



LOTUSLAND

NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS  VOLUME 15 NO. 1  WINTER 2006

BROMELIADS

By VIRGINIA HAYES

WHAT DO PINEAPPLES and overstuffed antique furniture have in common? Well, both have connections to plants in the bromeliaceae, the bromeliad family. Pineapples are the compound fruits of *Ananas comosus* and the wiry stems of *Tillandsia usneoides* (often called Spanish moss) were a common stuffing material for upholstered cushions until as recently as the 1960s. In fact, this interesting family of plants, native only to the New World, is represented by a wide range of plant types that grow in habitats as harsh as the high plateau of the Ecuadoran paramo, where cold and fog prevail, and as lush as the cloud forests of Monteverde, Costa Rica.

The majority of bromeliad species exist as epiphytes, not parasitic, but clinging to rocks or trees, even utility lines and poles, extracting their water and nutrients directly out of the air. In the canopy of the forest, many have adapted to their environment by creating their own mini-ecosystem. Their water-filled center captures organic debris that is washed down by the rain. Absorptive roots grow between the tightly clasped leaves to utilize the nutrient-rich broth. This little pool of water is attractive to the fauna of the forest as well. Insects, arthropods, and even amphibians make use of this resource and some may pass their entire life cycle within its small space.

Most of these tank-type bromeliads grow in areas of fog or consistent rain. Another smaller group roots into the soil in drier zones. Ironically, all bromeliads have adapted to water stress; those clinging to tree branches high in the forest canopy have few

Continued on page 2



PHOTOS BY VIRGINIA HAYES

*The green and white variegation on this *Vriesea fosteriana* is due in part to reflective scabs on the surface of the leaves.*

IN THIS ISSUE

Bromeliads	1	Tax Relief Twilight Tour	8
Director's Letter	3	Friends of Lotusland	9
Retirement Luncheon Honors Steven Timbrook	4	Members Who have Increased Their Level of Support	9
The Lotus Society	5	Lotusland Gratefully Acknowledges Donations	10
Horticultural Happenings Tree Care at Lotusland	6	Esau Ramirez Returns to Lotusland	11
Volunteer Profile: Lore Dobler Woman of Many Talents	7	Grant from Simmons Foundation	12
The Birds of Winter	7	Winter and Spring 2006 Member Events	12
The Lotus in China with Virginia Hayes	8		



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Continued from page 1

functional roots to take in water and must sequester what moisture that passes by, while those in high deserts must take advantage of the infrequent rain and fog by more extensive root systems and water harvesting structures.

One of their major adaptations to mitigate this virtual or real drought is to employ specialized hair-like epidermal scales (called trichomes) to trap and channel water to the cells of the leaf. Another is to coat their leaves with waxes to prevent desiccation during dry times. Both these structures can contribute to their aesthetics and appeal to gardeners. For example, the silvery foliage that many of the species in the genus *Puya*, *Tillandsia*, and *Hechtia* display is due to a dense covering of water-gathering trichomes adapted to foggy and cloudy habitats. Other species have scales that create bizarre stripes and mottling, which are probably designed to make them blend into their native surroundings, but really catch the eye of human collectors with ornamental uses in mind. Still others have thick succulent leaves to preserve whatever moisture becomes available, which results in handsome garden specimens similar to other unrelated genera such as *Agave* and *Aloe*.

Botanists divide the bromeliad family into three distinct subfamilies based on many characters. The Tillandsioideae, named for the type genus *Tillandsia*, are mostly epiphytic and all have smooth-edged leaves. They range in size from the tiny, threadlike forms of Spanish moss (*Tillandsia usneoides*) to quite large rosettes of *Alcantarea imperialis* that, at Lotusland, may be nearly three feet in diameter with inflorescences rising four or five feet into the air. Their flowers are in proportion to their overall stature and quite often are showy and even fragrant. Individual flowers may be yellow, blue, or purple and are usually enclosed by bracts that are also frequently colorful. They are among the favored food plants of hummingbirds that are attracted by these bright displays.

