



LOTUSLAND

NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS ♦ VOLUME 21 NO. 3 ♦ SUMMER 2012

Blue Garden Renovation

BY VIRGINIA HAYES

THE ORIGINAL “BLUE GARDEN” was started around 1942 when Lockwood de Forest was engaged to provide direction at the estate, which was still called “Tibetland.” Where the blue garden was located is a mystery, but it was planted with masses of blue-flowering plants. Nursery invoices list *Plumbago larpentae* (now known as *Ceratostigma plumbaginoides*), *Delphinium* varieties, blue lilies (of unknown species), and blue hyacinths. Undoubtedly other blue flowers were added until some other whim took Madame Walska in a different direction.

At the same time, de Forest also designed and planted a “silver garden” in the area that is now called the blue garden. This garden featured plants with very silvery foliage. Included were several lots (totaling more than 200 plants) of dusty miller (which species of the many sold under this name isn’t known), *Kleinia* (probably what is now called *Senecio mandraliscae*), chalky-white dudleya (*Dudleya brittonii*), and flats and flats of blue fescue. A finicky South African silver tree or two (*Leucodendron argenteum*) struggled to survive in the heavy soil and cool temperatures and eventually died. At least one species of *Artemisia* and two dozen English lavenders were designated for the silver garden. Already in place were towering Chilean wine palms (*Jubaea chilensis*) and blue Hesper palms (*Brahea armata*) from Mexico. Nursery invoices submitted to Madame Walska for payment have notations in de Forest’s handwriting specifying which area of the garden the plants were for.

Interestingly, at the same time, plants were purchased for a “gray garden.” Several species of *Eucalyptus*,

Continued on page 2



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL IVEN

When viewed from the lawn, the stately Chilean wine palms that were obscured by the large blue Atlas cedars are once again revealed.

IN THIS ISSUE

Blue Garden Renovation	1	The Future of Lotusland Depends on All of Us	10
Director’s Letter	3	Volunteer Profile: Murph Levy	11
LotusFest	4	<i>Educator in the Garden</i>	
Lotusland Welcomes New Trustees	4	Exceptional Plants:	11
Collections News	5	<i>Lotusland Auction and Sale</i>	
<i>Butterfly Garden Plants</i>		Charles Glass...In His Own Words	12
The Plant Hunters: <i>Botanical Illustrations from the 16th to 19th Centuries</i>	5	<i>Part XI of a Series</i>	
Plants on Paper: <i>Masterpieces of Botanical Illustrations</i>	5	Summer Twilight Tour	12
The Lotus Society	6	Succulent Wreath Workshop	12
Horticultural Happenings	7	Thank You to Our Wonderful Volunteers	13
Monday Morning Lecture	7	Membership Corner	13
Members’ Family Day	8	Lotusland Wins Web Award	13
<i>Yeehaw! Way Out West at Lotusland</i>		Thank You to Our Garden Champions, Garden Stewards and Garden Guardians	13
Become a Lotusland Docent	10	Help Make Lotusland’s Wishes Come True	13

The LOTUSLAND
NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS
is published by
Ganna Walska Lotusland
695 Ashley Road
Santa Barbara, California 93108
805.969.3767 • www.lotusland.org

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Larry Durham, President
Andrew Chou, Co-Vice-President
Connie Percy, Co-Vice-President
Ian M. Fisher, Secretary
William M. Daugherty, Treasurer
Marc Appleton
Debby Baldwin
Mason Farrell
Dawn Lafitte
Michael Mayfield
Chapin Nolen
Joey Pearson
Eileen Rasmussen
Tim Schiffer
Susanne Tobey
Leland Walmsley
Lynda Weinman
Peggy Wiley
Crystal Wyatt

Merryl Brown
Robert J. Emmons
Arthur R. Gaudi
Kisa Heyer
Anne Jones
Michael Towbes
Carol L. Valentine
Lifetime Honorary Trustees

Gwen Stauffer, M.S.
Executive Director

Steven Timbrook, Ph.D.
Director Emeritus

Anne Dewey, CFRE
Director of Development

Diane Figueroa, CPA
Director of Finance

Deanna Hatch
Director of Communications

Virginia Hayes, M.A.
Curator of the Living Collection

Michael Iven
Director of Grounds and Facilities

Dorothy Shaner
Director of Public Programs

Printed by Jano Graphics
Lindse Davis, Design

Printed on recycled and recyclable paper
with vegetable-based inks

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.



Contracted tree specialists took down the old blue Atlas cedars. These skilled climbers were able to remove the trees with no damage to surrounding plantings.

Continued from page 1

including *E. macrocarpa* and perhaps an acacia or two, made appearances in—and disappeared from—this garden area. It occupied another mystery location, but judging by some of the species—*Lonicera confusa*, a gray-green twining vine, and another gray-leaved shrub, *Eriophyllum* (unknown species), it displayed some of the same shades of foliage coloration as the silver garden. Was the gray garden next to the silver garden and did they merge into the blue garden? It's hard to say at this point, but some references to other trees and plants might suggest that.

By the end of the decade, the silver garden was less and less silvery, and Ralph Stevens added the blue Atlas cedars. Charles Glass, who later became Madame Walska's garden director, first saw Lotusland in 1957 as a young man

of 23 and later wrote of that experience, "What made the most profound impression upon me, however, was the "Blue Garden" at Lotusland. Everything was in shades of pastel blue: blue fescue grass, blue spruce, blue Atlas cedars, blue *Erythea* [*Brahea*] fan palms! The effect was overwhelming and one felt cooler just walking through the area."

Had Stevens not planted the blue Atlas cedars, the silver/blue garden might have evolved in a very different way. Those trees, while slow growing, can ultimately reach 60 feet in height and shade an area 30 feet or more in diameter. Since they were planted nearly 65 years ago, they prospered and created a very shady site. Unfortunately, the blue fescue and sun-loving succulents below suffered from this lack of light. They straggled and thinned, requiring constant replacement to keep the blue garden blue.



