### **Bees: Pollination Partners**

BY VIRGINIA HAYES AND GWEN STAUFFER

URVIVAL OF THE HUMAN SPECIES is dependent upon the survival of plants and other animal species. We need plants that produce nutritious food, and we need insects to pollinate our food crops, from fruits and nuts to squash and tomatoes. Honeybees are one of only two domesticated insect species, the other being silkworms, that have been pressed into service by man. Early North American settlers from Europe brought the honeybee (Apis mellifera) to eastern territories by the early 1600s.

The honeybees that visit our gardens today are most likely the escaped wild relatives of the first introduced stock. They have adapted to life here and may form hives wherever suitable habitat can be found—hollow cavities in trees or uninsulated walls in houses or outbuildings, for example. In the last 60 years, honeybee populations all over the world have drastically declined. In the U.S. alone, 90% of wild bee populations have died out. Populations of wildflowers dependent upon pollination have declined by 70%. In the past decade, commercial beekeepers have lost tens of thousands of honeybee colonies in what has been dubbed "colony collapse disorder." It is likely that no single factor is at play, but rather a combination of several environmental causes:

- Climate change has caused flowers to bloom earlier or later than usual.
   When pollinators come out of hibernation, the flowers that provide the food they need to start their season are not in bloom.
- Pesticide use on farms meant to kill pests also harms bees. Many pesticides banned by other countries because they harm bees are still available in the U.S.

Continued on page 2



Penelope Stewart, known for her large sensory beeswax architecture, covered three walls with beeswax tiles inspired by Lotusland plants and objects for the exhibition Swarm: A Collaboration with Bees.

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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

- Habitat has been lost to urban development, farms have been abandoned, crops are being grown intensively without leaving habitat for wildlife and gardens planted with flowers that are not friendly to pollinators.
- Parasites such as more vigorous strains of harmful mites are also attacking honeybees.

The loss of honeybees is causing a noticeable reduction in food crop pollination and a real concern about the continued production of food crops that need bees for pollination. With the loss of honeybees—and other food crop pollinators—food production is at risk.

These European imports are very important for pollinating our crops and other flowers, but other kinds of bees, many native to North America, also contribute to this effort. With more than 20,000 species of bees worldwide, there is a bee for every habitat. While honeybees live in large colonies with division of labor among members of the hive, many other bees live a more or less solitary life. Females may build nests and lay a small number of eggs and then leave them to develop unattended. These solitary bees carry less of a stinging threat. In many cases their



Installation artists Ethan Turpin and Jonathan PJ Smith created Bee Cell, a hexagonal room with two doors, projections of bees, mirrors and the sounds of a bee colony that gives the illusion of being in the middle of a bee hive.



This exquisite image from Stephanie Wilde's body of work, The Golden Bees, is titled St. Abigail. St. Abigail is the patron saint of beekeepers.

stingers are not barbed and deliver far less venom than the honeybees.

While the scientists and farmers work at preserving the domesticated honeybees, there are things that we can do to help both honeybees and other wild bee species.

- Stay Calm—Don't Swat! Most bees are focused when pollinating and docile when swarming.
- If a honeybee swarm sets up housekeeping where you don't want them, call a local beekeeper to safely remove the honeybees alive.
- Support honeybee and wild bee populations by adding bee-friendly plants to your garden that provide nectar and pollen—food for all pollinators.
- Garden organically! Don't use pesticides. Anything that kills an aphid or a fly kills bee pollinators.
- Become a beekeeper.

Lotusland has become a refuge for many wild pollinators. To help bring focus to the issues of pollinator loss, an inspiring exhibition titled Swarm: A Collaboration with Bees, curated by Nancy Gifford, is in the Pavilion through May 4. The exhibition celebrates bees with a provocative display of artistic interpretations of bees and hive culture. It includes installations, two-dimensional contemporary art and sculpture created by several artists, both local and from farther afield. An intoxicating aroma leads you to a bas-relief beeswax "beescape" by Toronto artist Penelope Stewart. Titled Daphne, with designs inspired by plants and objects at Lotusland, it covers three walls.