A number of bromeliads look more like a yucca or other succulent plants.



Billbergia pyramidalis 'Kyoto' is a variegated selection with a strawberry pin inflorescence.

These all belong in the subfamily Pitcairnioideae. Most are highly armed with sharp spines along the margins of the narrow leaves. Many also are covered with dense trichomes or have more or less succulent leaves to conserve moisture. Their native habitats are desert-like, where they grow in the soil or emerge from rocky cliff faces. Companion plants in these locales can often be cacti. The genera in this group most familiar to horticulturists are *Hechtia*, *Dyckia*, and *Puya*. *Hechtia* are grown for their silver foliage and spiny good looks, while *Dyckia* and *Puya* also sport colorful flowers. Brilliant orange stems topped with equally bright flowers bloom from the compact succulent rosettes of *Dyckia*, whose leaves may be silvery, or darkly maroon in striking contrast. Some of the largest plants and inflorescences in the family occur in the genus *Puya*. Not often seen in cultivation is *P. raimondii*. This stunning plant can reach 12 to 18 feet in height and then its flower stalk rises another 20 feet or more before the plant dies and disperses its many seeds. Others such as *P. chilensis* and *P. alpestris* are more readily available. They form large rosettes (three to four feet) and may eventually form dense clumps. Their inflorescences can be up to six feet in height and branch to form a

Mission Statement

*To preserve and enhance the
spectacular collections of exotic plants
on the Montecito estate of
the late Madame Ganna Walska and,
through interpretation of these collections,
to foster increased knowledge and
appreciation of the importance of plants
and the need for their conservation.*



A dead citrus tree became the stage for a number of epiphytic bromeliads.

loose pyramid. Each short branch will carry several flowers that open in succession over a long period of time. Stunning in flower, *P. alpestris* has

metallic blue-green flowers, while *P. chilensis* usually sports yellow flowers. Both literally drip with nectar to reward their hummingbird pollinators.

The subfamily Bromelioideae has the largest number of genera, but the smallest number of species of the three subgroups. Most of its members have stiff leaves that are edged with spines. Flowers in this group may also be showy, most often due to the colors of the enclosing bracts, the stems or the leaves adjacent to the inflorescence. The central leaves, called heart leaves, of many in the genera *Bromelia*, *Aechmea*, *Neoregelia*, and *Nidularium* turn brilliant shades of red or purple as the plant begins to flower. In *Neoregelia*, the flowers are nestled in the center of the plant with their petals just poking above the spiky bracts that enclose them, and it is only the bright color of the central leaves that serves to attract pollinators. In others, such as *Bromelia*, the plant may be green much of the year until flowering is initiated and then the central leaves will brighten

to flaming red. It is to this group that the pineapple (*Ananas comosus*) belongs. Many of these also form a watertight vase that captures and holds rainwater.

At Lotusland, most bromeliads are displayed growing on the ground. Many of the epiphytic species can be cultivated successfully in organic-rich, well-drained soil. The growing beds create a virtual rainbow of colorful foliage punctuated by contrasting flower stalks throughout the year. Artificial displays of some of the epiphytes have also been created with old tree stumps, driftwood or tree fern trunks, and the coast live oaks that form the canopy are festooned with more of them to simulate their natural habit. Madame Walska began her collection with a few plants in the 1960s, but it soon grew beyond its original borders near her cottage and a second area was developed adjacent to the theatre. The collection currently contains more than 200 species and cultivars including several of the ornamental pineapple types.

Director's Letter

LOTUSLAND IS A FANTASTIC PLACE! But then again you knew that—or as I said back at Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden in North Carolina, “ya’ll knew that.” Arriving on Friday afternoon, November 11, (after an 11-day, cross-country adventure through Wyoming with our two dogs and two cats) my wife Jeanne and I quickly settled into the newly renovated Pavilion—thanks to the efforts of the Board and especially Barbara Siemon and Geoff Crane. Jeanne and I have truly loved our first six weeks living on the grounds of this amazing place.