More than 2,300 one-gallon plants of blue fescue (*Festuca ovina* 'Glaucia') were planted in addition to the hundreds of original plants.



Fifteen young blue Atlas cedars (Cedrus atlantica 'Glauca') were planted on the north side of the blue garden.

Even the fan palms grew more slowly than ever and produced fewer leaves.

After very careful deliberation, Lotusland staff and members of its advisory Horticulture Committee proposed that the cedars be removed and other large trees in the area be thinned

to admit more sunlight to the garden. Then the understory plants could be replanted to re-create the original cool color palette. With the generous support of the Hind Foundation, the restoration was completed on April 11 of this year. Additional features of the project

included a complete renovation of the soil, addition of several more blue Hesper palms and some minor realignments of pathways and garden borders. Irrigation was installed for the first time and designed to facilitate appropriate water delivery to the various types of plants. The new garden will be much easier to maintain without the need to constantly propagate and replace plants, and the improved soil conditions will result in healthier plants with fewer problems. By planting young trees, staff will be able to shape them as they grow to provide maximum sunlight through their canopies. To further enhance the blue hue, the pathways were resurfaced with blue-gray decomposed granite.

When viewed from the main drive, the succulent garden, or across the lawn, the new blue garden seems to shiver in contrast to the verdant green of the grass and other trees around it. Stroll its paths to experience the renewal of that same cooling effect that Glass described so many decades ago.

Director's Letter

THE MONTECITO ESTATE that was originally developed by Ralph Kinton Stevens and is now Ganna Walska Lotusland, is 130 years old this year. While there is always much to celebrate at Lotusland, we have not organized a celebration to commemorate this anniversary. Rather, we have been singularly focused on tending this historic and botanical treasure. The hard work and concentration of our staff and Board seems to have paid off. We routinely hear from members and visitors that the gardens have never looked better.

We have not stopped to smell our own roses because there is so much more to be done. If Lotusland looks so fabulous now, one can only wonder what more there is to do. Well, a long list includes major renovation of aging gardens and the intensive care of the iconic plants that were planted 130 years ago. The list also includes the repair of buildings and infrastructure built in the 1920s, restoration and preservation of the antique sculptural objects in the gardens, and the preservation and protection of Lotusland's archives.

In the last decade of Ganna Walska's life, when she became an invalid and could no longer see, maintenance of the gardens and buildings was delayed. The staff at Lotusland has spent the last 28 years since Ganna Walska's death slowly but steadily working to bring the gardens and estate back to its former glory. We are not finished with that work. And even as we chip away at it, the gardens are always changing, ever evolving, never the same. Unlike an object that can be placed in a museum and left alone to be preserved for eternity, gardens are made up of living organisms that grow and die—a process that constantly changes the overall aesthetic and design of the garden.

We have been very fortunate to get help from donors whose support has made it possible to knock a few of the big items off our "to do" list. Most recently, the Hind Foundation's generosity allowed us to restore the blue garden—one of the most celebrated gardens in Lotusland's early history, but obviously suffering from the ruthlessness of time and the eventual ruination of the garden's aesthetic and condition.



LEA ANNA DROWN

Gwen Stauffer

To learn more about this project, see the cover story.

As this anniversary year progresses, I will share details of the items on our very long "to do" list. Perhaps there will be an item that you deeply care about and perhaps you will be inspired to help us get it done. In the meantime, I invite you to come and enjoy the resurrection of the blue garden, the blooming of our namesake lotuses, and celebrate with us the daily pleasure and joy of this community treasure.

Warm regards,
Gwen L. Stauffer

SPACE IS STILL AVAILABLE

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.

Enjoy these afternoon delights:

Wine tasting from Santa Barbara County's premier vintners

Entertainment by The Undecided Trio

Delectable hors d'oeuvres

Ikebana Workshop

Lotus lore galore

Lotus viewing

Price is \$75/members and \$85/nonmembers. To register, please call 805.969.9990.

Lotusland Welcomes New Trustees

LOTUSLAND IS PLEASED to introduce two energetic new trustees, Joanne "Joey" Pearson and Crystal Wyatt.

JOEY PEARSON



ROE ANNE WHITE

SIX YEARS AGO Joey Pearson bought a home in the Birnam Wood area of Montecito to be near her twin sister and

her husband's twin brother, Jany and Dick Pearson. Joey also has a home in North Palm Beach, Florida. A longtime community volunteer, Joey recently retired after 20 years as a trustee for the Animal Medical Center in New York. She is a member of the Chairman's Council of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and is a trustee at the Santa Barbara Museum of Art and the Norton Museum of Art in West Palm Beach.

CRYSTAL WYATT

CRYSTAL WYATT grew up in Santa Barbara. After leaving to earn a bachelor's degree in biology at Pacific Union College and a master's degree in public health at Loma Linda University, she worked as an industrial hygienist in Santa Monica conducting air quality studies. After a few years, she returned



NELL CAMPBELL

to Santa Barbara to marry Clifford Wyatt. Her in-laws introduced her to Lotusland, and she soon enrolled in the Docent Training Program. Crystal still gives tours and is now serving her third year as co-chair of Lotusland's annual fundraising gala, *Lotusland Celebrates*. She and Clifford live in Montecito with their two young children.

COLLECTIONS NEWS

Butterfly Garden Plants

IN HER FIRST YEARS at Lotusland (then known as Tibetland), Madame Walska bought and had her gardeners plant many ornamental flowering plants. Invoices for dozens of



Bright tubular blossoms of *Kniphofia uvaria* 'Blaze' attract hummingbirds as well as moths and butterflies.

black calla lilies, yellow and pink calla lilies, coral bells, delphiniums, agatheas, and bachelor's button plants are marked for planting in the flower garden. Flats of cinerarias, snapdragons, yellow allium, and African yellow marigolds as well as seeds of Virginia stock were apparently planted. As her taste in plants evolved, the flower garden was simplified and in time became just a final resting place for some of the gifts of plants, such as Christmas poinsettias, that she couldn't bear to dispose of.

