



LOTUSLAND

NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS ♦ VOLUME 21 NO. 2 ♦ SPRING 2012

The Gavit Era

BY VIRGINIA HAYES

SOME GARDEN HISTORIANS have called the first three decades of the 20th century “The Golden Age” in California garden development. Immigrants from other parts of the country and the world prospered in many new enterprises and began to beautify their new homes as well as their cities. Santa Barbara was definitely one such city. For many visitors to Santa Barbara, the perpetual summer filled with year-round blossoms enticed them to visit and, for many, to return and make it their home. The Gavit family—E. Palmer, his daughter Marcia Ann and his second wife Marie—made their first visit to Santa Barbara in March 1915. The next year, they returned and purchased the estate then known as Tanglewood, beginning construction of their new home in 1919. It was completed a year later, and they took up residence during the winter months only. Top designers and architects such as Reginald Johnson, George Washington Smith, Paul Thiene, Ralph Stevens and Peter Riedel were responsible for the buildings and landscaping. By the mid-1920s, the Gavits became year-round residents. Marcia Ann, who was now grown and known simply as Ann, married Charles H. Jackson, Jr. They established their own home (completed in 1932) on East Valley Road. Palmer and Marie lived at Cuesta Linda until their deaths in 1930 and 1937.

In April 1926, the Garden Club of America had its annual meeting in Santa Barbara. This was the first time in its 13-year history that the members convened on the west coast. Travelling in their own train, the Garden Club of America Special, they crossed the

Continued on page 2



PHOTOS FROM LOTUSLAND ARCHIVES

View from the house looking down the parterre, a series of terraces and garden areas opening off the dining room, circa 1920s. Note areas of lawn that are now planted in roses.

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Mission Statement

We preserve and enhance the unique, historic estate of Madame Ganna Walska, care for and improve its collections, and develop its conservation and horticulture programs, so they educate us, inspire us, and advance our understanding and appreciation of the importance of plants in our lives and in the life of the planet.

Continued from page 1

country, reading up on the natural wonders of California in anticipation of visiting as many as they could. Among their activities, they toured a number of local gardens, including the already notable Gavit estate, Cuesta Linda. 1926 also marked the year that the gardens of Cuesta Linda began making a regular appearance on Pearl Chase's garden tour docket. These popular tours were held weekly through the summer months, and funds raised were used to plant trees and otherwise beautify the city. One notable visitor was presidential candidate Herbert Hoover in August 1928.

What made these California gardens so special? For visitors from the east coast and midwest, the Spanish Revival architecture that was newly in vogue must have been both exotic and romantic. The gardens that graced these estates were also styled after those of Spain and other Mediterranean countries. Cuesta Linda was a fine example. Both the house and pavilion (a cottage originally built for Ann and her husband) opened onto charming terraces and patios on all sides that were filled with potted plants and decorated with colorful tile. The sound of the numerous fountains, with their burbling and splashing, made spending time in these outdoor rooms a delight. A wall fountain and octagonal pond spilled into a runnel in the pavilion patio. Water also sheeted over the edges of a tiled star-shaped pond into a runnel that sparkled and rippled



One of the many fountains that grace the patios as it appeared in the 1920s.

down the length of two levels of the parterre. Another tiled fountain in a classic shape glistened between hedges that opened onto the great lawn. A staircase of watery basins overflowed into the existing lake, and water lily ponds even flanked the swimming pool. Near the tennis court, a mythological hippocampus carved in marble was mounted on a pink free-standing wall from which water gushed into a shallow basin below. Another marble bowl stood atop a pillar and dripped from four spouts.

Long walkways traversed the garden in several directions, creating drama with their hedges. Roses and other flowering shrubs were planted in the formal beds along these axes. Native oaks still flourished, as well as the iconic palms and the mesmerizing double row of olive trees that survived from the original Stevens' nursery and display gardens. One feature that still delights today's visitors was the lemon arbor, more accurately described as a pergola with an abundance of bright lemons dangling from its beams. The intoxicating fragrance of the lemons and other citrus planted beside it would have beguiled even the most jaded of visitors.

In 1976 the Garden Club of America sponsored a project to create modern slides from its collection of 1,800 historic glass lantern slides, taken between 1920 and 1933. Cuesta Linda was one of 24 gardens in the Santa Barbara area to be represented in this priceless collection. The project formed



This staircase was removed prior to Madame Walska's purchasing the property.



Comfortable chairs, colorful flowers and trickling fountains made the pavilion patio inviting.

the core of the Garden Club of America's 65,000-image "Slide Library of Notable American Parks and Gardens," donated to the Smithsonian Institution's Office of Horticulture in 1987. The slides remain

part of the Smithsonian's permanent collection, used by scholars to research gardens of the era.

By the time Madame Walska took up permanent residence in the 1940s, some of the garden areas were in need of attention; several non-resident owners between the years of 1937 and 1941 had left fountains changed into planters and brick walkways beginning to tilt from invading tree roots. She retained these more formal outdoor spaces, while beginning her significant exotic plant collections around them. Since her death, Lotusland's trustees and staff have maintained and restored elements from the era during which the Gavit family lived here, as well as those that were created by Madame Walska. With the support of generous donors, the many fountains again burble and splash, now with water-efficient recirculating pumps; brick and tile pathways and benches have been re-laid and preserved; and even the historic look of the cypress

allée has been re-created with new plants and bricks. Once again, the creativity and vision of the Gavits sparkles, and visitors can view the many eras of this historic garden.