Our first “appointment” upon arrival was for the afternoon of the very next day to help you celebrate Dr. Steven Timbrook’s 19 years of successes as Executive Director of Lotusland at his official “retirement party.” I can report that Steve was truly touched by the outpouring of thanks and was especially affected by his appointment as “Director Emeritus.” That new posi-

tion also set very well with me, as Steve has been extremely nurturing and supportive during this transition period. Now with his official status as Director Emeritus, I won’t have to worry about asking him for help! Steve and I both reveled in the fact that “our” gardens (Lotusland and Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden) were featured nationwide in the October 14 *USA Today* as “10 Great Places to Welcome Fall with a Flourish.” As we say in NC, “that’s pretty high cotton!”

I have been busy with Board committee meetings of nearly every sort, full staff meetings, management team meetings as well as meeting some of the volunteers, members, and supporters of Lotusland. I am impressed by both the level of enthusiasm for Lotusland in the community and by the high level of expertise exhibited by Lotusland staff.

Jeanne and I have been made to feel most welcome by all we meet (and in NC, since that is more than three or four people, it would be “all y’all!”) Thank you so much for

reaching out to us in our transition period and know that I will always seek your help and advice.

Best wishes for a great New Year for you, and for Lotusland.

Mike



Mike Bush

Retirement Luncheon Honors Steven Timbrook

A LUNCHEON AT LOTUSLAND took place on November 12 to honor and thank Steven Timbrook on his retirement after 19 years as Lotusland's founding Executive Director.

After a delicious luncheon on the Main Lawn, on a particularly beautiful day at Lotusland, the accolades and reminiscences began. First District Supervisor Salud Carbajal presented Steve with a resolution by the Board of Supervisors commending the development of Lotusland under his tenure.

Lotusland's Director of Grounds and Facilities, Mike Iven, expressed the heartfelt thanks of the Lotusland staff for their 19 years of working with Steve, and docent JoAnn Mermis thanked him on behalf of the Lotusland volunteers.

Board President Bob Emmons announced that the Board of Trustees has named Steve "Director Emeritus." Bob warmly expressed the thoughts of the Trustees on their long association with Steve and presented him with a beautiful painting of his favorite

view of the Cactus Garden by Glenna Hartmann. The Board also honored Steve by creating the Steven Timbrook Intern Fellowship Fund.

More than 150 guests attended the event and in excess of \$12,000 was raised for the Intern Fellowship Fund.

Steve spoke movingly about his time at Lotusland and expressed his thanks for being allowed to work together with a supportive Board and highly qualified staff to bring Lotusland to the public.



First District Supervisor Salud Carbajal presents a resolution from the County Board of Supervisors commending Steven Timbrook for Lotusland's development during his tenure.



CLOCKWISE: Former Trustee Tom Hugunin, Elaine Stepanek, Scott Brittingham and Trustee Ella Brittingham, former Trustee Stanya Owen, and Elenore Hugunin enjoyed the beautiful day.



Steve greets Anne & Michael Towbes and Bob Emmons. Mike is a Lifetime Honorary Trustee, and Bob is the current president of Lotusland's Board of Trustees.



Seated at his family table are (CLOCKWISE) Steve Timbrook, Jay & Vicki Falkner, Steve & Linda McGinnis, Dana Timbrook & his wife Patricia Jackson, and Jan Timbrook.



CLOCKWISE: Guests from local non-profits Karl & Nancy Hutterer, Ed Schneider, NancyBell Coe, and Bonnie Kelm, with her husband Bill Malis, are seated with Christian Heyer & Trustee Kisa Heyer.