The renaissance of the butterfly garden began as a way to include ornamental plants that could provide habitat for beneficial insects in the garden. From this refuge and food source, both adult and larval stages of these helpful insects would advance into the rest of the garden to prey on pests. Such a display can require more maintenance than some other types of plants, so staff at Lotusland have been trying to transition into more care-free perennial plants and shrubs. With a generous donation



PHOTOS BY VIRGINIA HAYES

Salvia coahuilensis is a beautiful little sage that grows to only about two feet tall. Many insects find nectar rewards in *salvia* flowers.

from Anitra Sheen, a number of interesting and attractive plants have recently been added to the garden. There are ten species and cultivars of *Salvia*, several members of the poppy family including the Matilija poppy (*Romneya coulteri*), four selections of red hot pokers (*Kniphofia*), and many more plants with flowers attractive to both butterflies and beneficial insects.

—Virginia Hayes

The Plant Hunters: BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATIONS FROM THE 16TH TO 19TH CENTURIES AUGUST 25 THROUGH NOVEMBER 2

THIS EXQUISITE EXHIBIT presents an overview of the history of botanical prints starting with Fuchs's early 16th-century herbals through the explosion of plant material finding its way to Europe from all over the world through trade and exploration during the 17th through mid-19th centuries. Magnificent botanical prints resulted from this newly discovered plant material. The exhibit will focus on plants that can be found at Lotusland or grow well in the Santa Barbara area. All of the prints are for sale with a portion of proceeds going to Lotusland.

Members may see the exhibit on a self-guided tour or as part of a docent-guided tour. Reservations are required and may be made by calling 805.969.9990.



Illustration by Maria Sibylla Merian (April 2, 1647–January 13, 1717)

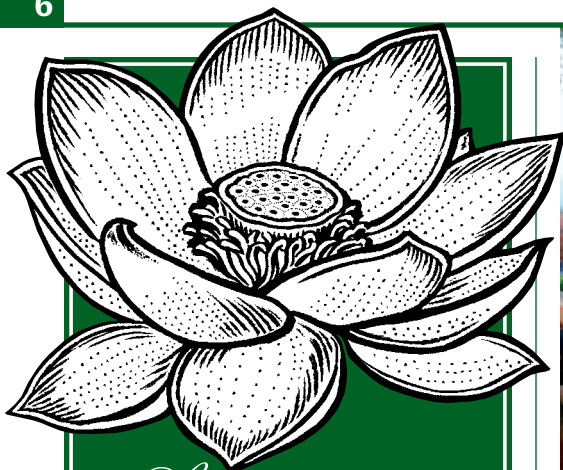
Members at the Garden Advocate level and above will receive an invitation to an Opening Reception on August 24. To upgrade your membership, please call Member Services at 805.969.3767.

Plants on Paper: MASTERPIECES OF BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATION

WITH LINDA MILLER
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
3:00 PM

LINDA MILLER, Curator of the Maximus Gallery at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, will present an introduction to the history of botanical illustration focusing on several of the pieces in the exhibit. A reception will follow.

Ms. Miller has worked with antique prints for more than 25 years. She became fascinated with these historical images in print and bookshops while living in England and later owned Saville Fine Prints in Santa Barbara's old El Paseo, where she specialized in antique botanical prints. Please use the coupon on page 15 to register.



The LOTUS SOCIETY

LUNCHEON HONORS MEMBERS OF THE LOTUS SOCIETY

*M*EMBERS OF *The Lotus Society* had the great privilege—and so much fun—visiting *Montalba*, the magnificent home and garden of Gerald Incandela and George Schoellkopf. Perched high on a ridge above Summerland, *Montalba* has panoramic views of the Pacific Ocean and surrounding mountains. The house is filled with wonderful art and architectural elements collected from all over the world. It was a memorable event for the 82 guests!

Started in 2000, *The Lotus Society* now has 125 members who have made planned or outright gifts of \$10,000 or more to Lotusland's endowment. For more information, please contact Lotusland's Director of Development, Anne Dewey, at 805.969.3767, extension 105.



During brief remarks, Lifetime Honorary Trustee Bob Emmons emphasized that "the Lotus Society is the future of Lotusland." He and his wife, Chris, hosted the first Lotus Society luncheon as well as the 10th anniversary luncheon...and they volunteered to host the 25th and 50th!



Nigel Buxton chatted with George Schoellkopf, who hosted the event along with Gerald Incandela, at their beautiful home, Montalba.



Joanna and Marc Appleton are new members of The Lotus Society. Marc is also a Lotusland Trustee.



Trustee Peggy Wiley and her husband, Wilson Quarré, posed in front of a panoramic view. Peggy is chair of the Lotus Society Committee.



Barbara Savage and Robert Ornstein joined The Lotus Society in late 2011, so this was our first chance to thank them in person.



Our gracious host Gerald Incandela chatted with Michelle and Ian Fisher in the lovely garden at Montalba. Ian is a Lotusland Trustee.



Virginia Castagnola-Hunter, Chris Emmons and Madame Walska's niece, Hania Tallmadge, enjoyed a perfect day in this memorable setting.

Horticultural Happenings

BEEKEEPING AT LOTUSLAND

FERAL COLONIES OF HONEYBEES have been mostly welcome pollinators at Lotusland for many years, although an unwelcome colony living in the wall of the main house was removed a number of years ago. Recently, staff decided to move a well-established colony in the trunk of a *Euphorbia ingens* in front of the main house. Although no serious incidents had occurred, the proximity to the



Bees in the *Euphorbia ingens*.



A nuc box (a smaller version of a normal beehive) mounted on the *E. ingens* to capture the colony.



The relocated hive in the fruit orchard.

main house and public tour route, and a particularly active spring with several swarms observed on the property, made the relocation of the colony the prudent course of action.