Referring to Cuesta Linda,
Ervanna Bowen Bissell
writes in
*Glimpses of Santa Barbara
and Montecito Gardens, 1926:*

"So deftly, though, has the present owner added to and arranged the whole, that what is really an arboretum, is also a lovely garden of paths and steps and sloping banks with water always refreshing the eye. Tall Palms, the Dragon Tree and Giant Bamboos amaze the gardener from frosty climes."

Director's Letter

LOTUSLAND OPENED to the public a mere 18 years ago, and while we may seem to be a "young" organization, we revere the horticultural history—dating back 130 years—of this very special place and honor the many people who made it so.

Three distinct and important eras of estate-building make Lotusland so unique, starting in 1882 when Ralph Kinton Stevens bought a wild tangle of chaparral, called it Tanglewood and began to tame it into a commercial nursery. Stevens built an irrigation pond—now the Japanese garden pond—and began collecting and growing plants from around the world for introduction into the California landscape trade.

Erastus Palmer Gavit and his wife, Marie, bought Tanglewood in 1916, named it Cuesta Linda, and built the main house with architect Reginald Johnson and the outbuildings with architect George Washington Smith. During their 21-year tenure, the Gavits constructed extensive gardens, including the formal parterre behind the house, a swimming pool and bathhouse within a romantic-style water garden, and Italianate allées.

Madame Ganna Walska had not

intended to buy Cuesta Linda—it was her husband, Theos Bernard, who convinced her to buy the estate in 1941 so they could create a center, called Tibetland, for the study of Tibetan religion and the practice of yoga. While Theos retreated in the main house, immersing himself in his study of Sanskrit scrolls and yogic training, Ganna collected plants, built gardens and swam in the pool. Ganna's marriage to Theos ended, but her passion for plants and the natural beauty of gardens was steadfast. She renamed the estate Lotusland and brought in prominent landscape architects, garden designers and plantmen to help her respectfully layer her gardens on top of the gardens of those before her.

Lotusland is one of Santa Barbara's historic icons. Fortunately for all of us, Madame Ganna Walska intended to share this special place with future generations, and by 1958—only 15 years after she started the gardens and with 24 more years to go—she established a foundation (now a public charity) to ensure that Lotusland would be accessible to all. Lotusland is renowned for an aesthetic influenced by dozens of significant garden creators



Gwen Stauffer

RICK CARTER

spanning over a century.

This rich history comes with the complex challenges of aging plants, buildings and infrastructure. We have made a commitment in our Strategic Plan to restore, protect and preserve this Santa Barbara treasure. We have much work to do. We are grateful to all of our supporters who are helping us get the work done and hope you visit often to see our progress. Mostly, I invite you to visit Lotusland to take respite in its tranquil beauty, enjoy our programs and become part of Lotusland's ongoing history.

Warm regards,
Gwen L. Stauffer

LotusFest!

SATURDAY, JULY 14

2:00 TO 5:00 PM

Please join us for this celebration of the spectacular flower that is Lotusland's namesake.

July is peak blooming season, and guests will have the opportunity to view these uniquely beautiful flowers while enjoying a relaxing afternoon at this casual, fun event.

Enjoy these afternoon delights:

*Wine tasting from Santa Barbara County's premier vintners
Entertainment by The Undecided Trio • Delectable hors d'oeuvres
Lotus lore galore • Lotus viewing*

Lotus flowers open during the day and close at night. Prime viewing time during LotusFest will be until 3:00 or 4:00 PM, depending upon weather conditions, so make sure to allow time to savor the spectacular view of lotuses in bloom.

Please note that this is the only notification of this event prior to the Summer newsletter.
To register for this fun and enlightening event, please use the coupon on page 15.

Ganna Walska: Collections and Keepsakes

ON VIEW THROUGH APRIL 21



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Gwen Stauffer and Ganna Walska's niece, Hania Puacz Tallmadge, chatted at the February 24 opening reception. They are next to the Polish costume that Madame Walska is shown wearing at her annual Easter party. The elaborate headdress is also part of the exhibit that is full of fabulous shoes, hats, dresses, elegant gloves and intricate purses as well as several of her 200 scrapbooks plus correspondence with famous friends. We are so grateful to Hania for generously donating numerous pieces of Madame Walska's wardrobe to Lotusland.

Ganna Walska: Collections and Keepsakes is part of our regularly scheduled docent tours—or enjoy it at your own pace on a self-guided tour. For reservations, please contact Lotusland's visitor service office at 805.969.9990 or reservation@lotusland.org.

COLLECTIONS NEWS

Madame Walska's Scrapbooks

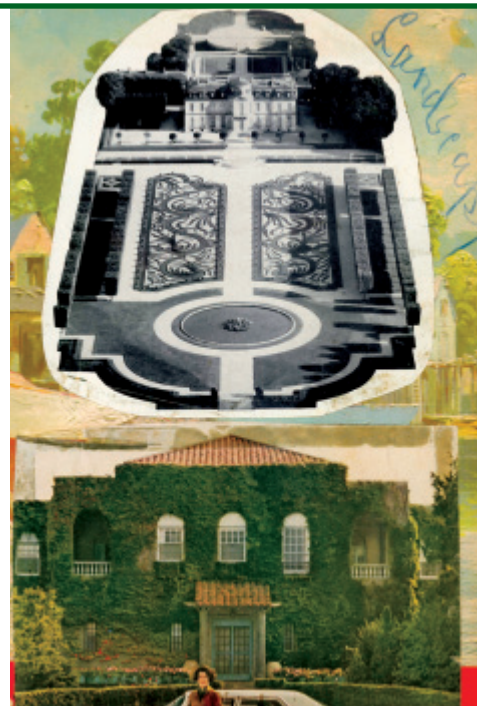
MADAME WALSKA didn't write her memoirs for the second half of her long life, so it is often hard to decide what she was thinking as she developed her gardens here at Lotusland. In some instances, an insight into her thought process can be gained by thumbing through the more than 200 scrapbooks that she kept. Of course, some contain clippings from newspapers in which her activities were noted (she employed a clipping service for many years). There are also many scrapbooks on subjects for which we know she had a fascination, such as opera, costumes, jewelry and hats.

