



LOTUSLAND

NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS ▯ VOLUME 20 NO. 4 ▯ FALL 2011

R. Kinton Stevens

BY VIRGINIA HAYES

LOTUSLAND WAS ORIGINALLY part of a government land grant of 98 acres made on June 2, 1877 to Charles Newbold. After passing through several other owners, it was purchased by Ralph Kinton Stevens (known as Kinton) and his new bride, Caroline Lucy Tallant, on August 11, 1882. A few years later, Stevens sold the northern portion of the original tract to Charles Frederick Eaton to enlarge his estate, Riso Rivo (now a part of El Mirador). Still later, he sold off a few more acres, reducing it to the size that it is today—just less than 37 acres. Much of the property had already been cleared, although apparently enough native oak woodland remained for Caroline to dub it Tanglewood. Early on, Stevens seeded a section on the southern edge to hay to support the livestock that every landed family reared—horses to ride and pull buggies and farm implements as well as milk and beef cattle to fill the larder. Although Stevens' first crops were hay, grains and fruits, his enthusiasm for plant collecting and propagation soon saw some of the land being used for exotic plants that he acquired from all over the world.

Stevens was born In Leicestershire, England and graduated from King's College, London in 1849. He emigrated to California in about 1873 and found work as a ranch hand as well as on a land surveying crew before settling in Montecito. He and his wife had three children—Ralph Tallant, Kinton Burkill and Barbara Caroline. Both sons, Ralph and Kinton B., wrote short memoirs of their childhood at Tanglewood. Stevens eventually built a two-story house to replace the rambling one-story building that was already on the property. The

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PHOTOS FROM LOTUSLAND ARCHIVES

In 1893, the Chicago World's Fair was a tempting destination for the Stevens family. Kinton gave his wife the choice of a family trip or a new house. She chose building a new house.

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Mission Statement

To preserve and enhance the spectacular collections of exotic plants and the historic Montecito estate of Madame Ganna Walska, to provide public access to their remarkable beauty and diversity and, through interpretation of these collections, to foster increased knowledge and appreciation of the importance of plants and the need for their conservation.

Continued from page 1

ground floor of the new house was constructed of sandstone quarried from boulders that littered a 150-acre parcel of land the family owned in the hills north of Tanglewood. The second story was covered in wood shingles, and a round tower room at the corner of the building became Stevens's office. Construction costs amounted to more than \$12,000—quite a sum in 1893.

Stevens early on befriended the captains and crew of ships that traded along the coast and docked at Santa Barbara's wharf. Stevens extended his hospitality to them with dinners in town at the Santa Barbara Club or out on the ranch and excursions around the Montecito Valley. They returned the favors by sending him cuttings and seeds of plants from such far-flung locales as Australia, South Africa and the East Indies.

As his nursery operation grew and his land was increasingly put under cultivation, the water supplied by his windmill-powered well was in short supply. Reliable and efficient pumps were not yet available, so he decided to prepare a reservoir to capture rain water. He dug out a pond near the lowest point of the property and created a dam to retain the natural runoff. The success of his planting of lotuses in this pond resulted in another cash crop of the cut flowers that he shipped to florists in San Francisco. He also laid a 1½-inch water line from two seeps on another parcel



Stevens's 1893 nursery catalog of tropical and subtropical plants was one of the first to be published in California. This catalog listed over 50 palm species.

of land that he owned higher up the mountain to the west of Cold Spring Canyon (he later sold this parcel to Dwight Murphy, and it is now the Westmont College Campus). A few years later, this pipeline also carried a share of purchased water from Cold Spring Creek and delivered it to the finished reservoir. The reservoir does not hold as much water as it did then, now that it is the centerpiece of Lotusland's Japanese style garden, but the lotuses are once again thriving there.



Stevens planted a demonstration garden near his home that became a destination for other plant collectors (above photo c. 1950s). Chilean wine palms, Canary Island date palms and an extremely tall queen palm flank an ancient dragon tree near the house as remnants of this original garden.



Stevens planted many varieties of bamboo and sold them through his nursery. This photo shows how much they had grown by the 1950s.

With a secure source of irrigation water, Stevens planted a lemon orchard where the hay had been grown. In addition to harvesting his crops, he propagated and grew lemon trees for

planting out in the many orchards that were springing up in the area between 1888 and 1893. This became a “most remunerative branch of his business” according to his son Kinton. Another of his propagation areas was a triple row of olive trees that served as “mother stock” for a number of varieties of olives. His catalog listed about half Italian varieties and additional varieties that he referred to as common. These old trees remain today and provide a shady allée near the topiary garden.

As busy as his life must have been in caring for his family and lands, Stevens found time to make a three-month-long collecting trip to Hawaii in 1891. He paid his respects to Queen Liliuokalani and also visited the lava-filled crater of Kilauea, which had just erupted. He returned with about 300 tree ferns that were planted in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco as well as more ferns and other tropical plants for his own garden and nursery.