Paul Cronshaw and Todd Bebb from the Santa Barbara Beekeeping Association (SBBA) worked with Corey Welles, Lotusland's plant health care coordinator, to create a plan to successfully relocate the bees in the *E. ingens* to a new hive box in the deciduous fruit orchard. Corey also attended an "Introduction to Beekeeping" class and will manage the Lotusland hive(s). Many thanks to Paul, Todd, and the SBBA for their help and advice. Lotusland is planning more collaboration in the future.

HISTORICAL FEATURES RESTORED

THE PASSING OF TIME and the natural aging process caused damage to two tile benches and a brick deck at the northern end of the lotus pond. Recently we received a generous grant from Friends of Historic Preservation* that allowed us to contract with DaRos Masonry to repair and restore these important historic elements.

George Washington Smith designed these features in 1924 along with the bathhouse, swimming pool (now the lotus pond), and the adjacent water lily ponds. Root barriers, newly installed around the tile benches, will help prevent a recurrence of the problem

responsible for much of the damage. We are hoping to obtain funding in order to be able to restore an additional 30 feet of brick walkway north of the lotus pond. This would complete the final portion of the original axis that begins at the water fountain above the water stairs.

—Michael Iven

**The Friends of Historic Preservation is a small, private association of individuals based out of Los Angeles, California that seeks to promote cultural identity through the preservation of significant endangered artistic and historic works, artifacts and sites.*



The tile bench restoration in progress.



The renovated brick decking at the lotus pond.

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL IVEN

Monday Morning Lecture THE CULTURAL AND NATURAL HISTORY OF LOTUS WITH VIRGINIA HAYES

MONDAY, JULY 16 • 9:30 TO 11:30 AM

OUR NAMESAKE LOTUS PLANTS will be in full bloom just in time for an informative illustrated talk by Lotusland's Curator, Virginia Hayes.

Virginia has a Master of Arts degree in *Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology* from UC Santa Barbara and wrote her Masters thesis on the floral development of *Nelumbo* (commonly known as lotus). Before coming to Lotusland, Virginia owned and operated a full-service water garden installation and

maintenance company, Santa Barbara Water Gardens and Landscapes.

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.

Members' Family Day, May 19, 2012

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY THOMAS & NANCY CRAWFORD

The banner pictured at right thanks our generous Members' Family Day sponsors.

Crawford family members—including some grandchildren—enjoyed the variety of entertainment at this annual event.



Photographer Bob DeBris brought wonderful costumes and props to transform guests for treasured souvenir photos.



Executive Director Gwen Stauffer ties a bandanna on a young guest.



This family got into the spirit of our 2012 Members' Family Day theme, "Yeehaw! Way Out West at Lotusland."



Magician Doug Hoover amazes a guest at his Medicine Man comedy show.



A young painter puts the finishing touches on the giant mural created by artist and staff member Gail Lucas.

Yeehaw! Way Out West at Lotusland

AWFORD, JR. IN HONOR OF THEIR GRANDCHILDREN



Floating a cowboy ducky down the runnel was a favorite activity for the toddler set.



A young bandit hopes to win a prize playing "Snakes in the Boots."



Having your face painted by Anji Lawson is always a favorite activity at Members' Family Day.



Jody Eulitz, Tom Ball and Kenny Sultan performed live blues music on the main lawn.



Making art with multi-colored sand in a cactus-shaped bottle was an engrossing activity.



Creating bead necklaces was an engaging pursuit at the craft tables.



How did these two villains make their way into Members' Family Day?



Pygmy goats, a pot-bellied pig, chickens and ducks were among the animals at the petting zoo in the corral.

Become a Lotusland Docent

DOCENT TRAINING FALL 2012

RECEPTION FOR PROSPECTIVE DOCENTS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23 • 9:30 AM

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

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

Every 18 months, a 14-week docent training course provides all the necessary information for conducting a tour of the garden. Instructors are drawn from the Lotusland staff, the Santa Barbara com-

munity and other California academic and horticultural institutions. These informative and enjoyable Monday-morning sessions last from 9:30 AM to noon. This fall's docent training begins on Monday, September 10.

A reception for prospective docents will be held at 9:30 AM on Thursday, August 23. This event offers prospective docents an opportunity to learn more about docent training and to meet some of the very knowledgeable docents who currently lead tours of the garden. Please tell your friends and neighbors about the program.

To reserve a space at the reception, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Kitty Thomassin, at 805.969.3767, extension 112 or kthomassin@lotusland.org.

The Future of Lotusland Depends on All of Us AND LEGACY GIFTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Nancy and John Vasi are new members of The Lotus Society and John is a long-time docent at Lotusland.

*T*HE LOTUS SOCIETY is composed of dedicated Lotusland supporters who want to ensure that Madame Walska's amazing garden will always be here for us and for future generations to enjoy.

Each year, the Lotus Society Committee plans a tour and reception for members and their guests who might be interested in joining *The Lotus Society*. The first step is always the *Wall of Honor*, which was recently engraved with the names of those who joined *The Lotus Society* in 2011. All members have made gifts, bequests or pledges of

\$10,000 or more to *The Lotus Society* endowment.

For information on how to join, please contact Director of Development Anne Dewey at adewey@lotusland.org or 805.969.3767, extension 105. More information about *The Lotus Society* is on our website, www.lotusland.org.

We welcome new members:

Marc and Joanna Appleton

Gary H. Brown

Hania Puacz Tallmadge

John and Nancy Vasi

Dennis M. Whelan



Murph Levy

Volunteer Profile: Murph Levy

EDUCATOR IN THE GARDEN

Murph and her two children, aged seven and nine, moved to Santa Barbara in 1978. From the time of her move to Santa Barbara until 1989, Murph worked at Work Training Program, now called Path Point, as a consumer instructor for adults with disabilities. She then took a position as a habilitation counselor at Devereux until 1994, when she decided to go back to school to obtain a special education credential and a Master's degree. From 1997 to 2001, Murph worked for Santa Barbara County with a special day class at Dos Pueblos High School and then became a resource teacher at Monte Vista Elementary School until her retirement in 2009.