CLOCKWISE: Trustee Sherry Gilson, JoAnn Mermis, who spoke on behalf of Lotusland's volunteers, George Burtness, Karen Kolb, Trustee Harry Kolb, and Jerry & Lue Cramblit.



Bob Emmons presented a gift from the trustees and staff—a Glenna Hartmann painting of the Cactus Garden. Anne Dewey and Deanna Hatch helped Steve unwrap it.



CLOCKWISE: Virginia Hayes, Robert Blaha & Monica Koegler-Blaha, Mike Furner, Louise Thielst, Lynda Chappel, Peter Stollenwerk, Bertie Bloom, and Mike Iven, who warmly thanked Steve on the staff's behalf.



Lotusland Board President Bob Emmons with Founding Executive Director Steve Timbrook and Arthur Gaudi, a Founding Trustee and Board Secretary.



The LOTUS SOCIETY

OSWALD DA ROS

WHEN I TALKED WITH Oswald Da Ros for this profile, I learned as much about Ganna Walska as I did about Ozzie. For those who never knew the Madame, as Ozzie and the others who worked for her always refer to her, hearing what it was like to work for her is fascinating.

Ozzie began his stonemason career working with his father, an Italian immigrant. I asked Ozzie what his first projects for Madame Walska were. "I worked with my father building the large arched stone fireplace in Madame's Studio, and she had us remove the decorative molding on the façade surrounding the front door of the Main House. We brought in large boulders for a succulent garden project by

Lockwood de Forest. Mr. de Forest went into the Army in World War II, and I was called up, as well."

"By the end of the war my father had passed away, and I began working on projects that Ralph Stevens was designing for the Madame. We built the outdoor theatre, the first bromeliad garden and the swimming pool wall with him." Ozzie continues to live in the home on the Riviera that he and his late wife, Kathleen, built. Their son Peter now heads the business that Ozzie started and continues to work with his father on many of the company's projects.

Ozzie and I were sitting on the geranium terrace at Lotusland, and it reminded him of the time Madame Walska asked him to design and install some pebble mosaics adjacent to the terrace. "Why, Madame, you've got Jim Minah working for you and he could design that for you." "No", she said, "he's geranium man." "I insisted that he was the right person for the task and she finally gave in. Jim drew the design, and I tumbled stones and assembled the panels."

Ozzie got a similar initial response from Madame Walska when she asked him to make her a Japanese garden. She had elaborate plans drawn up by a firm of Japanese landscape architects in Los Angeles, which she waved in front of Ozzie and said, "Just paper, nothing but paper. I want you to build me my Japanese garden." I told her, "Madame, you've got the perfect person to design that garden right here on your staff, Frank Fujii." "No, Frank is topiary gardener." "I knew Frank could do the design because his father had designed several Japanese gardens for Montecito estates and Frank had worked with him. Once again I was able to get the Madame to overcome her initial reaction and Frank designed the garden and we built it together. The torii gate came from the old Raymond estate by the Biltmore. Some of the lanterns were acquired through Avery Brundage from the De Young Museum in San Francisco. The two big granite lanterns came from a San Francisco bank."

The last story that Ozzie told me

shows that Madame Walska cared about the whole Santa Barbara community, not just Lotusland. On their way to a shell exhibition at the Veterans Hall they drove past the long row of palms that line Cabrillo Boulevard. She asked why they didn't cut off the dead fronds because she felt the palms looked messy. "I was on the Park Commission at the time and told her that we didn't have enough money in the budget to do the work." "How much would it cost?", she asked. "I took a wild guess and said \$25,000." "I'll match any money you can raise," was her reply. I had to tell her after a few weeks that I had not been able to find other donors so she wrote a check for \$25,000, which turned out to be enough to clean up the palms and leave some for work on trees in other parks in town."