Los Angeles-based photographer

Rose-Lynn Fisher takes highly magnified black and white photos of bees and bee parts through a scanning electron microscope. They are stunning and will give you a whole new perspective on bees. Ms. Fisher says, "As though revealing a secret, the scanning electron microscope (SEM) presents a realm of structure, design and pattern at a level of intricacy we are oblivious to in our daily experience...In the myriad forms that constitute one little bee at higher and higher magnifications is a hint of the unending complexity of nature, the worlds within worlds comprising our reality. And then the realization—we are part of this too!"

Installation artists Ethan Turpin and Jonathan PJ Smith created Bee Cell, a hexagonal room with two doors. Projections of oversized bees at their hive cover translucent panels within each of the six sides. Inside, the projections become bold and immersive. Above, a mirror gives the illusion of extended space, which incorporates the viewer's image into the hive structure as speakers play the sounds of the bee colony.

Six exquisite images from Stephanie Wilde's ongoing body of work, The



Rose-Lynn Fisher's highly magnified photos of bees and bee parts taken through a scanning electron microscope give a whole new perspective on bees. "Beatrice" is shown.

Golden Bees, are on view. Although the subject addresses the environment, it came as a natural progression from the artist's past work relating to AIDS. Ms. Wilde says, "The disappearance of the honeybee and AIDS have a parallel: both are unresolved scientific challenges. AIDS has a growing impact on human lives. The disappearance of the Western Honeybee has the potential of an impact as significant."

Other featured artists are Theresa Carter, Bill Dewey, Ed Inks, Cynthia James, Casey Lurie, Keith Puccinelli, Maria Rendon and Anna Vaughan. Many of the pieces are for sale, with a portion of proceeds going to Lotusland.

Thank you to our Sponsors: Certis Capital Management, Inc., Giffin & Crane, Nancy & Michael Gifford, Rich & Luci Janssen, Kenneth Volk Vineyards, NS Ceramic, and Santa Barbara Winery.

### Director's Letter

ATER THIS MONTH, citizens around the globe will participate in their local Earth Day celebrations. Started in 1970 by the U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, Gaylord Nelson, after witnessing the devastation from the 1969 oil spill off the Santa Barbara coast, Earth Day has evolved from an annual grass-roots "teach-in" inspiring America's citizens toward stewardship of their nation's natural resources to a day of learning and celebration observed by millions of people all over the world.

Every day is Earth Day at Lotusland, because we are tending a beautiful and important garden using horticultural techniques in a true collaboration with Nature. No chemicals, of any sort, have been applied to Lotusland's gardens in 20 years, when the gardeners of Lotusland went "cold turkey" and abruptly ceased all applications of esticides and chemical fertilizers. They expected plants to suddenly die. Instead, the plants began to flourish.

These brave and bold gardeners soon discovered that chemicals kill all the micro-organisms living in the soil that create soil conditions on which plants depend. Lotusland's vigorous program of making and applying compost and compost teas has enabled the plant collections at Lotusland to happily thrive. Our precious plant collections feature many rare and endangered species. This program helps ensure that they are healthy enough to reproduce so we can expand their populations.

There are other benefits. Improved soil fertility and composition has reduced our overall water consumption, as the soil retains moisture and plants need less water. We irrigate less, so save time and money. We save time because we do not apply pesticides and other chemicals and save money as we do not buy expensive chemicals nor need licenses and insurance required to handle pesticides. No chemicals means a great diversity of beneficial insects and birds call Lotusland home, becoming our free and ornamental pest control team. Best of all, a chemicalfree environment means Lotusland is a safe and comfortable place for staff to work and for visitors to peacefully enjoy one of the most sublime pieces of earth.