There are scrapbooks on Hindu art, garden furniture, fireplaces (including barbecues) and canopies. Her penchant for throwing extravagant parties is reflected in books of pictures of Christmas,

Easter, and Fiesta-like decorations and food. Health and beauty ideas, including dieting, hypnosis and astrology, are preserved in others. Some of them also hint at the themes she was trying to implement in her new garden. Topiary and floral clocks, orchids and bromeliads, cactus and geraniums—there probably is not a single type of plant now growing at Lotusland that she didn't have her eye on.

Several of these "idea books" are featured in the exhibit now on display in the Pavilion, *Ganna Walska: Collections and Keepsakes*. The exhibit closes on Saturday, April 21. —Virginia Hayes

Virginia will give a talk, "History and Horticulture at Lotusland," at 7 PM on Tuesday, April 17 in Adams Center 216 at Westmont College. Admission is free; reservations are not required. Questions: call 805.565.6172.



LOTUSLAND ARCHIVES

Even the covers of Madame Walska's scrapbooks were decorated with clippings about the subject matter inside. This one is labeled "Landscape" in her handwriting.

Two Garden Tours with Virginia Hayes

SATURDAY, APRIL 21 • 9:15 AM TO 4:00 PM (GATES OPEN AT 9:00 AM)

SATURDAY, JUNE 16 • 1:15 PM TO 4:30 PM (GATES OPEN AT 1:00 PM)

SPRING, EVEN IN Santa Barbara where gardens grow all year around, is still special in many ways. Join Curator Virginia Hayes for a tour of some local Santa Barbara gardens on April 21. Many of these homes have never been open to the public and may never be again, so plan on enjoying this rare opportunity.

The bus departs Lotusland at 9:15 AM and returns by 4:00 PM. Please plan

to arrive at 9:00 AM to facilitate this early departure. The fee of \$105 members and \$115 nonmembers covers transportation, admission and a delicious buffet lunch.

Not everyone can devote a whole day to touring gardens, so on June 16, we offer a half-day option. There are even more wonderful gardens to visit, and we end the day with extra time in a special spot to enjoy wine and hors d'oeuvres before returning to Lotusland.

The bus departs Lotusland at 1:15 PM and returns by 4:30 PM. Please plan to arrive at 1:00 PM to facilitate departure. The fee of \$90 members and \$100 nonmembers covers transportation, admission, and delectable appetizers and local wines.

Space is very limited, and these popular tours fill up quickly.

Please use the coupon on page 15 to reserve your space.

Cacti and Cocktails

CINCO DE MAYO, 2012

3:00 TO 6:00 PM

Stroll in the garden and enjoy the magnificent epiphyllum and cactus blooms. The cactus garden—and other gardens as well—are lovely in the late afternoon light. Chucumite will perform folk music of Veracruz, Mexico and specialty cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will be served from 4:00 to 5:00 PM.

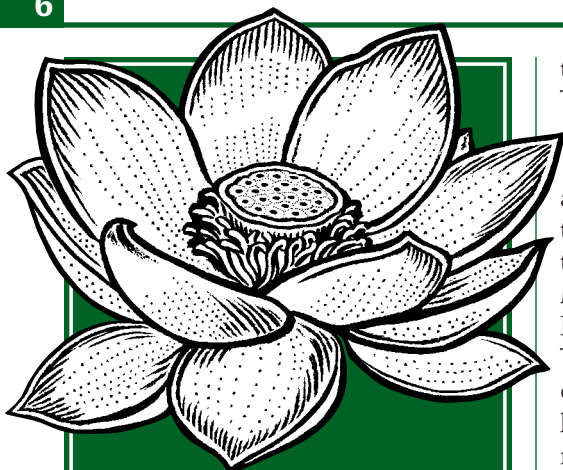
A PowerPoint display of the construction of the cactus garden, completed in 2003, will run continuously in the sunken drawing room. Please use the coupon on page 15 to register.

Mother's Day Tour and Tea

SATURDAY, MAY 12

1:30 TO 4:00 PM

One of our most popular events is celebrating Mother's Day—the day before Mother's Day—by touring the garden and enjoying tea and refreshments on our pavilion patio and main lawn. Guests may explore the garden on their own or reserve a docent-led tour. This is a very popular event and a perfect treat for someone special in your life! Please use the coupon on page 15 to register.



The LOTUS SOCIETY

DELLA AND GARY ROLLÉ

AS A TYPICAL Santa Barbara teenager coming of age in the mid-1950s, Gary Rollé was interested in sports, cars and surfing. "We had a quarter-mile drag course on Modoc Road," he admits. Unlike most Santa Barbara teenagers then, Gary did not scramble over Lotusland's pink wall as a rite of passage. "He was more interested in driving fast cars," his wife, Della, tells me. "Although, I probably drove right past it," Gary laughs. Nonetheless, Gary discovered an unexpected love for plants at the age of 15, when he had a summer job at Kallman Nursery on the Mesa, weeding and fertilizing the orchids.