Stevens was a man of many talents. He was noted for his singing voice, which he accompanied with a seven-string banjo of his own construction. His list of accomplishments included

taxidermy, and wildlife that he and others shot on hunting expeditions in the local hills were expertly stuffed and mounted. The live menagerie on the ranch included coyotes, an injured bald eagle, a bobcat, a pair of tame crows and a couple of alligators. The fine red clay that occurred in the lotus pond went to make roof tiles, but Stevens also tried his hand at sculpting with it. It was unfortunate that he died suddenly of a heart attack at the age of 47 or more of his handiwork might still be in evidence today.

Caroline remained on the property, raising the three young children. Their large home was first put to use as a boarding house and later rented out in its entirety to winter visitors. Caroline sold the property to George Knapp in 1913.

The boys both went to Michigan Agricultural College; Ralph taking the horticultural course and eventually becoming a landscape architect and Kinton studying engineering. Ralph would eventually return to Santa Barbara and help Madame Walska in her enhancements of Lotusland, but that’s another story.

Director’s Letter

GARDENS MAY HAVE come into being with the utilitarian purpose of providing safe places where crops were cultivated, but they have evolved to reflect the cultural milieu of their time for human purposes beyond survival, and for the sheer beauty and pleasure of them. A garden is a work of art—a personal expression of its creator’s interests, inspirations and influences.

Nature has influenced visual art since the time man first started making art, and gardens have been portrayed in visual arts from the time man first started making gardens. Gardens are art, and art belongs in gardens.

Lotusland is the playful, seductive and artful manifestation of its creator namesake, the very imaginative and beautiful Madame Ganna Walska. While our mission at Lotusland carries a serious agenda—preserving an historic place, promoting sustainable horticulture, conserving globally rare plants, teaching plant and environmental consciousness—

honoring Ganna Walska’s legacy of inserting unique art into a uniquely artful garden is one of our charges we take seriously.

Over the years, Lotusland has held occasional visual and performing arts events, and many of you have asked us to do more of them. In the last two years, we have brought art in various forms to the gardens. This has been a period of experimentation in what we can do logistically, and what members and visitors want. There’s been some controversy—the Ant Colony wasn’t for everyone, although the giant ant sculptures were great ambassadors for the lessons on pollination and animal-plant interdependency, and every child who visited loved them. Even so, you have asked us, again, for more art in the gardens.

After this period of experimentation, we are ready to embark on a long-term schedule of art exhibits and programs that enable us to reveal deeper stories



RICK CARTER

Gwen Stauffer

about Lotusland, its creators and our mission, and also present a new and different way to experience Lotusland. This art exhibit agenda is one of our current strategic plan initiatives.

I look forward to sharing our plans for exhibits and performing arts programs in 2012—and in the meantime, I hope to see you in the garden!

With warmest regards,
Gwen L. Stauffer

LotusFest

THE WEATHER WAS IDEAL, and every garden at Lotusland was in peak condition—including the water garden and Japanese garden with their lush lotus blooms. Guests enjoyed premium wines from some of the area's finest vintners: Blair Fox Cellars, Buttonwood Farm Winery, Carina Cellars, Daniel Gehrs Wines, Jaffurs Wine Cellars, Kenneth Volk Vineyard, Lucas & Lewellen, Santa Barbara Winery, Summerland Winery, Toucan Wines and Whitcraft Winery. A special treat was olive oil tasting presented by Global Gardens.

The wine was complemented by delicious hors d'oeuvres, and music delighted guests. A demonstration and display of Ikebana, the art of Japanese flower arranging, was provided by Valerie Halverson. A set of two necklaces and earrings from Six Sapphires and a basket of wine from various vintners were sought-after raffle items. Thank you to all for your generosity and for making this annual celebration of Lotusland's namesake a perfect day.



It was a perfect day to sample a variety of fine wines and to see the lotuses in full bloom in the water and Japanese gardens.



Theo Stephan of Global Gardens brought some of her delicious organic olive oils and appetizer spreads.



Lynn and Kent Damon enjoyed walking in the garden and tasting the lovely wine.



L TO R: Seyburn Zorthian and Graham Palmer of Buttonwood Farm Winery poured for a happy guest.



Dallas Folks and Drake Whitcraft of Whitcraft Winery were one of the many vintners that donated wine.



Allison Jewell and Paula Congleton from Daniel Gehrs Wines poured for appreciative guests.



Sharlene Guillemoto and Mike Llewellen served a variety of wines from Lucas & Llewellen.



Dave Hardee, Christina Ramirez and Till Utermoehlen represented Carina Cellars.



Nancy Gifford chatted with Executive Director Gwen Stauffer while sampling the premium wines.



Blair Fox from Blair Fox Cellars was one of the generous vintners who participated in LotusFest.