"I joined *The Lotus Society* because of my love of the garden and my respect for Madame Walska." With his long participation in the creation of Lotusland and his friendship with Madame Walska, it is wonderful that Oswald Da Ros has provided for Lotusland's endowment by joining *The Lotus Society*, thus helping to ensure that Lotusland will continue to inspire and delight its visitors for generations to come.

As Madame Walska once told him, "We Catholics have to stick together." Thank you, Ozzie, for doing just that. —Steven Timbrook

NEW MEMBERS

THANK YOU TO THESE additional new members for their generous support.

Jeff Chemnick

Oswald J. Da Ros in Memory of Kathleen Da Ros and Ganna Walska
Larry Disharoon and Diane Galvan

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*, please call Anne Dewey, Lotusland's Director of Development, at (805) 969-3767, extension 105.



Oswald Da Ros

WM. B. DEWEY

HORTICULTURAL HAPPENINGS

Tree Care at Lotusland

TREE REMOVALS AND tree trimming in various areas and for differing reasons throughout the Lotusland property have been extensive this autumn. In addition to the Sycamore Canyon Road eucalyptus tree hazard reduction project, *Acacia baileyana* growing along and leaning upon the Ashley Road stucco wall were removed. Newly planted *Quercus agrifolia* (coast live oak) on the street side of the wall and *Olea europa* 'Manzanillo' (olive) and *Prunus ilicifolia ssp lyonii* (Catalina cherry) inside the stucco wall replaced the acacias. They complement existing plantings, and will provide screening along Ashley Road. A diverse understory of insectary plants will provide a refuge for beneficial insects that are so important to our program of sustainable horticulture.

Elsewhere in the garden, two older *Pinus radiata* (Monterey pine) were removed due to an infestation by an old nemesis, the pine bark beetle. Trees stressed due to age, injuries to roots and trunks, drought, and other abiotic conditions are susceptible to pine bark beetles.

The red turpentine and engraver beetles cause problems at Lotusland, and cultural controls are the most effective deterrent to infestations. Proper irrigation practices such as deep watering away from the trunk especially in the summer helps. Infested limbs or whole trees are removed only from November through January when adult beetles are not flying. All wood is tightly covered with plastic for several months in a sunny location to kill beetles in the wood and prevent further infestation.

The annual trimming of large, deciduous trees in the Japanese garden was completed by Arbor Services with consultation by Lotusland staff and Brett Warner. Brett has worked as a contract arborist at Lotusland for many years and is particularly familiar with the aesthetic style and culture



Weeping willows in the Japanese garden are among the deciduous trees that receive regular pruning to maintain their shape and proportion.

intended for the larger trees in the Japanese garden.

Quarterly surveys of all garden areas prescribe tree maintenance schedules and special projects. Modifications to past practices are made based on the overall health and growing condition of the trees and the soil foodweb. For example, a tree showing signs of stress such as poor color, minimal new growth, dieback, and infestations will not be trimmed until cultural conditions are improved and stress factors are reduced.

Lotusland's trees are an invaluable asset to the design and ambience of the garden and are a priceless component of the horticulture practiced here. They are worth every minute and every penny spent on their maintenance and well-being.

—Mike Iven

EUCALYPTUS TRIMMING

TWO TIMES LAST SPRING and summer, large limbs broke off from eucalyptus trees along the Lotusland frontage on

Sycamore Canyon Road (State Hwy. 192). They fell onto the power lines and the road, cutting off electricity to the neighborhood for several hours and closing the highway while the hazard was removed.

Knowing that the heavy pruning necessary to avoid future problems from these eucalyptus trees and those around the corner on Cold Springs Road would be quite extensive, Lotusland sought First District Supervisor Salud Carbajal's assistance in coordinating the work among SCE, Cal Trans, and Lotusland. Their positive responses resulted in a cooperative venture and a successful outcome. We thank Cal Trans for providing all the traffic control for the project and SCE for covering a portion of the cost of the tree work.

With the completion of this project, travel along the roadway will be safer and conditions that have led to power outages in the past will have been greatly reduced.