Della and Gary met after college, eventually married and settled down in Los Angeles as Gary launched a career as an investment advisor while Della

taught art. Gary started working at Transamerica in 1967 and thus began a long tenure with the company, commuting to San Francisco several times a month. Gary retained a kinship with the great outdoors and began an annual tradition of backpacking in the Sierra Mountains 27 years ago, when his son, Erik, was 5 years old. "We hiked to Thousand Island Lake, Spire Peak, all over the Sierras," Gary reminisces, but he says he was especially moved by the redwood forests they experienced on those mountain treks.

One day as Gary gazed down from a window of the Transamerica Pyramid, he was suddenly inspired by the California coastal redwoods below, and decided to plant a grove of 54 redwood trees in the canyon next to his home in L.A. Della expected the trees to succumb to the dry heat, but Gary set up a sprinkler system that created a fine mist shooting up and into the canopy of the trees. "I created a new climate," Gary tells me, smiling. Indeed, Gary had recreated the fog and drizzle of the central and northern California coast. "I love the way the redwoods smell, especially when it's been raining," Gary says. Nearly all of his 54 trees survived, and, as they have grown tall, they have become the keystone species for an entirely new ecosystem.

Gary and Della are "retired," but still live in L.A. during the week to be close to Erik and his wife, Kathy, but mostly to have quality time with their 5-month-old granddaughter, Maddie. On weekends, Gary and Della retreat to their home perched on a cliff looking over breaking surf in Santa Barbara. Gary has filled their garden with exotic plants, and their home is graced by figurative sculpture created by Della. "I work in the additive style, using clay or terra cotta to form the figure and then crafting it into any metal," Della explains, as she shows me a stainless steel pelican she created for Gary's office. In addition to gardening, Gary stays busy with his two new start-up businesses, Granite Investment Partners and Pelican View Capital, named after the birds flying past their home.

When Della and Gary travel, they always visit botanical gardens and so discovered Lotusland, which they found especially appealing because of the

great diversity of plants in its collections. "Where else, other than California, can you get that?" Della exclaims. "Lotusland is an important part of Santa Barbara's history and like a little art gallery." Gary tells me, "I like all of the gardens at Lotusland, but this time of year, I like the aloes, and the cactus garden looks just like the blooming desert. The flow of the gardens and change of colors is amazing, and the gardens are kept up so nicely."

When pressed, Gary names cactus, succulents, azaleas and camellias among his favorites, but when it comes right down to it, there isn't a plant Gary doesn't love. Like Madame Walska, Gary can't bear to lose a single plant. Even as Gary laments the recent loss of the big redwood at Lotusland, he understands the cycles of nature.

We are especially grateful that Gary and Della appreciate the enduring value of plants and gardens and believe in sustaining the longevity of Lotusland through generously contributing to our endowment by joining *The Lotus Society*.
—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.



Della and Gary Rollé



All visitors walk by the Wall of Honor as they enter Lotusland.

HORTICULTURAL HAPPENINGS

Behind the Scenes

HEDGE RENOVATION WINTER 2012

PLANTINGS OF *Syzygium paniculatum* and *Pittosporum undulatum* easily outnumber any other individual non-grass species growing at Lotusland. Except for the *Podocarpus gracilior* and *Myrsine africanus* in the theatre garden, all of the clipped formal hedges at Lotusland are “eugenia” and “pitt.” The hedges frame hardscape features such as the Neptune fountain and swimming pool and provide the screening that creates the intimacy of special areas like the parterre rose garden and topiaries. Although their botanical interest doesn’t rival that of the specimen plantings, the hedges are a very important architectural design feature.

It’s the nature of hedges to grow beyond their prescribed bounds, but an occasional renovation will recover the desired shape and size. At Lotusland, the hedges in the parterre and around the topiary garden are renovated every five or six years. The process includes checking the heights, widths and relative scale of the hedges to their surroundings. Using the brick borders of walkways and measured bamboo poles as guides, hedges and ledges are redefined. *S. paniculatum* and *P. undulatum* grow very fast in Santa Barbara, so hedges of them recover from these renovations quickly. Even when severe trimming leaves only a skeletal framework of trunks and twigs, new growth begins almost immediately.

The crisp new lines of the parterre and topiary garden hedges renovated in January are greening up again and should be completely recovered by late spring or early summer. New plantings will eventually fill holes where hedges were thin or out of shape and where

unwanted plants were removed. The maintenance, including cultural care of the hedges, is a time-consuming but very important aspect of grounds care. Take special notice of the hedges the next time you visit Lotusland and try to envision the garden without its hedges...it would be like a room without walls.

(Reprinted from Lotusland Newsletter for Members, Spring 1999.)

THE BACK FIELD AT LOTUSLAND

A TWO-ACRE FIELD at the northern boundary of Lotusland is where many important functions of the garden’s day-to-day operations occur. Inside the perimeter fencing is a border of many *Quercus agrifolia* (coast live oak), as well as *Heteromeles arbutifolia* (toyon), *Pinus radiata* (Monterey pine), *Schinus molle* (California pepper), olive trees, and an understory of seasonal plants that is managed by Lotusland staff as part of the Montecito Fire Protection District’s weed abatement program. This area provides habitat for a diverse collection of birds and local nightlife critters.

The remaining 1.2 acres is used for parking at Lotusland’s special events, but most of the time is the site of Lotusland’s indispensable compost, compost tea and mulching program. Greenwaste from the garden is brought to the field where it is chopped up with the John Deere tractor’s flail mower attachment, pushed into large piles and then watered and turned as necessary during the composting process. At any one time, three to five piles are in varying states of decomposition. When mature, the compost is screened by hand for soil improvement and maintenance projects, thereby returning what came from the garden to the garden.