Gwen Stauffer

On April 20 and 21, Lotusland will be one of many organizations gathering in Alameda Park for Santa Barbara's Annual Earth Day Celebration. Our Plant Health Coordinator, Corey Welles, will be at Lotusland's tent to provide information about our sustainable horticulture program and give everyone helpful tools and ideas on how to incorporate sustainable techniques into their gardening routine. We hope to see you there!

Warm regards, Gwen L. Stauffer

# LotusFest!

SATURDAY, JULY 13 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
Smooth jazz • 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.

Tickets are \$85 for Lotusland members and \$95 for nonmembers.

To register for this fun and enlightening event, please call 805.969.9990.



# Swarm: A Collaboration with Bees ON VIEW THROUGH MAY 4

OS ANGELES-BASED PHOTOGRAPHER Rose-Lynn Fisher (LEFT) and Guest Curator Nancy Gifford chatted at the February 22 opening reception. Behind them is "Sabine," a 24" x 30" image, magnified 15 times, that Ms. Fisher photographed using a scanning electron microscope. Many of her stunning images are included in the exhibition. For photos and the names of other artists featured in *Swarm: A Collaboration with Bees*, please see the cover story.

This eclectic and timely exhibition is attracting visitors from all oversouthern California and has generated very positive reviews in the press. Don't miss it! Members may see the exhibition at no charge when scheduling a self-guided or docent-guided tour, but reservations are required. Please call 805.969.9990.

#### COLLECTIONS NEWS

### Philotheca myoporoides 'Profusion'

OMMONLY CALLED the long-leaf wax flower, Philotheca myoporoides is a member of the rutaceae, the same family to which citrus belongs. It is native to southeastern Australia. The selection called 'Profusion' is a compact shrub with glossy green foliage and blooms in profusion during spring with myriad small white flowers. The foliage is also lightly fragrant when brushed. It has long been a favorite in Australian

gardens and is now available in Southern California. Often grown as a cut flower, its foliage, even when not in bloom, is also useful for flower arranging.

Recently planted along the entrance to the Visitor Center parking, this new addition will provide a pleasing hedge to greet visitors to Lotusland. Partial funding for this planting was donated by the Garden Club of Santa Barbara.

-Virginia Hayes



Blushing pink buds of Philotheca myoporoides 'Profusion' open to a profusion of starry white flowers.

# Bees Circling Heaven SATURDAY, APRIL 13 • 3:00 PM



Bonnie Crotzer rehearses in Lotusland's theatre garden for the premiere performance of Bees Circling Heaven.

EES CIRCLING HEAVEN, a dance opera by renowned choreographer Robin Bisio with live music by Ghost Tiger, was created especially to be performed in Lotusland's theatre garden in conjunction with the Swarm: A Collaboration with Bees exhibit.

Dancers are Bonnie Crotzer, Wesley Chang, Monica Ford and Kaita Lepore, and costume design and styling are by Anaya Cullen.

Following the premiere performance, there will be honey tastings by Bennett's Honey Farm and a reception on the Pavilion patio. Guests will have the opportunity to see Swarm: A Collaboration with Bees.

Tickets are \$45 for the general public and \$35 for Lotusland members. Advance reservations are required and may be made by calling 805.969.9990. Reserve early as space is limited.

### Cacti and Cocktails

SATURDAY, MAY 4 3:00 то 6:00 рм

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.

Guests will enjoy music throughout the afternoon and specialty cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will be served. A PowerPoint display of the construction of the cactus garden, completed in 2003, will run continuously in the sunken drawing room.

Tickets are \$55 for Lotusland members and \$65 for nonmembers. Advance reservations are required and may be made by calling 805.969.9990.

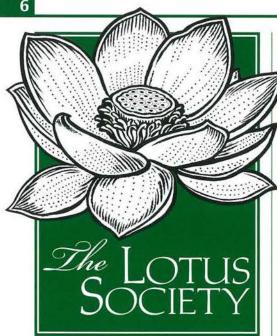
### Mother's Day Tour and Tea

SATURDAY, MAY 11 1:30 TO 4:00 PM

One of our most popular events is celebrating Mother's Day-the day before Mother's Dayby touring the garden and enjoying tea and refreshments on our pavilion patio and main lawn.