COLLECTIONS NEWS

Historic Olive Varieties

THE COMPLETE LIST of varieties of olives that R. Kinton Stevens published in his 1893 nursery catalog included the Italian varieties 'Cucco', 'Corregio', 'Frantoio', 'Morchiaio', 'Morinello' and 'Palazuolo'. In addition he produced young trees of the more common 'Mission' variety as well as 'Mansanillo', 'Navadillo Blanco', 'Picholine', 'Rubra' and 'Nostralis' (originally from the south of France).

In 2007, Anne Koehmstedt, then a graduate student at the University of California, Davis, visited Lotusland to collect leaf samples from the olive trees for DNA analysis as part of her research for her Masters Thesis *Analysis of Genetic Structure and Differentiation in Olive (Olea europaea L.) Using Microsatellite Markers*. She also collected samples from trees on Santa Cruz Island and the University of Arizona campus in Tucson. There was anecdotal evidence that the trees planted in Arizona in 1895 may have been purchased from Stevens's nursery. After completing the genetic study, Koehmstedt compared her results with data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS) National Clonal Germplasm Repository (NCGR) for Fruit and Nut Crops that is held in Davis in cooperation with the university. While a number of the samples from Lotusland did not match any varieties in the NCGR database, a few matched precisely and several more showed affinities to known varieties. Her results showed that ten of the trees are 'Frantoio' (a variety that is still grown for its fruity oil), two match the genotype of 'Nevadillo' (favored for its light, delicately flavored oil) and two are a match for 'Redding Picholine' (sometimes used as rootstock for other varieties), all varieties that Stevens was selling. Several of the trees show an affinity for some European cultivars such as 'Black Italian' or another variety originating in Greece or Tunisia. A brief note in Lotusland archives mentions that Stevens planted a number of olive cultivars and as the NCGR database grows over time, there may be other matches to the sources of Stevens's trees.

—Virginia Hayes



BILL DEWEY

Originally a part of Kinton Stevens's nursery, the rows of olive trees were later incorporated into the design of the garden, forming a captivating allée.

AN INVITATION TO FREE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR LOTUSLAND MEMBERS AT THE FRIEND LEVEL AND ABOVE

Monday Morning Lectures

THESE ILLUSTRATED LECTURES are part of the continuing education program for Lotusland's docents. Lotusland members at the Friend level (\$250) and above are invited to attend at no charge. Seating is limited. To reserve a space, please call 805.969.9990. If you wish to upgrade your membership, please call 805.969.3767, extension 120.

ROCKS OF LOTUSLAND: THE JEWELS OF MADAME'S GARDEN WITH LOTUSLAND RESEARCH ASSOCIATE DR. BRUCE TIFFNEY MONDAY, OCTOBER 17 9:30 TO 11:30 AM

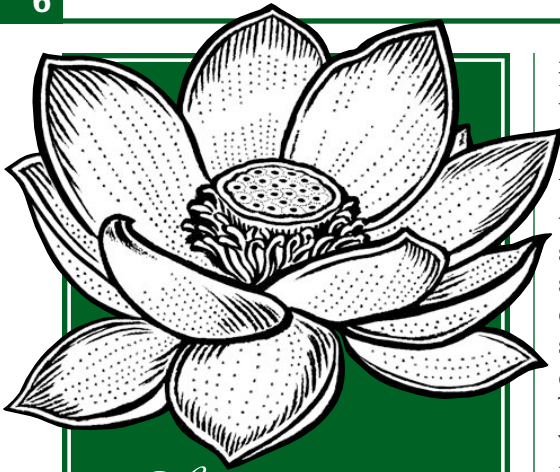
MADAME WALSKA had a great eye for the unusual. Most of us first think of her collection of plants and flair for garden design, but soon realize that her talents extended to effective use of garden ornamentation as well. Her collection of rocks and minerals appears like jewels in her garden accentuating the planted beds.

Join us to hear about the beautiful, the unusual and the unexpected rocks in Madame Walska's landscape.

GANNA WALSKA'S INSPIRATION FOR LOTUSLAND, AND THE GARDEN'S FUTURE WITH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GWEN STAUFFER MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14 9:30 TO 11:30 AM

THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE of Ganna Walska and her evolving sense of style and taste helped form her aesthetic vision for Lotusland's gardens and her approach to building them.

The history of Madame Walska's life, and of Lotusland, as seen through the eyes of Gwen Stauffer reveals the challenges and opportunities for the future preservation of the garden. This presentation includes archival photos that have never been presented publicly.



The LOTUS SOCIETY

SYDNEY BAUMGARTNER

SYDNEY BAUMGARTNER'S landscape architecture firm has designed world-class gardens in and around Santa Barbara since 1983. Sydney first fell in love with Santa Barbara during her family's annual tradition of summer vacations in this comfortable seaside town, away from the very hot and dry climate of her hometown, Lake Elsinore. "I always thought Santa Barbara was so beautiful," she tells me. "and one of my favorite things to do, every time we visited, was to eat a thick abalone steak as our first dinner."

