Journey* at Members' Family Day.



BOB DEBRIS

credible photographer Bob DeBris provided a variety of fabulous costumes to transform guests for their souvenir photos.



A young artist posed with the leaf print that he carefully created.



Decorating and planting a garden pot is always a popular activity at Members' Family Day.



The giant mural is a favorite activity at Members' Family Day.



These young guests are enjoying the complimentary McConnell's ice cream cones served by Lotusland staff and volunteers.

Volunteer Profile: Wanda Livernois

PASSIONATE ABOUT PLANTS

WHILE GROWING UP in Detroit, Lotusland docent Wanda Livernois says she paid little attention to her mother's serious gardening efforts. But when plants became such an important part of her life many years later, she realized this early association must have had an influence on her. Wanda says the thing she enjoys most about plants is "starting them," as she is fascinated by the growing process. Incredible as it may seem, she actually grows ferns from spores, a complicated process that she initiates by sterilizing soil in the oven at 350 degrees for one-half hour. A recipe for disaster for most of us, but Wanda maintains a high success rate with her methods.

Wanda is also a renowned "plant rescuer." Her husband Robert was an amateur gardener when they met, and he showed her his collection of orchid plants lamenting, "They never bloom!" She fertilized them, moved them to some sun, and they produced "tons of flowers." It may have been this experience that prompted her to lend her plant rescue skills to others. Wanda makes house calls to friends with sickly, needy plants and especially likes to save plants that others have given up on or that are destined to become sad victims of the bulldozer.

When Wanda and Robert first moved to Santa Barbara in 1966, with a U-Haul full of plants, one of their

first neighbors happened to work for Madame Walska and arranged a visit to Lotusland for them. They were fortunate enough to actually have Madame Walska lead their tour, and Wanda was "totally blown away" by what she saw. Little did she realize that years later she would be leading tours of the garden herself.

In 1979 she and Robert were offered an Italianate Victorian house at no charge as long as they moved it. They moved the house to their property on Brinkerhoff Avenue where it became their home. The original house is now an art and antiques gallery. Wanda says the shop is open "by appointment or chance."

A long-time realtor with Pitts & Bachmann, Wanda once had a listing for a residential lot that contained some unusual plants. She called Lotusland Curator Virginia Hayes to come and have a look. Deemed worthy, the plants found a new home at Lotusland, where they currently reside. They would have been plowed under if it hadn't been for Wanda, who claims that having a plant background is tremendously helpful in real estate. "Knowing about plants can help the neighborhood, inspiring neighbors and friends." She also enjoys "the real camaraderie" among plant people.

Wanda has been a Lotusland docent since 1999, and says her



CONNIE BUXTON

Wanda Livernois

favorite part of being a docent is giving "kids' tours" to fourth grade students in the Educational Outreach Program. "They are so excited about seeds and plants. They inspire their parents and that starts a great cycle." She very much appreciates Lotusland's sustainable approach to plant health care, and incorporates the lessons to be learned from the garden as a whole into her tours for lucky visitors, adults, and children alike.

Thank you, Wanda, for all you do for Lotusland and for being a true "plant person."
—Connie Buxton

Lotus Fest!

*Come celebrate the legendary flower
that is Lotusland's namesake.*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2005
NOON TO 4:30 PM

*Look for your invitation in the mail.
Reserve early!*



Prospective Docent Reception & Docent Training for Fall 2005

MADAME GANNA WALSKA'S extraordinarily creative vision of garden design was transformed into reality by many talented landscape designers and horticulturalists. This transformation has been an ongoing process, each garden yielding fascinating stories about its beginnings and metamorphosis into its present-day form.

Visitors to Lotusland are treated to botanical and historical information about the estate interpreted by docents who have undergone extensive training to prepare them for giving public tours.

Every other fall, a 14-week docent-training course provides all necessary information for conducting a tour of the garden. Instructors are drawn from the staff at Lotusland, the Santa Barbara community, and other California academic and horticultural institutions. These informative and enjoyable Monday-morning sessions consist of an indoor and usually an outdoor portion, lasting approximately three hours. This fall's docent training begins on September 12.