Members and their 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!

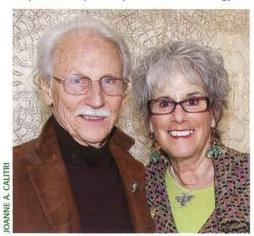
Tickets are \$70 for Lotusland members, \$80 for nonmembers and \$30 for children ages 5 to 12. Advance reservations are required and may be made by calling 805.969.9990.



### BONNIE KELM AND BILL MALIS

ILL MALIS AND BONNIE KELM are artists, dedicated to creating art and to sharing an appreciation for all art forms. They found each other through their shared passion and fortuitous timing. Bonnie was raised in New York City, where every school student was deeply immersed in the rich museum culture. Much to her teachers' and parents' collective dismay, Bonnie would often wander away from her class and purposefully lose herself in her wonderment.

After receiving her B.A. in Art Education at Buffalo State University, Bonnie expanded her studies to art history, receiving her M.A. from Bowling Green State University, in Ohio. She soon settled in Columbus, Ohio to teach art at Franklin State University. Impressed by her passion and energy,



Bill Malis and Bonnie Kelm

her colleagues convinced her to join the board of the Columbus Institute for Contemporary Art (CIFCA), a nonprofit organization with a mission to support local artists. At her first board meeting, Bonnie learned that the board president and the executive director had both resigned, and she suddenly found herself appointed as the new board president! Always ready for a challenge, Bonnie took the helm. As if that were not enough, Bonnie worked toward her Ph.D. in Arts Administration and raised a son.

Bill's path to a career in art was more circuitous and without benefit of mentors. Raised in Indiana, Bill received a B.A. in art at Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa. After a disastrous year teaching junior high school, he set his sights on graduate school. But with Vietnam looming large for draftees, he opted for a four-year enlistment in the Security agency and ultimately was stationed in Germany. Afterward, he immersed himself in all varieties of sculpture at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio.

Bonnie and Bill met when CIFCA accepted Bill's proposal for the creation of public art for inner city neighborhoods. Bonnie was impressed with Bill's diplomacy with a potentially hostile community, inviting them to participate in the creative process with him, and ultimately winning their support and pride in their new neighborhood sculpture. Bonnie and Bill became fast partners and together set up grassroots galleries all over Columbus, steadily building a community of art makers, art lovers and art supporters.

Bonnie's career was only beginning, as she was soon recruited to become the Director of the Miami University Art Museum and Associate Professor of Art History and Museum Studies as the result of receiving a Fulbright Scholarship due to research she did at her previous university. Eight years later, she became Professor of Art History in the museum studies program at William and Mary and served as the university's Museum Director. In 2002 UCSB lured Bonnie, Bill and their family to the west coast where she served as its Museum Director for five years. Bonnie first visited Lotusland at a museum directors' luncheon. Bonnie returned with Bill for a tour, and they were smitten. While Bonnie worked for UCSB, Bill volunteered as a Lotusland docent between his sculpture projects.

Bonnie and Bill "retired" in 2007, but neither one of them ever gave a thought to slowing down. Living in the art-inspired community of La Conchita, Bonnie and Bill continue to make art sell art and share an understanding and appreciation for art. She co-wrote Greater Carpinteria: Summerland and La Conchita and is the author of a book about artist Georgia O'Keefe. Bonnie makes amazing jewelry, some of which is inspired by Ganna Walska and Lotusland and is for sale in the Garden Shop.

Bill continues to create sculpture in stone and wood, focusing on pieces that are meant for gardens and outdoor spaces. While these pieces are quite permanent, Bill also creates art in the very ephemeral medium of ice, producing custom to-order ice sculptures through his company, Hot Ice.