As Sydney and her five siblings grew older, her parents moved them to Escondido where the high school academics were rigorous and demand-

ing. Sydney had a deep interest and knack for foreign language, and planned a college career majoring in German language until she learned that the United Nations did not use German translators. Without a second thought, she added French and Italian to her high school studies. Her language teacher organized trips to Europe with extended stays in Germany where the junior students were hosted by German families. The experience was so marvelous that when Sydney returned home, she immediately worked all kinds of jobs—even selling swimming pools by telephone—to raise enough money to return to Germany after she graduated from high school.

After her summer in Germany and recalling the city's beauty, Sydney decided to attend college in Santa Barbara. She double-majored in international relations and art at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where she met her future husband. Soon after they married, they moved to Heidelberg, Germany, to be teachers at the U.S. military base school. "Those were dangerous times for Americans," Sydney recalls. "We were there during the Munich Olympics hostage crisis in 1972—there were many bombings and terrorist gangs all around. Americans were both victims and suspects. We kept emergency supplies in the attic because if we had to leave, we really had to leave in a hurry."

Much changed in Sydney's life after her return to the U.S. Her marriage ended, but her relationship with her husband's aunt, Elizabeth de Forest, grew into a deep, enduring friendship. Elizabeth was married to Lockwood de Forest, Jr., and worked with him in his landscape architecture studio, eventually taking over after Lockwood died. Sydney and Elizabeth became constant companions and eventually Elizabeth's vocation influenced Sydney to study landscape architecture at UCLA.

Sydney frequently accompanied Elizabeth on her visits to gardens she was working on, which is how Sydney became familiar with Lotusland. Sydney never met Madame Walska personally, but she came to know Madame through stories shared by Lockwood and Elizabeth. "Madame was difficult for Lockwood to work with because she was always changing things," Sydney tells me, "but Elizabeth went on and on

about how stylish Madame was with her beautiful clothes and quirky hats, and about all the lavish things she did for her parties. Madame had open houses for viewing her gardens, and I was always grateful she did that. Although I was in awe of her like everyone else, I was also dutifully terrified."

Sydney eventually came to work at Lotusland herself, designing the Australian garden, with its tea tree arbor, and the visitor center parking lot. "Aunt Libby told me to visit the UC Santa Cruz arboretum to see Australian plants," Sydney recalls, "and a few nurserymen in our area were starting to grow those plants, so I had help. But the most important thing about that garden is that I used sustainable principles for gathering runoff water from the parking lot through an organic placement of the parking spaces gently sloped to a bio-swale at the bottom of the lot." Although, according to Sydney, the engineers were dubious, her design has proven effective after every rainstorm.

When asked about her favorite part of Lotusland's gardens, without hesitation Sydney calls out the theater garden. "What a great concept. I have always loved the idea of an outdoor amphitheater; it has always been in my life, and is a type of garden I have designed for many clients."

Sydney joined *The Lotus Society* in honor of Elizabeth de Forest, to remember the great woman who was her most devoted friend, and to support the garden that has inspired her so deeply.

—Gwen Stauffer



MEMBERS OF *The Lotus Society* have each made a gift or bequest of \$10,000 or more to Lotusland's Endowment. Names of *The Lotus Society* members are engraved on the Wall of Honor, which is located at the Visitor Center at the end of the Australian tea tree arbor.

To learn more about *The Lotus Society*, please call Anne Dewey, Lotusland's Director of Development, at 805.969.3767, extension 105.

NEW MEMBERS

THANK YOU to these additional new members for their generous support.

Molly Houston

Barbara Savage and

Robert Ornstein



Sydney Baumgartner in her garden.

Dreams of a Diva

DREAMS OF A DIVA was a special tribute to Madame Ganna Walska, who created Lotusland and donated it to the community. Lotusland is very grateful for the support of Madame Walska's niece, Hania Puacz Tallmadge, who was the Honorary Chair of the event. Hania lent her truly amazing *Czar's Portrait* for display on the main stage. The six-foot-tall portrait of Madame Ganna Walska was commissioned by the Russian Czar and painted by Victor Karlovich Stemberg in 1912 following a Russian society ball. It was said to have "typified the exceptional beauty of Slav Womanhood."

Lotusland is also grateful to the Dentzel family, who lent several of their exquisite hand-carved carousel animals, created by Gustav Dentzel, for display at the event. It was very fitting to have them, as Madame Walska had an extensive collection of carousel animals that included several made by Dentzel. It was a great pleasure to have many members of the Dentzel family in attendance at the event.

Creative Committee Co-chairs Lizzie Peus and Crystal Wyatt, along with their clever committee members—Debbie Baldwin, Anne Dewey, Kate Gura, Jennie Grube, Hollye Jacobs, Tamara Jensen, Dawn Lafitte, Jill Levinson, Jillian Muller, Sandi Nicholson, Debby Peterson, Eileen Rasmussen, Laura Shelburne, Cynthia Spivey, Daryl Stegall, Courtney Tentler, Caroline Thompson and Michele

White—did a wonderful job of capturing the essence of what Madame Walska dreamed of when she created the magnificent gardens of Lotusland.