Compost tea brewers are within a fenced 220-square-foot area where the irrigation system’s booster pumps are also located. A mature compost pile dedicated to the tea-making process sits nearby. About 300 to 400 gallons of compost tea are brewed almost every week during the growing season.



MICHAEL IVEN

Preparing greenwaste from the garden for a new compost pile.

Piles of wood chips from Lotusland’s chipper or from tree contractors working in the neighborhood are stored in the field along with mulch from the South Coast Recycling and Transfer Station. The garden requires approximately 500 cubic yards of mulch on an annual basis. A 40-cubic-yard roll-off container is kept on site to handle greenwaste too large or fibrous for Lotusland’s equipment to process.

There’s a lot going on in the back field and, although it’s not part of a regular docent-led tour, some of us think it is truly beautiful. Check it out on a self-guided tour or sign up for one of Virginia Hayes’ “Behind-the-Scenes” tours.

NEW EMPLOYEE

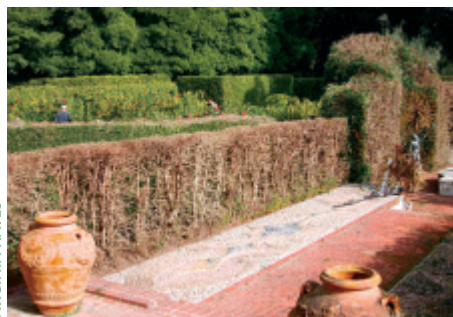
RAJ SINGH has accepted a position as Facilities and Equipment Maintenance Assistant. Raj takes Mike Furner’s position in the Maintenance Department as Mike returns to a job as a Lotusland gardener working with the bromeliads, a position he held 30 years ago.

—Michael Iven



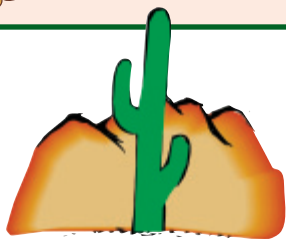
MICHAEL IVEN

Raj Singh has experience with commercial facilities and equipment maintenance, as well as local residential estates.



VIRGINIA HAYES

In January, hedges were trimmed back severely to let light into the interior, encourage new growth and regain desired shape.



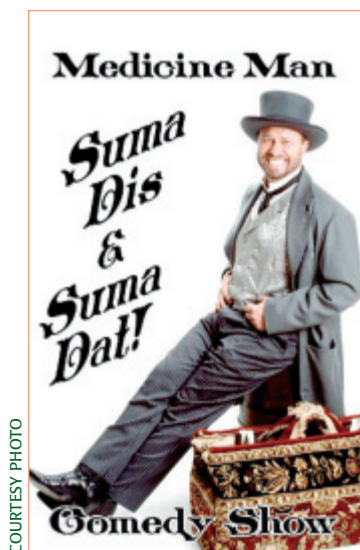
Members' Family Day • Yeeha

SATURDAY, MAY 19

Lotusland wishes to thank you, our members, for your support by hosting our 15th

Generously S
Thomas & Nancy Crawford, Jr.

Activities w



COURTESY PHOTO



COURTESY PHOTO

PHOTOS BY RICK CARTER

Doug Hoover performing his Medicine Man comedy shows in
Fantastic face-painting by Anji Lawson, games, activities and crafts from the
Dress up in western-style garb and take home a free souvenir photo taken
Live blues music performed by Tom Ball & Ken
Jessie's Party Animals available at the corral

Garden Admission to Members' Family Day is Free!

But you must reserve space for your family by mailing the reservation form, along with a non-refundable valet parking fee of \$15.

Due to the popularity of this event and to allow as many members as possible to attend,

Lotusland requests ONLY ONE VEHICLE PER MEMBERSHIP.

No phone or email reservations, please. Please reserve early, as this event always quickly fills to capacity.

Enjoy a delicious lunch at our chuckwagons (aka food trucks) between 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM.



The New Black Progressive Barbeque menu includes

Sandwiches: Kobe brisket, Kurobuta pork, Jidori chicken and tofu barbeque on a hoagie bun. \$7 to \$9

Sides: beans, coleslaw, potato salad and macaroni and cheese. \$2 to \$4
Cash, VISA, MasterCard, Discover and AMEX accepted. No checks.

The Burger Bus menu includes

Burgers, hot dogs, and sandwiches: organic burgers, child-plain and fully-loaded hot dogs, falafel or grilled cheese sandwiches on a ciabatta bun. \$6.50 to \$9.50

Sides: fried pickle chips, sweet potato fries and onion rings. \$3.50 to \$4.50
Cash or check only.



You are also welcome to bring your own picnic.

A limited number of picnic blankets will be available, or you may bring your own.

Complimentary lemonade, iced tea, juice boxes and water will be available all day.
Complimentary ice cream cones will be served on the main house patio from NOON to 2:00 PM.

Wow! Way Out West at Lotusland!

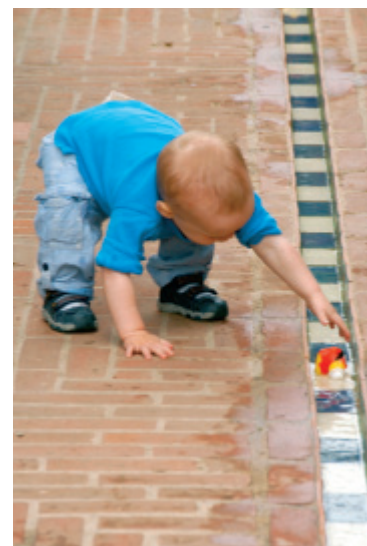
• **10:00 AM TO 4:00 PM**

Annual Members' Family Day. Everyone is invited, especially children of all ages!