Bonnie finds enchantment in the Shinto shrine in the forest of the Japanese garden telling me, "Lotusland is magical because it marries art with botanical elements, and the artful combination of species by color is profound." Bill, who has spent 20 years developing art forms in the Japanese style, loves the Japanese garden as well,

Bonnie and Bill joined The Lotu. Society in honor of her son, who was tragically lost to them 14 years ago. She tells me, "He loved the outdoors and gardens. He loved beautiful places and would have loved Lotusland and thought it to be heaven." We are so grateful that Bonnie and Bill found and love Lotusland. -Gwen Stauffer



#### **NEW MEMBERS**

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

Suzanne and Gilbert Mathews Christopher J. Toomey

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.

### Horticultural Happenings

### OUTREACH TO THE CITY OF CARPINTERIA

LOTUSLAND PARTNERED with individuals and agencies in Santa Barbara and Carpinteria to initiate an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Community Advisory Committee for the City of Carpinteria. The committee's ultimate goals are to assist the parks and public works directors in reducing the use of toxic pesticides and synthetic fertilizers in the city's parks, fields and open spaces and, at the same time, to increase the quality of life for all people, plants and animals.

The Carpinteria City Council ratified an IPM policy more than a year ago, and the parks director is responsible for implementation of the new program. The IPM committee is a little over a year old and has made much progress assisting park staff to apply the IPM policy. The volunteers who make up the IPM committee bring together a variety of talent and experience. As Lotusland's Plant Healthcare Coordinator, I will continue as a consultant to the committee in 2013. Assisting other agencies in adopting and executing alternative strategies to pest management and plant health is a cornerstone of Lotusland's outreach efforts in the local community.

As part of its outreach efforts in Carpinteria, Lotusland recently donated and helped apply three batches of compost tea to the City of Carpinteria's Viola Fields in a trial effort intended to expose park staff to compost tea technology and improve turf quality in a safe way. One the most widely used recreational fields in Carpinteria, Viola



200 gallons of Lotusland's compost tea was applied to Carpinteria's Viola Fields as part of an integrated turf care program.

Fields lies atop the ocean bluffs in Carpinteria, making it an excellent candidate for sustainable and ocean-friendly landscape management.

The year 2013 will undoubtedly be full of challenges and progress for Carpinteria's parks, and the IPM committee is ready to assist in whatever way they can. Parks across the nation are making the transition to sustainable landscape management, and supporting our local community is another great way to be part of the solution.

—Corey Welles Sustainable Plant Care Coordinator



A cover crop, such as white alyssum in the topiary garden, can be ornamental while contributing to improved cultural conditions in the garden.

#### WEEDS

IT DOESN'T MATTER much what kind of weed, or how it is defined, a volunteer plant growing out of place at Lotusland will be controlled for various reasons and by various means. We want to keep the public garden areas as weed-free as possible to show the garden at its best at all times. We manage weeds in the outlying areas to limit their spread into the garden and as part of the Santa Barbara County Fire Department's weed abatement program for fire safety.

In the garden, we try to eliminate weeds as soon as possible because when they are small it is easier to use mechanical means, such as a hula-hoe or hand weeding, to remove them. Maintaining a layer of organic mulch helps to reduce the germination of weed seeds.

At Lotusland, we use products certified as organic by the Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI). When appropriate, we use a citrus oil herbicide. Trained staff members apply the herbicide wearing appropriate safety gear including eye protection. Signs may be present to keep people out of closed areas until the material is dry. The wet material can burn eyes or skin even though it is organic.

Maintaining cover crops is another method of weed control used at Lotusland. Insectary plants in open areas offer competition to weeds and provide screening and habitat for beneficial insects and other wildlife. The garden's biodiversity is increased, and the insectary plants occupy space instead of weeds.

Weeds in turf can be an indication of poor cultural practices. Improving the irrigation and fertilizing program allows the turf to out-compete the weeds. Lotusland's main lawn is a mix of different grasses based on sun and shade, and has some clover that we do not actively try to control. It stays fairly weed-free using a program of regular aerating, screened compost, monitored irrigation and feeding, and mowing with a mulching mower. No herbicides are used on the lawn.