—Steven Timbrook



PHOTOS BY VIRGINIA HAYES

A tree trimmer lowers a segment of a potentially dangerous overhanging eucalyptus tree branch on Sycamore Canyon Road. We are grateful to SCE for providing partial funding and to Cal Trans for supplying traffic control.



Volunteer Profile: Lore Dobler

WOMAN OF MANY TALENTS

CONNIE BUXTON



Lore Dobler

DEDICATED DOCENT and enthusiastic Lotusland volunteer Lore Dobler graduated from UC Berkeley with a degree in urban planning. Finding the Bay area too cold for her liking, she moved to Santa Barbara, which she says reminded her of “a big Coronado” where she grew up. Lore worked in

property management with Islay Investments during the day and earned a law degree by attending Santa Barbara College of Law at night. She eventually worked in contract law, primarily with intellectual property licensing and marketing, or what she refers to as “glorified horse trading.”

After moving between Santa Barbara, the Bay area, and San Diego for a number of years, Lore eventually returned to Santa Barbara with the intention of using her many skills in volunteer work. Lotusland became the fortunate beneficiary of this decision when she began volunteering in the Garden Shop on Saturdays. Intrigued by the history of the estate and “always being a plant lover,” Lore became part of the docent class of 1999 and was fascinated by Madame Walska, who she says she “admires for her guts. She really lived life, and I liked her courage.”

Lore has traveled extensively, including remote islands in the South

Pacific such as Ponapei and Kosrae where travel is by outrigger and you fend for yourself. “Best coral reefs I’ve ever seen and the few residents living as they have for a very long time.” Lore says there are a million places to which she’d like to travel, and with her spirit of adventure and positive outlook, she’ll no doubt do just that. She also loves the serenity of Lotusland and is particularly fond of the baptismal font with succulents, the pool in the cycad garden, and the Japanese garden, which she finds “contemplative.”

Lotusland staff members are always eager to have Lore volunteer for events because she’s a quick study who needs only a cursory glance to catch on to what needs doing—then pitches in like a trooper. Her flexibility, positive outlook, and great sense of humor make her an invaluable asset to our volunteer team, and we are so grateful that she chose to volunteer at Lotusland. Thanks, Lore, for all you do for Lotusland.

—Connie Buxton

The Birds of Winter

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11 • 9:00 TO 11:00 AM (GATES OPEN AT 8:30 AM)

LOTUSLAND RESEARCH ASSOCIATE Jeff Chemnick and Director Emeritus Steven Timbrook look forward to enjoying a winter morning with friendly groups of Lotusland birders on Saturday, February 11. Our guided walk will focus on those birds that are spending the winter here while avoiding the cold and snow of their summer homes.

For beginners, this is a great way to start learning your birds. We will have several pairs of binoculars to loan if you don't have your own, so don't let that stop you. Seasoned birders know that more pairs of eyes make for more birds seen. We look forward to getting a nice diversity of species with your help.

Please arrive shortly after the gates open so we can start promptly at 9:00 AM. Please use the coupon on page 11 to register.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Lotus in China WITH Virginia Hayes

SATURDAY, MARCH 18 • 3:00 TO 5:00 PM

CHINA—JUST THE NAME conjures up intrigue and mystery—and one of the floral mysteries of China is the ancient lotus. Lotusland Curator Virginia Hayes traveled to China this past summer to attend the Lotus Branch of the Chinese Flower Association's 19th annual exhibition in Beijing where she unlocked some of the secrets surrounding this revered flower.

The Chinese have been growing this intriguing plant for thousands of years and have cultivated more than 600 different forms for its floral beauty and nutritious tubers and seeds.

Join Virginia for an illustrated pre-



One of the many Chinese lotus cultivars, this Qingdao selection has delicate pink petals with rosy red tips.