Sponsored by:
in Honor of Their Grandchildren



will include:



in the theatre garden • 11:15 AM TO NOON and 2:15 TO 3:00 PM
the garden for children and adults on the main lawn • 10:00 AM TO 3:30 PM
shown by photographer extraordinaire Bob DeBris • 10:00 AM TO 3:30 PM
by Sultan on the main lawn • NOON TO 2:00 PM
for petting and photos • 1:00 PM TO 3:00 PM



Please return this reservation form to: Ganna Walska Lotusland, Attn: Member Events, 695 Ashley Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93108.
Your confirmation, parking pass, food truck menus and a map will be mailed to you upon receipt of your reservation form and payment.

Reservation Form

Member Name(s) _____ Total no. of attendees _____ Phone no. _____
Address _____ No. of adults _____ No. of children 3 to 12 _____
_____ No. of teens _____ No. of children 2 and under _____
Email address _____ Knowing children's ages helps us to plan activities.

Non-refundable Valet Parking Fee:

☐ Enclosed is our family's \$15.00 valet parking fee

Payment Method:

☐ Check enclosed payable to Ganna Walska Lotusland

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ AMEX

Card Number _____ Security Code _____

Exp. Date _____

Signature _____



**Don't delay
mailing your
reservation form!**



Annual Meeting

2011 ACCOMPLISHMENTS HIGHLIGHTED

PRESIDENT LARRY DURHAM welcomed guests to the 2012 Annual Meeting. Co-vice president Connie Pearcy thanked outgoing Trustees Geoff Crane, Sherry Gilson, Jill Levinson and Marianne Sprague for their many contributions during their years of service. Geoff chaired the facilities committee for his entire tenure and lent his invaluable expertise as a builder to a number of projects; Sherry was on *The Lotus Society* committee for several years and served as its co-chair for three years; Jill was co-vice president for three years, chair of the nominating and governance committee for three years

and co-chaired the *Lotusland Celebrates* committee for two years; Marianne was vice president for one year, served on numerous committees and was chair of the development committee for one year. We are happy to know that all will continue to be enthusiastic supporters.

Five new Trustees—Debby Baldwin, Mason Farrell, Joey Pearson, Leland Walmsley and Crystal Wyatt—were welcomed to the board. Debbie, Mason and Leland are profiled on page 11. Joey and Crystal will be profiled in the next issue of *Newsletter for Members*.

Treasurer William Daugherty presented the Treasurer's Report. Curator



NELL CAMPBELL

Outgoing Trustee Jill Levinson, Trustee Eileen Rasmussen, Honorary Lifetime Trustee Kisa Heyer and Trustee Susanne Tobey are pictured at the reception following the Annual Meeting on February 8.

Virginia Hayes gave a PowerPoint presentation, *2011 in Review*, and Executive Director Gwen Stauffer presented her *State of the Garden* address. A reception in the pavilion followed the program.



COURTESY PHOTO

Anticipating healthy living advice that would be extolled two centuries later, Jefferson wrote, "I have lived temperately, eating little animal food, and that...as a condiment for the vegetables which constitute my principal diet."

IN A RICHLY illustrated talk, Peter Hatch will discuss his book, *A Rich Spot of Earth: Thomas Jefferson's Revolutionary Garden at Monticello*, which showcases Jefferson's amazing vegetable garden, its uniquely American charac-

teristics, and its lasting influence on American culinary, garden and landscape history. Extensively and painstakingly restored under Peter Hatch's direction, the 1,000-foot terraced vegetable garden now boasts the same medley of plants that Jefferson cultivated in the early 19th century.

Mr. Hatch has been responsible for the maintenance, interpretation and restoration of the 2,400-acre landscape

at Monticello since 1977. He has written several previous books on Jefferson's gardens and is an advisor for First Lady Michelle Obama's White House kitchen garden.

A reception will follow, where Mr. Hatch will talk informally and sign copies of his book, which will be available for purchase. Space is limited. Please register early by using the coupon on page 15 or call 805.969.9990.

National Public Gardens Day

FRIDAY, MAY 11

A national day of celebration to raise awareness of America's public gardens and their important role in promoting environmental stewardship and awareness, plant and water conservation, and education in communities nationwide.

Visit sbpublicgardens.org after April 30 to see how Santa Barbara is celebrating.

Solstice Twilight Tour

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

3:30 TO 6:30 PM

Enjoy the longer days of summer and celebrate the Summer Solstice at this special Twilight Tour.

Hors d'oeuvres and wine will be served on the geranium terrace from 4:30 to 5:30 PM.

You and your guests can choose to reserve a docent-guided tour or explore the garden on your own. To register, please use the coupon on page 15.

Lotusland Welcomes New Trustees

LOTUSLAND IS FORTUNATE to have five talented new Trustees: Debby Baldwin, Mason Farrell, Joanne Pearson, Leland Walmsley and Crystal Wyatt. Debby, Mason and Leland are profiled here, and Joanne and Crystal will be featured in the next issue.