Murph was familiar with Lotusland, as she had visited in 2006 with her family and loved the experience. Serendipitously, shortly after her retirement she saw an ad in the *Independent* for a docent training class to begin in September of 2009. Since then she has given many adult tours and also participates as an Outreach Docent. Murph says, "I have made it a custom to try to learn one new plant name every

time I am at Lotusland. The succulents are my favorite plant group, with ferns and begonias close behind." She has expanded her volunteer activities at Lotusland to include working one morning a week in the nursery, primarily propagating plants to be given to Fourth Grade Outreach Program participants to take home at the end of their tour.

In addition to her volunteer work at Lotusland, Murph has a variety of other interests. She has her own garden filled with flowering plants and a great many succulents, volunteers with the Assistance League of Santa Barbara, tutors, is a substitute teacher, makes jewelry, enjoys travel, and treasures the time she spends with her five grandchildren.

"I love sharing Madame's garden with friends. People are always so amazed and awed by the garden. It is so nice to be able to take a group of friends around the garden and explain Madame's journey toward making the garden what it is today."

An educator is forever an educator and that's what a docent is.

—Kitty Thomassin

Exceptional Plants: Lotusland Auction and Sale

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 • 2:00 TO 5:00 PM

LOTUSLAND IS HOLDING its first ever live plant auction and sale! More than just your average plant sale, this promises to be a very special occasion. The highlight of the event is a spirited live auction during which a dozen or so very rare, very special plants go under the gavel. Jeff Chemnick is the celebrity auctioneer.

Other choice plants and garden books will be offered during a silent auction, and the Lotusland Garden Shop will have an expanded selection of plants for sale. Funds from the event will be used to care for and support the botanical collection.

Donations have been streaming in from plant collectors and other botanical gardens (such as Huntington Botanical

Garden), including some truly fabulous specimens. The full list of plants and auction items is available on Lotusland's website, but a few to mention are a rare cycad, *Cycas apoa*, a choice yellow-flowering form of the Australian tree *Banksia praemorsa*, a truly stunning red form of the giant bromeliad *Alcantarea imperialis*, a collection of sculptural succulents grown as bonsai specimens, and many more cycads, bromeliads, ferns and succulents. On hand will be a cast of plant expert all-stars such as Eric Nagelmann, Jo O'Connell, Jim Melnik, Randy Baldwin, Leland Walmsley, and more. They will discuss the plants and their use in gardens, encouraging guests to take a piece of Lotusland home with them.



Your invitation to the event will be in the mail soon and space is limited, so mark your calendars and send in your reservation card when it arrives. Tickets are \$125 and include bidding rights, specialty cocktails, fine wines, premium beers, and sumptuous hors d'oeuvres.

Charles Glass...In His Own Words

PART XI OF A SERIES OF EXCERPTS FROM HIS UNPUBLISHED MEMOIRS WITH THE WORKING TITLE OF
EXPERIENCES OF 12 YEARS AS DIRECTOR OF LOTUSLAND: THE FABULOUS ESTATE OF MME. GANNA WALSKA

MME. WALSKA was fascinated with the East and Eastern religions, and when she first purchased Lotusland, then called Cuesta Linda, she was going to rename it 'Tibetland', a rather uneuphonious name to say the least. The lotus in some Eastern religions is considered the symbol of the unfolding of the soul. Buddha is often depicted as sitting on a lotus blossom, and in what is referred to as "the lotus position". Perhaps this is why Mme. Walska finally settled on the name, Lotusland.

When the Japanese Garden was developed in the sixties, the lotus pond became the center of this new area. It had previously been rather undeveloped but with a few exceedingly formal elements, such as a blue-tiled, Italianate "water staircase" meant to feed the lake and descending from a sort of "wishing well" at the end of a long brick walk lined with juniper and Italian cypress. This Mme. Walska called the "juniper allée". The marvelous "water staircase" was screened from the new Japanese Garden by plantings of *Cryptomeria* and tree ferns and virtually abandoned, and now the pond was fed by a rock lined brook passing under a bridge made by a massive slab of granite. Water also ran down a pretty little rock lined aquaduct that went from the upper water lily pools past the aloe pool into a charming little pool by the black bamboo at the edge

of the Japanese Garden and down to the Japanese pond. Water flowed down this aquaduct during tours when we had the fountains running in the upper ponds.

Mr. Thielst...loved crayfish or crawdads, and stocked the lotus pond with these fresh water, shrimp-like delicacies. For the first few years they seemed to offer no problems, and Mme. Walska even started feeding them crumbs of bread, once she noticed them, referring to them affectionately as her "little red crabs". When the population reached a certain critical size, there was a "bloom" of crayfish and that year the lotus almost failed to appear on schedule in the spring. A few lonely stems managed to thrust up through the water. The following year there were no lotus whatsoever and it was indeed a crisis. Not only was Lotusland without lotus, the rotting lotus roots and stems started to pollute the pond and turn its water to putrefying muck. Mme. Walska turned the problem over to Griffin [a local landscape contractor] and only then did we discover, through their investigations of the novel and horrendous problem with which they were reluctantly saddled, that lotus is the favorite food of crawdads!

Griffin tried everything to get rid of the crayfish, but the crayfish outsmarted them at every turn. They poisoned the water with a fast-dissipating poison. The poison killed dozens of goldfish

that neighbors or other trespassers had apparently abandoned or released in the pond, and their bloated bodies further polluted the pond, but the crayfish simply crawled out of the water and waited for it to become habitable again! They introduced dozens of large catfish in the hopes that these fish would eat the crawdads, but the population had got just too large to be thus managed with a biological control.