Mechanical controls are employed in the backfield and other areas outside the public garden areas. Gas-powered weed-eaters, a brush mower and a flail attachment on our tractor are used to mow down grasses and weeds that could pose a fire hazard. We also like to keep the weeds from creeping into our compost piles.

Vigilance pays off when it comes to weed abatement.

—Michael Iven



Timely trimming or mowing before weeds have had the chance to set seed helps prevent another generation of weeds.

## Members' Family Day SATURDAY, MAY 3

Lotusland wishes to thank you, our members, for your support by hosting our 16

Generously
Thomas & Nancy Crawford, J.

Activitie:







The Reptile Family Safari Extravaganza will perform in Fantastic face-painting by Anji Lawson, games, activities and crafts from Dress up in jungle-style garb and take home a free souvenir photo take home a free souvenir p

### 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 food trucks between 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM. On average, entrees at all food trucks will cost \$6 to \$12 per person. Sides vary. Cash only.

The Culture Shock menu is Sri Lankan-inspired curry and includes traditional rotis (a flakey flatbread filled with vegan, vegetarian, or spicy chicken curry and lettuce), chicken biriyani (rice bowl), chicken bratwurst sausage on a bun, or a child-plain hot dog.

The Burger Bus menu includes assorted organic burgers, falafel sandwiches, grilled cheese sandwiches, fully-loaded or child-plain hot dogs and sweet potato fries.

The Tiki Tacos menu is Polynesian-inspired and includes beef or chicken tiki tacos or a white rice bowl filled with a choice of beef, chicken or vegetarian with grilled pineapple.

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.

## A Jurassic Adventure!

):00 AM TO 4:00 PM

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

onsored by: Honor of Their Grandchildren

include:







neatre garden • 11:15 AM TO NOON AND 2:15 TO 3:00 PM garden for children and adults on the main lawn • 10:00 AM TO 3:30 PM by "hotographer extraordinaire Bob DeBris • 10:00 AM TO 3:30 PM e .n lawn • NOON TO 2:00 PM

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

Reservation Form

ember Name(s)	Total no. of attendees	_ Phone no
ddress	No. of adults	No. of children 3 to 12
	No. of teens	No. of children 2 and under
nail address	Knowing children's a	ages helps us to plan activities.

'on-refundable Valet Parking Fee:
Enclosed is our family's \$15.00 valet parking fee

We will bring our own picnic
We plan to order from the food trucks

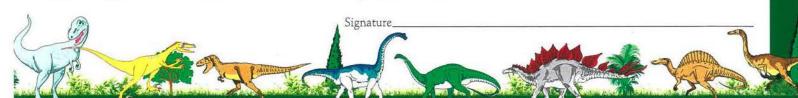
lelay mailing your reservation form!

Payment M	eti	10d	:
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- ☐ Check enclosed payable to Ganna Walska Lotusland
- □ VISA □ MasterCard □ AMEX

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date\_\_\_\_



# Annual Meeting 2012 ACCOMPLISHMENTS HIGHLIGHTED

RESIDENT LARRY DURHAM Welcomed guests to the 2013 Annual Meeting and thanked outgoing trustees Michael Mayfield, Chapin Nolen and John Tilson for their many contributions during their six years of service. Mike was Board Treasurer for two years and was a member of the executive, marketing and finance committees. He and his wife, Amy, are members of the Lotus Society. Chapin was a member of the development, marketing, nominating and governance committees as well as the ad hoc executive director search committee and he co-chaired the very successful 2012 Gifts for the Garden

campaign. John was Board Vice President for one year. He chaired both the management operating and long-range planning committees and served on the executive, facilities and finance committees as well as the ad hoc executive director search committee. Larry welcomed back Geoff Crane as a member of the Board of Trustees. He will be profiled in the summer issue of the Lotusland Newsletter for Members.