As guests entered the Japanese garden, they were treated to a live performance of arias from Puccini's *Madame Butterfly* in honor of Madame Walska, who sang the title role of Cio-Cio-San in many venues across Europe. The next beautiful surprise was a tribute to Madame Walska's renowned Fiesta-themed parties: the shell pond in the aloe garden was filled with dahlias, and a flamenco guitar player serenaded guests. To commemorate Madame Walska's love of Tibetan mysticism and art, the water garden featured a Tibetan bowl musician who produced exotic sounds that floated over the lotuses and water lilies. The topiary garden, which Madame Walska dubbed her "Little Circus," was the site of a trapeze artist, a tightrope walker and a globe walker!

Executive Director Gwen Stauffer welcomed guests and thanked our generous donors and talented event committee. After dinner was served, she talked briefly about Lotusland's community programs and introduced our ace auctioneer Palmer Jackson, Jr., who did a terrific job of encouraging guests to bid on the unique items in the live auction. The items included a one-of-kind insider's trip to New Orleans; a beautiful painting, *Spring Morning in the Japanese Garden, Lotusland*, by renowned contemporary landscape painter Nicole



PHOTOS BY NELL CAMPBELL

Auction co-chairs Eileen Rasmussen and Caroline Thompson with the beautiful butterfly pendant created and generously donated by Silverhorn Jewelers. Bidding was intense!

Strasburg and strikingly framed by C. Kirkegaard Framing; and "Dinner for Ten" with VIP guest Dr. Michael Gazzaniga (widely considered the founder of the field of cognitive neuroscience). Bidding was intense for the pièce de résistance, a Butterfly Pendant inspired by a butterfly brooch in Madame Walska's jewelry collection and created by Silverhorn Jewelers.

Following the live auction, we were honored to have Hilary Peattie, a former teacher at La Patera School (and a current docent), Chloe Babcock from Montecito Union School and brothers Luis and Alvaro Castillo from Cleveland Elementary School tell the audience why they love Lotusland's Fourth Grade Outreach program. They did a terrific job of sharing their enthusiasm for this outstanding program, and the audience responded by donating more than \$20,000 to help fund it! See photo on page 9.

Dreams of a Diva was an entirely memorable and fitting tribute to Madame Ganna Walska. She would have been pleased to know that her family, friends and fans made it one of the most successful fundraisers in Lotusland's history!

Lotusland would like to give our heartfelt thanks to all of the following generous supporters of *Dreams of a Diva*.

—Anne Dewey

Continued on page 8



Creative Committee co-chairs Lizzie Peus and Crystal Wyatt and the talented, energetic Committee members did a wonderful job of planning this fabulous event—one of the most successful in Lotusland's history.



Event Sponsors Lynda Weinman and Bruce Heavin had a great time at the sold-out gala.



Executive Director Gwen Stauffer with Madame Walska's niece and Honorary Event Chair Hania Tallmadge, with her son Mark Bacon and his wife Laura.

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Event Sponsor Leslie Ridley-Tree posed for a photo as she entered the gala, a celebration of the life of the garden's creator, Madame Ganna Walska.



Dahlias, one of Madame Walska's favorite flowers, floated in the aloe garden's shell pond as guests made their way to the main lawn.



Palmer Jackson, Jr. did a marvelous job of auctioning the six very special items. His grandparents owned Cuesta Linda, the property that is now Lotusland.



Lifetime Honorary Trustee Arthur Gaudi, longtime Lotusland supporter Virginia Castagnola-Hunter and Director Emeritus Steven Timbook enjoyed Dreams of a Diva.



Ralph and Melissa Iannelli, the successful bidders for the beautiful painting Spring Morning in the Japanese Garden, Lotusland with the artist, Nicole Strasburg, and Chris Kirkegaard of C. Kirkegaard Framing.

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Christine Emmons and Carla Hahn enjoyed the wonderful entertainment, from arias in the Japanese garden to trapeze artists on the main lawn, before dinner at Dreams of a Diva.



Remarks by children who participated in Lotusland's 4th Grade Outreach Program inspired more than \$20,000 in donations to the program. Some excerpts follow...Alvaro Castillo: "it is a wonderful place to learn about plants. I want to thank you for letting kids come to Lotusland." His brother, Luis: "It's the best botanic garden ever built." Chloe Babcock: "My trip to Lotusland made me feel like I was in an enchanted forest and made me feel very creative."