I finally came upon the scheme of catching the crawdads with string and liver, similar to the way I used to "go crabbing", growing up in New Jersey, with string, a lead weight and a fish head. I removed crayfish by the bucket-loads, by the hundreds! They were so intent on chewing on the liver that they were not even aware that they were being lifted out of the water and deposited in a bucket. I'd take them home and boil them for many feasts of crawdads until my friends and I couldn't stand the slightly sweet and somewhat mushy taste of any more of these crustaceans! This did, however, manage to deplete the numbers sufficiently to where the catfish were able to keep the population in check, and finally we were even able cautiously to reintroduce a few lotus plants.

NEXT TIME

MORE STORIES FROM the Glass memoir.

—Excerpts edited by Virginia Hayes

Summer Twilight Tour

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18

3:30 TO 6:30 PM

TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY to enjoy the longer days of summer "after hours" during our Summer Twilight Tour. Begin your walk with a stop at the Wall of Honor, for a cool beverage in your commemorative Lotusland wine glass. You and your guests can choose to reserve a docent-led tour, or explore the gardens on your own.

Wine, beverages and light hors d'oeuvres will be served from 4:30 to 5:30 PM on the geranium terrace. Please use the coupon on page 15 to reserve space for this event.

Succulent Wreath Workshop

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6 • 9:30 AM TO NOON



MAKE YOUR OWN living wreath! The workshop, designed for beginners, leads you through the steps needed to build a beautiful living wreath that can be used year-round with minimal care. All of the necessary materials to construct one 14-inch wreath are included in the workshop fee. Space is limited to 15 adults. Please register early for this fun, informative workshop by using the coupon on page 15.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PICNIC

Thank You to Our Wonderful Volunteers!

JUNE GLOOM didn't keep our volunteers and staff from enjoying the annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic on June 18. Volunteers gathered in the theatre garden where trustee Peggy Wiley opened the program and invited staff members on stage to thank and honor the volunteers who are so generous with their time and talent. Lunch was served following the program—three sheet cakes decorated with scanned photos of Madame Walska were a big hit.

More than half of our volunteers are docents, who lead both public tours and the outreach tours that are the culmination of our acclaimed Fourth Grade Outreach Program.

Other volunteers work at special events, staff the Garden Shop, assist with a variety of administrative projects, help maintain the grounds and the greenhouse, and assist us with our library and archives. Volunteers are at the heart of Lotusland—we couldn't do it without you!

—Kitty Thomassin



Volunteers Gwen Guddal and Hilda Seibert were among those honored at the annual picnic.

KITTY THOMASSIN

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Visiting Lotusland During Our Peak Season

HAVING OUR NAMESAKE lotuses in bloom makes the summer a very popular time to visit Lotusland! As a member you always visit free, but still need a reservation.

Saturday is our most popular day, so we suggest you book early if you plan a Saturday visit. There is more flexibility Wednesday through Friday—and don't forget you may bring guests

for 40% off regular adult admission every Thursday. We would love to see all of our members more often; however, our Conditional Use Permit restricts the number of people and cars allowed to visit each day.

Please plan ahead so you are not disappointed during our peak summer season! Call 805.969.9990 to make a reservation.

Lotusland Wins Web Award

WE WERE PLEASED to learn that Lotusland was the winner of the 2012 Dorothy E. Hansell Publication Award for our website.

Entries were evaluated according to the following criteria: overall usability/user interface, design/aesthetics, content, and online marketing. Our Executive Director, Gwen Stauffer, accepted the award at the recent American Public Gardens Association conference in Columbus, Ohio.

Thank You to Our

GARDEN CHAMPIONS

Bruce Heavin & Lynda Weinman
Mrs. Andy Pearson

GARDEN STEWARDS

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

GARDEN GUARDIANS

Mrs. John S. Broome
Mr. & Mrs. Ted Friedel
Ms. Cyndee Howard
Suzanne & Gilbert Mathews
Mr. & Mrs. John K. Percy
Mr. & Mrs. Gary L. Rollé
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Simmons
Ms. Beverly Smaniotto
Ms. Jeanne Thayer
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Tobey

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 adewey@lotusland.org. Thank you!

🌿 ARTWORKS ASSESSMENT

Assessment of Lotusland's outdoor sculpture and art. \$6,000

🌿 TREE TRIMMING

Trim 30 trees in the olive allée. \$13,500

🌿 NEPTUNE CONSERVATION

Conservation of the Neptune fountain and surrounds including the Neptune statue, two serpent/man sculptures, the ceramic plate mounted in the hedge, and the walls embedded with tiles in the Neptune Courtyard. \$29,000

Lotusland Members

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS WHO JOINED IN MARCH, APRIL AND MAY 2012

LOTUS KEEPERS

GARDEN ADVOCATE

Michael & Rosy Ayres
Mr. Robert Buckley
Robin & Daniel Cerf
Mike & Diane Giles
Ms. Alexandria White
& Mr. Brad Weals
Ms. Lauren Woodward
& Mr. John Moore

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP FRIEND

Charmaine & Eddie Atherton
Stephanie & John Bennett
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Buxton
David Coup & David Smith
Ms. Jessica Gin & Ms. Irene Cooke
Ms. Lisa Hubbard
Ms. Holly McMillan
& Mr. James Chute
Steven Pliha & Gregory Shutak
Mr. Lee Sandler
& Mrs. Kathleen Farinacci
Ms. Kathleen Stinnett
& Mr. David Patrick
Ms. Julie White

FAMILY

Susie Adams & Family
Elizabeth & Carlos Alvarez
Dan & Lisa Andberg
Jim & Phyllis Beck
Mrs. Kate Borger & Mr. Steve Wall
Kevin & Karen Brown
Mr. Thomas Bush
& Ms. Grace Sanchez
Toby & Melissa Carpenter
Ms. Susan Cochran
& Ms. Courtney Cochran
Ms. Kate Connell & Mr. Fred Nadis
Mr. & Mrs. Luke Connelly
Ms. Nicola Cowley
& Ms. Patricia Iaobucci