DEBBY BALDWIN

DEBBY BALDWIN, with then-husband Justin Baldwin, cofounded JUSTIN Winery in Paso Robles, California, in the early 1980s to develop what is now a world-renowned winery brand. She was in charge of marketing, including

wholesale distribution, retail sales and managing day-to-day responsibilities of their hospitality center. In 2011 Debby joined the *Lotusland Celebrates* committee and plans to continue as a member.



MASON FARRELL

WE ARE PLEASED to welcome back Mason Farrell to Lotusland's Board of Trustees. He was previously a Trustee for ten years and served as board president for two years. After leaving the board in 2010, he continued to stay active in 2011, serving on the nominating and governance committee and the Strategic Plan Task

Force. Mason lives in Ballard with his wife, Julie, and their children and works for a banking firm in Los Angeles.



PHOTOS BY NELL CAMPBELL

LELAND WALMSLEY

LELAND WALMSLEY, founder of ever-GREEN landscape architects, inc., was born into a family of renowned designers practicing architecture, landscape architecture, construction and city planning in California since 1918. He is committed to sustainable practices in design, construction and gardening. Leland and his wife and business associate, Diana Maenhout, live in Carpinteria.

Monday Morning Lecture

**TOPIARY: THE LIVING SCULPTURAL ART OF LOTUSLAND, THEN AND NOW
WITH LORI ANN DAVID**

MONDAY, MAY 21 • 9:30 TO 11:30 AM

LORI ANN DAVID designed the restoration of Lotusland's topiary garden in 2001.

She created her first topiary in 1978, "dragon hedge," and never stopped designing, building and welding frames, and growing out topiaries and specialty


plants as part of Landscape ArtDesign and Lori Ann David Design Studios. Her talk will include the history of world topiary.

This lecture is 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 would like to upgrade your membership, please call 805.969.3767, extension 120.

 <p><i>Ooh La La!</i> LOTUSLAND <i>Les années à Paris</i></p> <p>SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY, JULY 22, 2012 AT 4:00PM</p>	<p>SPONSOR \$15,000 <i>(ten tickets, five VIP parking passes and a Sponsor gift)</i></p> <p>SUSTAINER \$10,000 <i>(ten tickets, five VIP parking passes and a Sustainer gift)</i></p> <p>CONTRIBUTOR \$7,500 <i>(ten tickets, five VIP parking passes and a Contributor gift)</i></p> <p>BENEFACTOR \$5,000 <i>(ten tickets, a VIP parking pass and a special gift)</i></p> <p>PATRON TABLE HOST \$3,750 <i>(ten tickets)</i></p> <p>PATRON \$1,000 <i>(two tickets)</i></p> <p>TICKETS \$300 each</p> <p>Invitations will be mailed in mid-June. Remember, this event always sells out!</p> <p>Please contact Anne Dewey, Director of Development, at 805.969.3767, extension 105 for more information.</p>
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Len Grabowski

Volunteer Profile: Len Grabowski

year with the Marines in Okinawa. After a three-year medical residency at UC Davis, Len and his wife, Cathleen, and their children, Adam and Sarah, moved to Santa Barbara in 1973, where Len took a position as an internist with a specialty in Gerontology at Sansum Clinic. He retired in 2005, but continues to work part-time.

Len's wife was a Lotusland docent when it first opened to the public, and she was the force that prompted Len's involvement. Len thought the docent training program classes were very helpful and especially enjoyed learning new information about plant physiology and botany. Len says "at times my tours are influenced by some of the medicinal value of plants as primary or alternative forms of therapy." The Japanese garden is one of Len's favorite spots. "The Japanese garden is peaceful and calming—walking through the Torii gate gives entry into a serene world. The seasons are subtle in Santa Barbara, but you can trace them closely at Lotusland with changing colors, flowers and dormancy, especially in the Japanese garden."

Because of his Lotusland involvement, Len says he made a new tennis buddy and met many other interesting people, from his fellow docents to international visitors. He also volunteers at special events such as Lotusland's annual

fundraising gala, *Lotusland Celebrates*.

After retiring, Len grew more interested in plants and is an avid orchid grower. He lives on a one-acre parcel, focusing mainly on outdoor orchids such as *Epidendrum*, *Cattleya*, *Oncidium*, *Phalaenopsis*, *Cymbidium*, and *Miltonia*. Len grows hardy orchids on three benches without a greenhouse. He says taking care of orchids is simpler than most gardeners think. One only needs to fertilize monthly and give them adequate water—often they bloom for two to three months. If your orchid care does not seem to work, you can admit them to Len's Orchid Hospital.

In addition to being a docent at Lotusland and growing outdoor orchids, Len enjoys bicycling, exercising at the Santa Barbara Athletic Club, woodworking and travel. He and Cathleen have traveled around the world and just returned from a three-week trip to Thailand where he noticed that Thai people often use half of a coconut shell to grow orchids with a little soil mixed with shredded coconut fiber. The shells are then hung from trees.

We appreciate your being flexible and always being willing to help out with special tours. Thank you, Len, for the time and talent you give to Lotusland as a docent.

—Kitty Thomassin

Thank You to Our

GARDEN STEWARDS

Ms. Christina Djernaes & Mr. Norm Waitt
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Durham
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick W. Gluck
Mr. & Mrs. Brian J. Kelly
Mercedes Millington & Jack Mithun

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Help Make Lotusland's Wishes Come True

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!