A reception for prospective docents will be held at 2:00 PM on Thursday, August 18. This biennial event offers prospective docents an opportunity to learn more about docent training and to meet some of the very knowledgeable docents who currently lead tours of the garden. If you would like to receive an invitation to the reception or want more information about becoming a docent, please call our Volunteer and Education Coordinator, Debbie Hild, at (805) 969-3767, extension 116 or e-mail dhild@lotusland.org.





Lotusland Welcomes Two New Trustees

LOTUSLAND IS FORTUNATE to have two energetic new additions to our Board of Trustees: **Sherry Gilson** and **Geoff Crane**.

Sherry Gilson moved to Santa Barbara in 1962, when she came to study at UC Santa Barbara where she earned a teaching credential as well as a Master of Arts in Confluent Education. She taught elementary school in the Goleta School district and currently



WM B. DEWEY

Sherry Gilson

is a realtor with Coldwell Banker.

Sherry became involved at Lotusland when she joined the Docent Program in 1995 and later became an Outreach Docent. Though no longer an active docent, Sherry says it was her joy in volunteering in these programs that led to her joining *The Lotus Society* and becoming a Trustee.

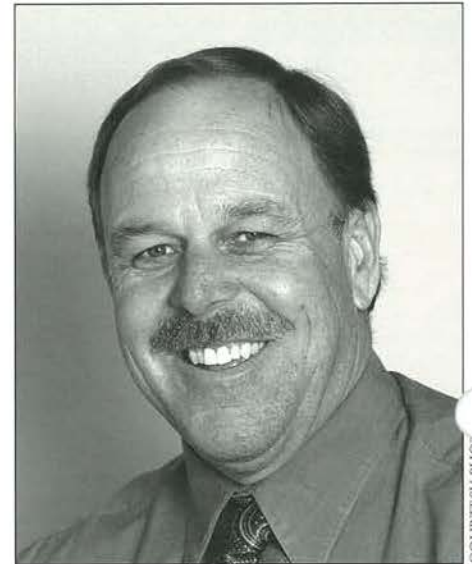
A Montecito resident since 1973, Sherry is married with one son and enjoys horseback riding and flyfishing. Sherry says, "Lotusland is an inspirational garden with a rich legacy, and it is a privilege to be a member."

Geoff Crane's interest in Lotusland is a direct result of his family's past involvement with the landmark estate. His experience is being put to excellent use on Lotusland's Facilities and House Renovation committees.

Geoff is president of Giffin and Crane General Contractors Inc. and has more than 30 years of experience in the construction industry. He is an active member of National Association of Home Builders, Builder 20 Club, and is also a member of the Santa Barbara Chamber of Commerce Business

Leaders. Geoff previously served on the Board of Trustees at Crane School and worked with committees overseeing many of the school's building projects. He lives in Montecito with his wife Kim and daughters Karrie and Samantha.

It is a privilege for Lotusland to have these two outstanding community members as a part of our Board of Trustees.



COURTESY PHOTO

Geoff Crane

Garden Patrons and Garden Benefactors Enjoy Special Benefits

OUR GARDEN PATRON AND GARDEN BENEFACTOR membership levels include unlimited free admission to Lotusland and an invitation to a very special event.

This year's event is on September 8 at "Solana," the fabulous Montecito estate of trustee Sandra Nicholson and her husband Bill.

Built in 1901 for Frederick Peabody of Arrow Shirt fame, the 21,000-square-foot home and gardens have been extensively restored and renovated by the Nicholsons.

For more information about these membership levels, please contact Anne Dewey, Director of Development, at (805) 969-3767, extension 105, or by email at andewey@lotusland.org.