Peter Crawford
& Pieter van Meeuwen
Tommy & Nancy Crawford
& Family
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Cummings
Mr. & Mrs. John Daley
Mr. Greg Dawley
& Ms. Alexandra Suiying Wu
Michael Doherty & Margaret Ricks
Mark & Adela Edgecombe
Mr. Marc Eisemann & Ms. Jackie King
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Ellenbogen
Art & Margaret England
Ms. Whitney Evans
& Ms. Jeanette Evans
Holly & David Faubel
Rodney & Melinda Fernandez
Diane & Rick Figueroa
Richard & Helen Fiske
Erika & Robert Gardner
Tom & Molly Gerald
Ms. Kim Hartson
& Mr. Anthony Scroggins
Rhett & Candy Hedrick
Donald & Susan Helm
Christopher Hill
& Rodolfo Choperena
Mrs. Kathie Hillier
& Mr. Robert Boen
Mr. Yuchou Hu & Mrs. Yuwen Ku
Margaret & Neil Keegan
Mr. Christopher Knowlton
& Ms. Pippa Hames
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Larkin
Mr. Jack R. Larson
& Mrs. Cassandra Ornelas
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Lewis
Ms. Victoria Lloyd
Mrs. Suzanne Loomis
Nicole & Ethan Lowry
Mr. Michael MacRae
& Ms. Bonnie Bedelia
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Malcomson
Mr. & Mrs. Ryan Malmsten

Mr. Jeffrey Meek
& Ms. Amanda Kramer
Craig & Debbie Morgan
Denise & Tim Nesper
Stuart & Linda Ochiltree
Dan & Sandy O'Meara
Ms. Sheila Paine & Ms. Lisa Foley
Maura & Aliona Patrice
Lynelle Paulick-Graf & Klaus Graf
Susan & Bob Peebler
Robert & Christine Pritkin
Lewis & Sharyn Ribich
Dorothy B. Roberts,
Roberts Brothers Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Russell
Mrs. Carrie Shook
& Mr. David Shook
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Simoni
Ms. Lynn Stokes-Pena
& Mr. Aaron Schulman
Carol & Charles Stolar
Mr. & Mrs. Wolfgang Tamm
Mr. Julius Tanag & Ms. Patty Metoki
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Tillman
Ms. Linda Turner
Ms. Olivia Vargas & Ms. Ann Vargas
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Weber
Dr. J. Patrick Wheelock
& Mrs. Lini Elias-Wheelock
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas White

INDIVIDUAL

Ms. Jill Barnitz
Mr. Matthew Boeck
Miss Renee Bond
Ms. Jan Bright
Ms. Marisa Bueno
Mrs. Ingrida Carter
Ms. Judith Chandler
Mr. Evan Cohen
Ms. Roseanne Cohen
Ms. Shirley Cohen
Ms. Lauren T. Comer
Ms. Susan Davidson
Mr. Richard Davis

Mr. Michael Davisson
Ms. Cindy Delster Reiber
Ms. Carol Deranian
Victoria Dillon
Ms. Susan Finocchio
Ms. Elizabeth Frei
Mr. Gerald Gabowitz
Ms. Caroline Geddes
Ms. Deborah Gibbons
Mr. Tim Gill
Ms. Victoria Goodman
Miss Sylvia Hamilton
Mr. Burks Hamner
Mr. Vincent Hsieh
Ms. Debra Hyde
Mrs. Eloise Long
Ms. Jacky Lopez
Mrs. Brenda Madison
Mrs. Gertrude Irene Marsi
Mr. Steph Martin
Dr. Deborah McGill
Ms. Nancy McGrath Simonds
Mrs. Lisa McIntire
Ms. Kay Moore
Ms. Celeste Pearlman
Ms. Diane Pearson
Mrs. Rosalind Perry
Ms. Teresa Petrich
Mr. Owen Phillips
Mrs. Rachel Phillips
Mr. Douglas Reed
Ms. Ronna Reed
Ms. Corrina Rider
Ms. Amy Santa Cruz
Ms. Ellen Schipper
Ms. Patricia Schuette
Ms. Connie Speight
Ms. Linda Teasdale
Ms. Carole Thompson
Ms. Jessica Tracy
Ms. Christi Walden
Ms. Victoria Wall
Mr. David Winkoski
Mr. Tim Yamasaki
Ms. Patricia Zohn

Lotusland Gratefully Acknowledges Donations MARCH, APRIL AND MAY 2012

LOTUS SOCIETY

Marc & Joanna Appleton
Gary H. Brown
John & Nancy Vasi
Mr. Dennis M. Whelan

GRANT

Friends of Heritage Preservation Fund

SPONSORSHIP OF MEMBERS' FAMILY DAY IN HONOR OF THEIR GRANDCHILDREN

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Crawford, Jr.

FOURTH GRADE OUTREACH PROGRAM

Pamela & Aubert de Villaine
Hilary Peattie

GENERAL DONATIONS

Carol & Tom Beamer
Ms. Janet C. Brown
The Capital Group Companies Charitable Fund
as directed by Mr. & Mrs. James Drasdo

Mr. Frank Caufield
Patricia Davis in honor of Bruce Gregga
Susan & Holland Ealum
Ms. Debra Galin
Bob & Betsy Manger
in honor of Peggy Wiley
Mr. Harlis Maggard
in honor of Lori Meschler's, Dorothy Shaner's
and Kitty Thomasson's birthdays
Ms. Lorraine M. McDonnell
& Mr. M. Stephen Weatherford
Mr. Leonard Somdahl
Ms. Sandra Stauffer
Cordelia & Peter Stearns
in honor of Mary Dorra
Travis & Maritza Wilson
in honor of Ian Fisher's birthday

GIFT MEMBERSHIP DONORS

Mrs. Katherine Blankiet
Miss Renee Bond
Mr. & Mrs. David Bothman
Ms. Roseanne Cohen
Ms. Margaret Connell