Board Treasurer Bill Daugherty gave his report using a PowerPoint presentation. Next Dr. Karl Hutterer, Retired Executive Director of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, gave a



LEFT TO RIGHT: Board President Larry Durham, Executive Director Gwen Stauffer and guest speaker Dr. Karl Hutterer, Retired Executive Director of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History.

provocative talk titled "The Glory of Non-Profits." Executive Director Gwen Stauffer presented "2012 in Review and the State of the Garden." A reception in the pavilion followed the program.

### Lotusland Welcomes Twenty-Three New Docents

28 new docents at a graduation luncheon in their honor recently. Under the leadership of Lotusland's volunteer coordinator, Kitty Thomassin, the new docents successfully completed a rigorous 14-week training program to prepare them to lead public tours of Madame Walska's garden. Instructors included Lotusland staff as well as experts from California academic and horticultural institutions.



LEFT TO RIGHT, FRONT ROW: Jennifer White, Kevin Spracher, Karen Garrolini, Randi Danson, Amelia Horner, Kristin Lewis, Kathryn Li, Mariecristine Dart, Ellen Kramer. SECOND ROW: Anne Chewning, Tom Morey, Dana Doyle, Sue Root, Barbara Nagle Statler, Molly McDonough, Bernadine Oberst, Kathy Hulick, Paige Kaye. THIRD ROW: David Meldrum-Taylor, Ralph Olsen, James Cunningham. NOT PICTURED: Kate Doordan Klavan, Gary Hill.

### Monday Morning Lecture

AQUATIC PLANTS
WITH CURATOR VIRGINIA HAYES
MONDAY, MAY 20 • 9:30 to 11:30 am

HAT ARE THE INTERESTING and amazing adaptations that plants have made to life in and under water? What's the difference between a lotus and a water lily? How do you tell a tropical water lily from a hardy one? And just what is a "bog plant,"

anyway? Join us on May 20 to hear all about aquatic plants from Lotusland's Curator of the Living Collections Virginia Hayes.

This illustrated lecture is part of the continuing education program for Lotusland's docents. Lotusland mem-

bers at the Friend level (\$250) and above are invited to attend at no charge. Others may attend for \$35.

Seating is limited. To reserve a space, please call 805.969.9990. If you wish to upgrade your membership, please call 805.969.3767, extension 120.

### Garden Tour

WITH VIRGINIA HAYES SATURDAY, MAY 25 • 9:00 AM

OIN CURATOR VIRGINIA HAYES for a tour of some local Santa Barbara gardens. Participants will visit several gardens that were burned or partially burned by the Tea Fire. Others have also addressed the issue of planting with fire

safety in mind. See what survives and what does not at these choice gardens.

The bus departs Lotusland at 9:15 AM and returns by 4:00 PM. Please plan on arriving at 9:00 AM to facilitate this early departure. The fee of \$115 for members and \$125 for nonmembers covers transportation, admission and a delicious buffet lunch. Space is very limited and this popular tour fills up quickly. Please call 805.969.9990 to reserve your space.

### Behind-the-Scenes Tour

WITH VIRGINIA HAYES, CURATOR OF THE LIVING COLLECTION SATURDAY, JUNE 15 • 2:30 PM

anna Walska Lotusland offers all Lotus Keeper level members (\$500 Garden Advocate and above) an invitation to attend

a free "Behind-the-Scenes" tour led by Virginia Hayes. The tour leaves the Visitor Center at 2:30 PM with a stop midway for light refreshments.

There is no fee for Lotus Keeper level members; the fee for General members is \$35. Advance reservations are required. Please call 805.969.9990.

### **National Public Gardens Day** FRIDAY, MAY 10

National Public Gardens Day is 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.

Santa Barbara is celebrating throughout the month of May. Visit sbpublicgardens.org to see how.