Candace McIntire

MY SUMMER AT LOTUSLAND was spectacular. I had two previous opportunities to visit Lotusland with my Cal Poly Pomona Landscape Architecture classes, but nothing compared to experiences I had this summer. The Sustainable Plant Health Care Internship was all I could have dreamed of and more. I learned so much about the ways of Lotusland. Corey Welles taught so much about the sustainable horticulture practices that take place in order to keep the garden healthy and pristine. I learned how to brew compost tea, which is used as a fertilizer and pest deterrent. I learned how the use of mulch covers soil to

reduce the need of water and slowly adds nutrients to the soil and the use of insectaries attracts beneficial insects. I also learned how to trap and remove pests from the gardens, like rats and gophers! The Sustainable Plant Health Care Internship taught me so much about how to make a garden not only work, but also work for you. I feel that all of the hands-on learning will teach me to think beyond designing once I begin my career, and I hope to be able to use this information while I am developing as a landscape architect in order to create successful, sustainable designs.

From the moment I entered the Lotusland staff gate, I felt welcomed by all, and as time went by, I felt like I had been working there for years! The staff at Lotusland is absolutely fantastic! Everyone is so kind, knowledgeable and friendly. During the middle of my internship was *Lotusland Celebrates* and I was given the opportunity to work at it. It was such an interesting, intricate and well-planned event! I thoroughly enjoyed working and experiencing an event as special as this! I finished up my internship by working with every

gardener. This opportunity gave me the chance to see how every garden and the needs of every garden were different. I couldn't have gotten a better opportunity this summer.

Lotusland is an amazing place, and I cannot thank the staff enough for all of their support and knowledge. I would like to say thank you to Mike Iven, Corey Welles, Esau Ramirez, Robert Blaha, Alex Chavez, Tim Cordero, Mike Furner, Eion Hammonds, Greg Kitajima, Tony Lee, Javier Lopez, Bruno Reginato and Jorge Torrez for such a wonderful time at Lotusland, especially in Green Cottage! I would also like to say thank you to all of the ladies in the main house who work so hard and made me feel like I was another member of the Lotusland family. I am very grateful to the John Percival and Mary D. Jefferson Endowment Fund for providing the financial support for my internship. My final thanks go to the Board of Trustees and all of the members who made this opportunity available to me and to Ganna Walska for creating such a magnificent, alluring, and fascinating garden.

—Candace McIntire

The Gardener's Vision in Uncovering the Spirit of Place

WITH LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT AND AUTHOR JACK DELASHMET

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29 • 3:00 PM

NOTED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT Jack deLashmet's irreverent musings, "Diary of a Mad Gardener," appeared regularly in *Hamptons Magazine* and serve as the basis for his sought-after lectures across the country. His current talk focuses on the making of his new book, *Hamptons Gardens*, including the criteria used for the various gardens' inclusion. With the existence of more and more native gardens and landscapes, this brings up questions like "when is a garden a garden?" His talk includes an emphasis on two aspects of today's gardens: the personal and often idiosyncratic vision in the making of a garden and landscape and the understanding and role of the



location's distinctive atmosphere or "spirit of place" as the guiding design force behind the development of a garden's design.

Although his firm, deLashmet & Associates, is only 11 years old, it has completed notable landscape projects and historic garden restorations throughout the U.S. and Europe. His work has been seen on the pages of *Town & Country*, *Elle Décor*, *House & Garden*, *Architectural Digest* and *Garden Design* magazines, among others.

An afternoon tea will follow the presentation when the entertaining Mr. deLashmet will talk informally and sign copies of his book, which will be available for purchase.

Space is very limited for the rare opportunity to hear a lecture by this renowned landscape architect. Please use the coupon on page 15 to register.



Carol Weingartner

A CHICAGO NATIVE, Carol moved west in 1961 to attend Stanford. "I always knew I wanted to go into medicine." After graduating from Stanford, she spent a few years in Salt Lake City during medical school, then came to Santa Barbara in 1971 where she practiced radiation oncology. Like so many local residents, Carol says, "I wondered what was behind that pink wall." As soon as Lotusland opened to the public, Carol came on a tour. "I recall my sense of surprise. It was so completely unexpected. Every time you entered a new garden, you saw another part of the world." After seeing Lotusland, Carol promised herself that she would one day become a Lotusland docent.

Her mother fostered Carol's interest in nature from a young age—at age five, she began growing her first vegetable garden. When she retired from medicine in 2002, Carol continued her lifelong interest in nature by becoming

Volunteer Profile: Carol Weingartner

A PASSION FOR PLANTS

ing a Master Gardener, and in 2005 she kept her promise to herself and enrolled in Lotusland's docent training program. "There are so many benefits: an excellent education program, a friendly and cooperative volunteer group, rewarding continuing education programs and activities, plus the opportunity to introduce this garden to visitors. My chief joy as a docent is to witness the happiness that visitors radiate on touring the garden. I also loved acting as a Mentor for two docent training classes." Carol enjoys emphasizing the historical context of Lotusland, including the role of early plantsmen such as Kinton and Ralph Stevens, contrasting what Santa Barbara looked like before the extensive importation of non-native plants and how that differs from today's landscape. "Of course, people want to know the history of the estate and about Madame. So I try to weave bits of information about her as I proceed through the garden. She was a real Renaissance woman!"