Ms. Marcia A. Edgar
Mr. Richard Faggioli
Janet & Leland Gutierrez
Ms. Justine Jones
Mrs. Marylan Karsh
Ms. Jean Keely
Bonnie Kelm & Bill Malis
Mr. Tony Lee
Ms. Catherine Lloyd
Ms. Charity Walton Masters
Pat & Diana McDonough
Mrs. Lisa McIntire
Ms. Sylvia Nichols-Nelson & Mr. Doug Nelson
Cassandra Ornelas
Ms. Marsha Ota
Mr. Michael Rider
Ms. Sue Schaffer

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Durham
Luci Janssen
Ken Ueda
Ms. Jill Vander Hoof
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Volk

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

Summer Twilight Tour

Saturday, August 18 • 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 \$ _____

Plants on Paper

Saturday, September 29 • 3:00 PM

\$25/members • \$35/nonmembers

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

Succulent Wreath Workshop

Saturday, October 6 • 9:30 AM TO NOON

\$45/members • \$55/nonmembers

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

Renewing Lotus Keeper Members

MARCH, APRIL AND MAY 2012

GARDEN GUARDIAN

Mr. & Mrs. Harold Simmons
Ms. Beverly Smaniotto
Ms. Jeanne Thayer

GARDEN CONSERVATOR

Mr. & Mrs. James Drasdo
Dr. & Mrs. Robert J. Emmons
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick W. Gluck
Sheila Klink

Mr. & Mrs. Richard McDonald,
Grandfolia Interior Landscapes
Kate Schepanovich
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Shea
Mr. & Mrs. Selby Sullivan

GARDEN CULTIVATOR

Mr. Victor K. Atkins, Jr. & Ms. Victoria Hartman
Mr. Frank Caufield
Ms. Jane Gail Copelan

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Joy,
Joy Equipment Protection
Ms. Judith Little
Mrs. Lillian Lovelace
Mr. Harlis Maggard
Mr. & Mrs. James C. Nonn
Ellen Lehrer Orlando & Tom Orlando
Mr. & Mrs. Rick Roney
Dr. & Mrs. Norman Sprague, III
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Volk
Mr. & Mrs. Byron Kent Wood

GARDEN ADVOCATE

Mr. & Mrs. Robert S. Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Avery
Dr. & Mrs. David Bradford
Mr. & Mrs. M. Peyton Bucy
Mrs. Mary Tonetti Dorra
Mr. Gordon Durenberger
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Fairbanks
Ian & Michelle Fisher
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Foil
Mr. & Mrs. John F. Harrigan
Mrs. Joanne C. Holderman
Ms. Mahri Kerley
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Mabon
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Palonen
Mrs. Nancy B. Schlosser
Mr. M. Greg Stathakis
Ms. Jacqueline J. Stevens
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Thompson
Steve & Caroline Thompson
Dr. Carrie Towbes & Dr. John Lewis
Ms. Elinor Van Oosten
Mr. & Mrs. Tony Vassallo
Susan & David Vinjar
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Weber

Members Who Have Increased Their Level of Support

MARCH, APRIL AND MAY 2012

LOTUS KEEPERS

GARDEN CHAMPION

Bruce Heavin & Lynda Weinman
Mrs. Andy Pearson

GARDEN CONSERVATOR

Clifford & Crystal Wyatt

GARDEN ADVOCATE

Louise M. Parent & John P. Casaly
Ms. Gwen L. Stauffer
Mr. & Mrs. Hubert D. Vos
Alexandria White & Bradley Weals

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

FRIEND

Phil & Sandy Badone

Mr. & Mrs. Chris Cullen
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce I. Drucker
Ms. Whitney Hansen
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Lufkin
Esther & Patrick McKinley
Mr. & Mrs. Ron Ruther
Mark & Leslie Cane Schneiderman
Mr. & Mrs. Edmund Seder
Mr. Roger Thompson
Mr. Dennis M. Whelan

FAMILY

Mr. & Mrs. Mike Ainsa
Ms. Gwen Fuller & Mr. Randy Reynolds
Mrs. Douglas Goodan & Dr. Sarah Goodan
Mr. & Mrs. Houston Harte
Ronnie & Chase Mellen
Ms. Roxanne Modjallal & Mr. Shannon Sullivan



Ganna Walska LOTUSLAND®

695 Ashley Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93108

Address Service Requested

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Santa Barbara
California
Permit No. 163

Summer and Fall 2012 Member Events

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

Saturday, July 14

LotusFest!

2:00 TO 5:00 PM

See details on page 4. Please call 805.969.9990 to register.

Monday, July 16

The Cultural and Natural History of Lotus with Virginia Hayes

9:30 TO 11:30 AM

See details on page 7. Please call 805.969.9990 to register.

Sunday, July 22

Ooh La La! Lotusland

4:00 TO 8:00 PM

SOLD OUT!

Saturday, August 18

Summer Twilight Tour

3:30 TO 6:30 PM

See details on page 12. Please use the coupon on page 15 to register.

Thursday, August 23

Reception for Prospective Docents

9:30 AM

See details on page 10. Call 805.969.3767, ext. 112 or email kthomassin@lotusland to register.

Saturday, August 25 through Friday, November 2

The Plant Hunters: Botanical Illustrations from the 16th to the 19th Centuries

See details on page 5.

Saturday, September 8

Exceptional Plants:

Lotusland Auction and Sale

2:00 TO 5:00 PM

See details on page 11.

Saturday, September 29

Plants on Paper: Masterpieces of Botanical Illustration with Linda Miller

3:00 PM

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

Saturday, October 6

Succulent Wreath Workshop

9:30 AM TO NOON

See details on page 12. Please use the coupon on page 15 to register.

Tours

Tours are offered at 10:00 AM and 1:30 PM, Wednesday through Saturday between February 15 and November 15. 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.