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We Welcome New Members Who Joined in March, April, and May 2005

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Lotusland Gratefully Acknowledges Donations

March, April, and May 2005

LOTUS SOCIETY

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Justin Winery
Mr. & Mrs. James McIntyre
Eric Nagelmann
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March, April, and May 2005

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Ms. Jacqueline J. Stevens

LEVEL IV

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The Barbakow Family
Mr. & Mrs. Stewart Edwards
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Mr. & Mrs. Edward Shea
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Ganna Walska Lotusland Registration Form

PAYMENT METHOD: ☐ Check enclosed ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard Expiration date _____

Card number _____ Signature _____

Member name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

*One member pass may be used as partial payment for any event.
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

100% Agave or How to Go from Maguey to Margarita

AN ILLUSTRATED LECTURE BY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DR. STEVEN TIMBROOK

Saturday, September 24 • 3:00 TO 5:00 PM

\$35/members • \$40/nonmembers

No. of people attending _____ No. of cars _____ Total \$ _____

TRAVEL WITH LOTUSLAND Jewels of the South



COURTESY PHOTO

A highlight of May's "Jewels of the South" trip to the Carolinas was a visit to the lovingly restored Chicora Wood Plantation, home of Marcia and Jamie Constance. LEFT TO RIGHT: Steve Timbrook, Karen Jenkins, Bob Feldner, Martha Lindberg, Adrienne Feldner, Janet Craghead, Kathy O'Leary, Neta Armagost, Jamie Constance, Corinne Hedrick, Shirlee Anderson, Jo Ann Kirby, Jo Duff, Joyce Syme, John Armagost, Jackie Stevens, Gretchen Gregersen, Lorna Hedges, Michael Morton, Nancy Tarnutzer.



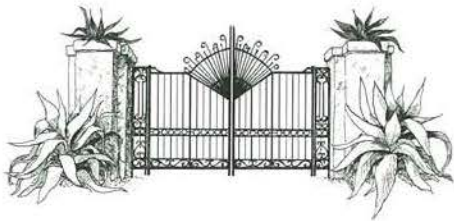
STEVEN TIMBROOK

Chicora Wood Plantation is on the Pee Dee River near Pawleys Island, South Carolina. The trip included visits to several gardens designed by noted garden designer Loutrell Briggs, including a beautiful one at Chicora Wood.

Ganna Walska Lotusland Foundation

695 Ashley Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93108
Address Service Requested

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2005 Summer and Fall Member Events

Many Lotusland events are open to nonmembers, so please let your friends and neighbors know about the great activities we offer. Children are welcome at many events, and Family Tour Days are every Thursday and the second Saturday of each month (see the listing below). We hope you enjoy the year 2005 at Lotusland.

Saturday, July 16

Digital Photography Workshop
8:30 AM–NOON
SOLD OUT.

Saturday, July 16

Self-guided Tours for All Members
1:30–4:30 PM
Members \$15 or use admission passes. Please call 969-9990 for reservations 9 AM–NOON, M–F.

Sunday, July 24

*Lotusland Celebrates
The Wizard of LotOZland*
4:00–8:00 PM
Invitations were mailed to all members in mid-June. Please call (805) 969-3767, extension 120, for questions.

Saturday, August 13

LotusFest!
NOON–4:30 PM
Invitations will be mailed to all members in early July. Please call (805) 969-3767, extension 107, for questions.

Thursday, August 18

Prospective Docent Reception
2:00 PM
Please see details on page 11.

Saturday, August 20

Self-guided Tours for All Members
10:00 AM–12:30 PM
Members \$15 or use admission passes. Please call 969-9990 for reservations 9 AM–NOON, M–F.

Saturday, September 24

*100% Agave or How to Go from
Maguey to Margarita*
3:00–5:00 PM
Please see details on page 4 and use the coupon on page 15 to register.

Family Tours

Family tours for all ages are offered every Thursday at 10:00 AM and 1:30 PM and the second Saturday of each month at 10 AM and 1:30 PM (except between mid-November to mid-February). Family tours are

child and parent friendly and are separate from regular adult tours. Adult members \$15 or use admission passes; children under ten \$8; children under two free. Call 969-9990 for reservations 9 AM–NOON, M–F.

Now You Can Support Lotusland Just By Shopping Online

We've joined our community's newest resource for nonprofit funding—FundIt.Org. It doesn't cost you a penny extra, it's safe and secure, and best of all FundIt.Org donates a percentage of each dollar you spend to Lotusland!

To start shopping, or to find out more about the program, visit <http://www.fundit.org/lotusland-foundation/> and select a store from the growing list of participating merchants such as Macy's, KB Toys, and Target.

Thank you for your support.