PHOTOS BY VIRGINIA HAYES

Lotuses are displayed in pots and in the lake surrounding the viewing pavilion at Fairy Lake Botanical Garden in Shenzhen, China.

sentation giving a brief history of the fascinating traditions and symbolism surrounding lotuses in China and a glimpse of lotus production for food and flowers. Her presentation will be illustrated with sumptuous images of lotus flowers and other botanical and cultural delights.

Delectable Chinese refreshments will be served after the presentation, including a taste of traditionally prepared lotus root, potstickers, and world famous Tsingdao beer.

Don't miss out on this very special event. Please register by using the coupon on page 11.

Tax Relief Twilight Tour

SATURDAY, APRIL 15

5:00 PM TO SUNSET

We are all familiar with the old saying, "There are only two sure things in life: Death and Taxes."

However, this saying was conjured up before Lotusland's Twilight Tours began offering the third sure thing in life: Twilight Tours are guaranteed to be fun! April 15th is the perfect date for some fun after what for many is a taxing situation.

Though it might be considered tax evasion, instead of facing prison, you can do time at Lotusland for a Twilight Tour—and enjoy wine and hors d'oeuvres!

You've been a good soldier and handed over your fair share to the government, so you deserve a reward. Join us for Lotusland's version of tax relief.

Sunset is at 7:30 PM, signaling the time to depart.

Please specify whether you would like a docent-led or self-guided tour when you make reservations. Docents will be available throughout the garden to answer questions.

Space is limited, so please reserve early by using the coupon on page 11.



Friends of Lotusland

We Welcome New Members Who Joined in September, October, and November 2005

LEVEL I

Mr. & Mrs. Ohlen Alexander
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Arbegast
Mr. Michael Auda & Ms. Kate Coudayre
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Austin
Mr. Atsuo Baba
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Mr. & Mrs. Ken Beard
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Lotusland Gratefully Acknowledges Donations

September, October, and November 2005

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Ganna Walska Lotusland Registration Form

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

Card number _____ Signature _____

Member name _____

Address _____ 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*

Except where noted, member passes will no longer be accepted as partial payment for events.

The Birds of Winter

Saturday, February 11 • 9:00 TO 11:00 AM

\$20/members • \$30/nonmembers

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

The Lotus in China with Virginia Hayes

Saturday, March 13 • 3:00 TO 5:00 PM

\$30/members • \$40/nonmembers

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

Tax Relief Twilight Tour

Saturday, April 15 • 5:00 PM TO SUNSET

\$35/members • \$45/nonmembers • ONE MEMBER PASS MAY BE USED AS PARTIAL PAYMENT

CHECK ONE: ☐ Guided tour ☐ Self-guided tour

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

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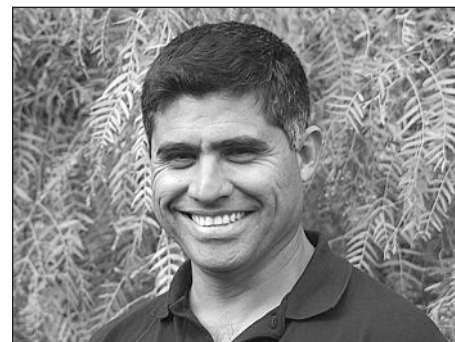
Esau Ramirez Returns to Lotusland

LOTUSLAND IS PLEASED to announce the return of Esau Ramirez to Lotusland's grounds staff after a two-year absence. Esau resigned in 2003 as assistant grounds superintendent to pursue other interests and returned on November 1 to take the position of grounds superintendent.

During his ten years as assistant grounds superintendent, Esau worked throughout the garden and spearheaded many special projects. Most notably, he and senior horticulturalist Paul Mills oversaw both the relocation of the Dunlap cactus collection from Fallbrook, California to Lotusland and the installation of the new cactus garden.