As a docent in our 4th Grade Outreach Program, Carol says, "I love to see the wonder on the children's faces as they visit Lotusland and make connections between their classroom science studies and active observations in nature. My rewards have been half a dozen students telling me that they aspire to work at Lotusland some day. If this translates into stimulating their studies in math and science, the world will be better served."

Besides the time Carol spends at Lotusland sharing her knowledge with others, she leads tours at Arroyo Hondo Preserve in Gaviota, is a docent at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden and participated in UCSB's Sedgwick Reserve "Kid's in Nature" program for several years. She also finds time to babysit for her two grandsons, Otis and Enzo. Carol's own garden continues to evolve. "It's mostly native plants, and I'm emphasizing wildscaping and providing a habitat for birds and beneficial insects while still trying to contend with the rabbits and squirrels. Corey Welles' classes on Lotusland's sustainable horticulture program have helped me achieve this goal."

For vacations Carol and her husband Jerry are drawn to rivers, lakes and travels that involve birding and wildlife viewing combined with hiking or paddling a canoe or kayak. They particularly enjoy trips to the boreal forest of eastern Canada, the rainforests of Central and South America and the Sierras.

"My favorite garden at Lotusland is the fern garden," says Carol. "After walking in from the parking lot, suddenly it's dark and welcoming. Immediately upon entering its cool shade, I have a sense of peace. And I do love the Japanese garden. I really feel when I come here to volunteer that I can make people happy," Carol said.

Thank you for sharing your passion for Lotusland, Carol! —Jean Parry

SPACE IS STILL AVAILABLE
FOR OUR

Wreath Making Workshop

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15
9:30 AM TO NOON

\$45/members
\$55/nonmembers

To register, please call 805.969.9990
or email reservation@lotusland.org

Twilight Time at Lotusland

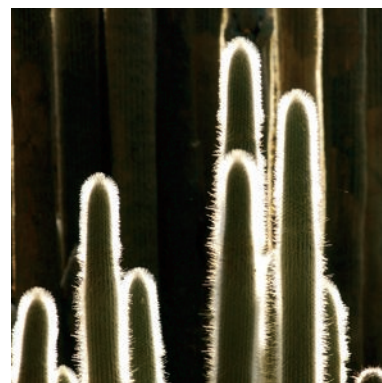
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22 • 3:00 TO 5:30 PM

AS THE SEASONS CHANGE and the evenings grow longer, Lotusland masquerades in different colors and light. This dramatic backdrop provides an enchanting opportunity to explore the garden later in the day.

You may choose to self guide or go on a docent-led tour. Wine and light hors d'oeuvres will be served from 4:00 to 5:00 PM on the geranium terrace overlooking the main lawn.

Don't miss this chance to enjoy twilight at Lotusland.

Please use the coupon on page 15 to register.



RICK CARTER



The former reservoir that Stevens had built for irrigation water was still filled with lotuses in this photo from the 1920s.

Recollections by Kinton B. Stevens

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE BEGINNING OF THE LOTUS POND ON THE PROPERTY NOW KNOWN AS "LOTUSLAND"—ESTATE OF MADAME GANNA WALSKA ON SYCAMORE CANYON ROAD, MONTECITO AS WRITTEN, CIRCA 1965, BY KINTON B. STEVENS (b. 1884), SON OF R. KINTON STEVENS

ten feet away. If you were caught out on the road with horse and buggy, the horses wouldn't face the storm and would just stand still until the deluge was over. In general there would be no school on rainy days as most of the children would stay home.

During these rain periods all the creeks and the gutters of the roads would be flowing full of muddy water. My father saw all this waste of water each year and as there was a small ravine or swale running through the hay field on the southern portion of our ranch that would have a runoff flow of water through it every rainy period, he built an earthen dam by teams and slip scrapers and closed off a gap in the ravine and thus formed a large water lily pond. He depended on the next winter rains to fill up the area, but it actually took a few seasons to obtain enough water, as we had some very dry years about that date. At the present time this is the pond where the beautiful Indian lotus lilies grow that

were originally planted by my father about seventy five years ago [1890].

Thinking back, it was the thrill of a lifetime for us kids when father announced that we were to have a big pond on our property. It was a "lake" to us children and we always called it by that name. Every day as we went to school and passed by the site where the teams and scrapers were working, we would try to figure out how much longer it would take before it was ready for the water. One morning at a little later time, father told us that he was going to make an island in our lake. We were very much excited at the news as an island would surely have big crocodiles looking for their dinner on it and maybe a few real black and red painted up cannibals for us to watch out for. We wondered if we would have to use a boat to get to this island from shore or maybe father would build a bridge. He built the island as he said and we watched its construction from a small pile of dirt to its completion.

GOOD WINTER RAINS in the Montecito Valley near Santa Barbara were usually few and far between, and once in a while when it did rain it would be almost a cloudburst and just come down in sheets so thick you could hardly see

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TO DONATE FUNDS for any of these items, please call Anne Dewey, Lotusland's Director of Development, at 805.969.3767, extension 105 or email her at andewey@lotusland.org. Thank you!