🌿 DIGITAL CAMERA

We need a camera on site so we can easily take advantage of great photo opportunities for general documentation, the newsletter and Facebook. \$275

🌿 2-TON HOIST WITH 10' TRIPOD

This would be a great help to lift heavy rocks and plants. \$525

🌿 NURSERY SOIL MIX

Essential for us to propagate rare and beautiful plants. One load is \$750

Lotusland Gratefully Acknowledges Donations

DECEMBER 2011, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2012

2011 GIFTS FOR THE GARDEN

CARE OF THE GARDEN FUND

Mr. & Mrs. Robert C. Gregory
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert J. Kendall
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Kolb
Kate Schepanovich

EDUCATION FUND

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in memory of my father, Leo Stoll
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Dr. & Mrs. Richard L. Kahler in appreciation
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for replacing Gator utility truck parts
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Ann Henderson & Thomas Nelson
in appreciation of docent Jane Craven
Peter Selig in appreciation of a tour
Geoff and Cyndi Strand
in appreciation of a tour
Peggy P. Wiley

IN HONOR OF LINDA BROCK'S BIRTHDAY

Your Dear Friends in the Thursday Bible Study

IN HONOR OF LARRY DISHAROON'S BIRTHDAY

Mr. Harlis Maggard

IN HONOR OF LYNNE SCOTT'S BIRTHDAY

Mr. Harlis Maggard

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WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS WHO JOINED IN
DECEMBER 2011, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2012

LOTUS KEEPERS

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Christina Woolrich

EXCEPTIONAL PLANTS: Lotusland Auction and Sale SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 8

Save the date for
a fabulous plant sale
and auction
(both silent and live)
for garden connoisseurs
featuring choice, rare and
hard-to-find plants.

Renowned plant experts and
garden designers will be on hand,
sharing tips on plant culture
and garden design.

Ticket information and
more details will be at
www.lotusland.org on June 1.

Members Who Have Increased Their Level of Support DECEMBER 2011, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2012

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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.

Ganna Walska Lotusland Registration Form

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

Card number _____ CVC # _____ Signature _____

Member name _____ Email _____

Address _____ Phone _____

*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

A Rich Spot of Earth Illustrated Lecture with Peter Hatch

Monday, April 16 • 3:00 PM
\$35/members • \$45/nonmembers

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

Garden Tour with Virginia Hayes

Saturday, April 21 • 9:00 AM TO 4:00 PM
\$105/members • \$115/nonmembers • INCLUDES TRANSPORTATION, ADMISSION AND LUNCH

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

Cacti and Cocktails

Saturday, May 5 • 3:00 TO 6:00 PM
\$55/members • \$65/nonmembers • CHECK ONE: ☐ Docent-guided tour ☐ Self-guided tour

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

Mother's Day Tour and Tea

Saturday, May 12 • 1:30 TO 4:00 PM
\$65/members • \$75/nonmembers • \$20/children 5-12 • CHECK ONE: ☐ Docent-guided tour ☐ Self-guided tour

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

Afternoon Garden Tour with Virginia Hayes

Saturday, June 16 • 1:00 TO 4:30 PM
\$90/members • \$100/nonmembers • INCLUDES TRANSPORTATION, ADMISSION AND WINE AND HORS D'OEUVRES

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

Solstice Twilight Tour

Saturday, June 23 • 3:30 TO 6:30 PM
\$55/members • \$65/nonmembers • CHECK ONE: ☐ Docent-guided tour ☐ Self-guided tour

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

LotusFest!

Saturday, July 14 • 2:00 TO 5:00 PM
\$75/members • \$85/nonmembers

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



Ganna Walska LOTUSLAND®

695 Ashley Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93108

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Spring and Summer 2012 Member Events

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

Monday, April 16

*A Rich Spot of Earth: Thomas
Jefferson's Revolutionary Garden
at Monticello with Peter Hatch*

3:00 PM

See details on page 10. Please use the
coupon on page 15 to register or call
805.969.9990.

Saturday, April 21

Garden Tour with Virginia Hayes

9:00 AM TO 4:00 PM

See details on page 5. Please use the
coupon on page 15 to register.

Saturday, May 5

Cacti and Cocktails

3:00 TO 6:00 PM

See details on page 5. Please use the
coupon on page 15 to register.

Saturday, May 12

Mother's Day Tour and Tea

1:30 TO 4:00 PM

See details on page 5. Please use the
coupon on page 15 to register.

Saturday, May 19

Members' Family Day

Yeehaw! Way Out West at Lotusland!

10:00 AM TO 4:00 PM

See details on pages 8 and 9, and use
coupon on page 9 to register.

Monday, May 21

Monday Morning Lecture

*Topiary: The Living Sculptural Art
of Lotusland, Then and Now with
Lori Ann David*

9:30 TO 11:30 AM

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

Sunday, June 10

Lotus Society Luncheon

NOON

For information on how to join
The Lotus Society, call Anne Dewey
at 805.969.3767, extension 105.

Saturday, June 16

Garden Tour with Virginia Hayes

1:00 TO 4:30 PM

See details on page 5. Please use the
coupon on page 15 to register.

Saturday, June 23

Solstice Twilight Tour

3:30 TO 6:30 PM

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

Saturday, July 14

LotusFest!

2:00 TO 5:00 PM

See details on page 4. Please use the
coupon on page 15 to register.

Sunday, July 22

Ooh La La! Lotusland

4:00 TO 8:00 PM

See details on page 11. Invitations
will be mailed in mid-June.

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.

*We have added a great new benefit for
all members: Your adult guests receive
40% off our regular admission fee
every Thursday during our tour season.
To receive this generous discount, guests
must be accompanied by a member—
you may choose either a docent-guided
or a self-guided tour.*

Ganna Walska:
Collections and Keepsakes
will be on view in
the pavilion through April 21

Call 805.969.9990 to see
this very special exhibition