In his new position as grounds superintendent, Esau is responsible for the day-to-day grounds maintenance

operations, as well as the planning and implementation of special garden projects. Mike Iven, director of grounds and facilities, and Esau will work together to promote Lotusland's sustainable horticulture program and continue to develop effective grounds management practices.



Esau Ramirez

VIRGINIA HAYES

Ganna Walska Lotusland Foundation

695 Ashley Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93108
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Winter and Spring 2006 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 2006 at Lotusland.

Saturday, February 4
Self-guided Tours for All Members
1:30–4:30 PM
Members \$15 or use admission passes. Call (805) 969-9990 for reservations 9 AM–NOON, M–F.

Saturday, February 11
The Birds of Winter
9:00–11:00 AM
See details on page 7 and use the coupon on page 11 to register.

Saturday, March 18
The Lotus in China
with Virginia Hayes

3:00–5:00 PM
See details on page 8 and use the coupon on page 11 to register.

Saturday, March 25
Self-guided Tours for All Members
10:00 AM–12:30 PM
Members \$15 or use admission passes. Call (805) 969-9990 for reservations 9 AM–NOON, M–F.

Saturday, April 15
Tax Relief Twilight Tour
5:00 PM TO SUNSET
See details on page 8 and use the coupon on page 11 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 November 13 and February 14). 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.

Grant from Simmons Foundation

A GENEROUS AND MUCH appreciated grant from the **Simmons Foundation** was used to replace Lotusland's 1988 stake bed truck with a new 2004 Chevrolet work truck.

Grounds superintendent Esau Ramirez makes use of the truck, which is equipped with a shortened dump bed that allows for maneuverability on the garden's utility roads.

Lotusland, and the grounds staff in particular, is most grateful to the Simmons Foundation for its support of the day-to-day operations that help make Lotusland such a rewarding experience for all who visit.



VIRGINIA HAYES



LOTUSLAND

2006 SELF-GUIDED TOUR SCHEDULE

SELF-GUIDED TOURS are a benefit only for our members and their guests. Level III and above members may visit the garden on a self-guided tour any time Lotusland is open to the public. Twenty-two dates are set aside for Level II members, and six for Level I members, each year. They are:

Saturday, February 4	.....1:30–4:30 PM	.....Levels I and II
Saturday, February 18	.....1:30–4:30 PM	.....Level II
Wednesday, March 8	.....1:30–4:00 PM	.....Level II
Saturday, March 25	.....10:00 AM–12:30 PM	.....Levels I and II
Friday, April 7	.....10:00 AM–12:30 PM	.....Level II
Saturday, April 22	.....1:30–4:30 PM	.....Level II
Saturday, May 6	.....1:30–4:30 PM	.....Levels I and II
Wednesday, May 10	.....10:00 AM–12:30 PM	.....Level II
Friday, May 26	.....1:30–4:00 PM	.....Level II
Wednesday, June 7	.....10:00 AM–12:30 PM	.....Level II
Saturday, June 17	.....10:00 AM–12:30 PM	.....Level II
Saturday, July 8	.....10:00 AM–12:30 PM	.....Level II
Saturday, July 15	.....1:30–4:30 PM	.....Levels I and II
Wednesday, July 19	.....1:30–4:00 PM	.....Level II
Saturday, August 19	.....10:00 AM–12:30 PM	.....Levels I and II
Friday, August 25	.....1:30–4:00 PM	.....Level II
Saturday, September 2	.....1:30–4:30 PM	.....Level II
Wednesday, September 20	.....10:00 AM–12:30 PM	.....Level II
Thursday, October 5	.....1:30–4:00 PM	.....Level II
Saturday, October 22	.....10:00 AM–12:30 PM	.....Level II
Friday, November 10	.....10:00 AM–12:30 PM	.....Level II
Saturday, December 2	.....1:30–4:30 PM	.....Levels I and II

Holiday Shopping Day

Reservations are required for all dates and may be made by calling (805) 969-9990 from 9:00 AM TO NOON, Monday through Friday.