FOURTH GRADE OUTREACH PROGRAM

Bring one classroom to Lotusland. \$200

INSECTARY PLANTS

These plants attract beneficial insects that are a key component of Lotusland's sustainable horticulture program.

A one-year supply is \$500

SERVER FOR THE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

We need a small server to assist us in cataloguing our books and historic documents. \$1,500

Holiday Shopping, Plant Sale and Self-Guided Tours

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

9:30 AM TO NOON OR 1:00 TO 3:30 PM

AS A SPECIAL THANK YOU to our members, Lotusland will be open during the Thanksgiving weekend for self-guided tours and holiday shopping. We hope you will bring family and friends to stock up on gifts, enjoy hot cider and cookies and stroll in the garden.

Our Garden Shop will be filled with an expanded collection of plants for sale, and knowledgeable staff and volunteers will be on hand to answer your questions. The shop will also feature a great gift

selection including pots, books, jewelry by local artists, ceramics using Lotusland foliage, lotus tile coasters and much more. Members receive a 10% discount on all Garden Shop merchandise. There is no charge for members and their guests; however, you must arrive in one car. Advance reservations are required, and space is limited. (Lotus Keepers may request a docent-led tour at 1:00 PM on Saturday.) Please call 805.969.9990 or email reservation@lotusland.org.



Gift Membership

Gift memberships are a great idea for business associates, friends or your holiday party hosts.

You can give free, unlimited admission for a year-plus lots of other benefits-to an Individual for \$75 or to a Family for \$125...and your gift is tax deductible! We also sell individual Guest Admission Passes, valid for one year, for \$35 each. Please contact Member Services at 805.969.3767 x120.

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*Fees are refundable only if cancellation is received one week before event.
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

Twilight Time at Lotusland

Saturday, October 22 • 3:00 TO 5:30 PM

\$55/members • \$65/nonmembers • CHECK ONE: ☐ Docent-guided tour ☐ Self-guided tour

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

The Gardener's Vision in Uncovering the Spirit of Place

WITH LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT AND AUTHOR JACK DELASHMET

Saturday, October 29 • 3:00 PM

\$35/members • \$45/nonmembers

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

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Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Wright

*Our Membership Manager, Bambi Leonard, makes every effort to ensure that donor information is correct.
If you find an error or omission, please contact her at 805.969.3767, ext. 120 or bleonard@lotusland.org.*



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Fall 2011 Member Events

MANY LOTUSLAND EVENTS are open to nonmembers, so please let your friends and neighbors know about the great activities we offer.

Thursday, October 13

The President's Party

For Garden Conservator (\$2,500) and above members. Invitations were mailed in September. To upgrade your membership, please call 805.969.3767, extension 120.

Saturday, October 15

Wreath Making Workshop

9:30 TO NOON

See details on page 11. Please call 805.969.9990 to register.

Monday, October 17

Rocks of Lotusland: The Jewels of Madame's Garden with Lotusland Research Associate Dr. Bruce Tiffney

9:30 TO 11:30 AM

For Friend level (\$250) and above members. See details on page 5. Please call 805.969.9990 to register.

Saturday, October 22

Twilight Time at Lotusland

3:00 TO 5:30 PM

See details on page 11. Please use the coupon on page 15 to register.

Saturday, October 29

The Gardener's Vision in Uncovering the Spirit of Place with Landscape Architect and Author Jack deLashmet

3:00 PM

See details on page 10. Please use the coupon on page 15 to register.

Saturday, November 12

Last day of regular tours before the garden is closed until Wednesday, February 15, 2012.

Monday, November 14

Ganna Walska's Inspiration for Lotusland, and the Garden's Future with Executive Director Gwen Stauffer

9:30 TO 11:30 AM

For Friend level (\$250) and above members. See details on page 5. Please call 805.969.9990 to register.

Friday, November 25 and Saturday, November 26

Holiday Shopping, Plant Sale and Self-Guided Tours

9:30 AM TO NOON OR 1:00 TO 3:30 PM

See details on page 13. Please call 805.969.9990 to make a reservation.

Tours

Tours are offered at 10:00 AM and 1:30 PM, Wednesday through Saturday. Family Tours, available for groups with children under age 10, are child and parent friendly. They are separate from regular adult tours. Please call 805.969.9990 for reservations.

The last day to use your member admission passes is Saturday, November 12, the final day of our current tour season. Beginning in 2012 all members will visit free—a major benefit of our new membership program—and we will not be issuing passes. To use your passes, call 805.969.9990 to make a reservation to visit this fall, a beautiful time of year at Lotusland.

Tell Your Friends...

Lotusland is offering a Special Fall Rate of 20% off of the regular adult admission price of \$35 for docent-guided tours at 10:00 AM and 1:30 PM, Wednesday through Friday from October 5 through November 11. Call 805.969.9990 to make a reservation.