## Solstice Twilight Tour

SATURDAY, JUNE 22 • 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. Tickets are \$55 for Lotusland members and \$65 for nonmembers. Advance reservations are required and may be made by calling 805.969.9990.



SPACE IS LIMITED—RESERVE YOUR TABLE NOW

SPONSOR \$15,000 (ten tickets, five VIP parking passes and a Sponsor gift)

SUSTAINER \$10,000 (ten tickets, two VIP parking passes and a Sustainer gift)

CONTRIBUTOR \$7,500 (ten tickets, two VIP parking passes and a Contributor gift)

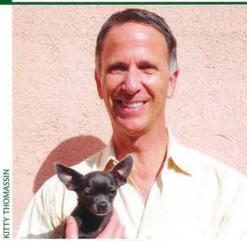
BENEFACTOR \$5,000 (ten tickets, a VIP parking pass and a special gift)

PATRON \$1,000 (two tickets)

INVITATIONS will be mailed in mid-June.

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS (\$300) will be available beginning July 15 as space permits.

CONTACT Courtney Tentler, at 805.969.3767, extension 116 or ctentler@lotusland.org for more information.



Tom Craveiro

OM CRAVEIRO was raised on a farm with cows, cotton, corn and other agricultural crops in the heart of California's Fresno County. By age six, he was driving a tractor and not much later could irrigate fields of alfalfa by himself. Although farming is a way to manage nature, not so different from gardening, Tom says, "Somehow, I never learned to milk the Holstein cows on the farm, perhaps because I was destined to be a gardener."

Tom began his career as an international development consultant in Africa and the Middle East, and in 1995 was with United Nations in Rwanda. He remembers a beautiful garden there

### Volunteer Profile: Tom Craveiro

where he spent his free time. One day, he noticed that the birds that usually sang so brilliantly were quiet. He says, "A few days later, the horrible genocide started, and I was evacuated. I still wonder if the birds sensed something terrible coming."

From building refugee camps in Africa Tom went to building luxury apartments in New York City where he was a construction manager. It was quite a jump, but Tom says he enjoys contrasts.

Fortunately for Lotusland, Tom moved from New York to Santa Barbara three years ago. The first places he visited were Lotusland and the Santa Barbara Botanical Garden (SBBG), and he ended up becoming a volunteer at both—a docent for SBBG and a garden volunteer at Lotusland.

On his first day on the job at Lotusland, Tom was given a pair of shears and careful instructions about artfully pruning nandina in the Japanese garden. He says it was like a dream for him to be gardening at Lotusland. When he was moved to the bromeliad garden the following week, he hoped it wasn't because of something he had

done to the nandinas! Tom has been a garden volunteer for more than two years now and is currently helping in the fern garden and the butterfly garden. You can see him there carefully weeding and pruning. Tom says the cactus garden is one of his favorites because of its dramatic design and overthe-top collection of specimens.

Tom is also a Hospice volunteer and spends three hours a week at Serenity House, mostly visiting with patients and helping them with small tasks. He says he is very grateful to be of service there.

Recently Tom bought a house on Santa Barbara's Riviera and is renovating it in Spanish Revival style. When the construction workers are gone, he plans to start on his own garden, a combination of SBBG and Lotusland, "just the size of a postage stamp."

With the new house and his volunteer work, Tom is very busy. He says he is happy to be settled in Santa Barbara and enjoys walking on the beach with his beautiful chihuahua, Miss Bella.

We are so pleased that Tom chose Lotusland as a place to use his time and talents. Thank you, Tom!

-Kitty Thomassin

### Thank You to Our

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# Help Make Lotusland's Wishes Come True

O 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!

#### TERRA COTTA POTS

Four custom-made terra cotta pots for the Water Garden to replicate the four historic ones from the Gavit family era. \$500 per pot

#### LABEL MACHINE

As a botanic garden, Lotusland strives to maintain current records on all of the plant collections. Each planting is labeled with a permanent, metal tag that is stamped with its name and identifying accession number. We have not had our own embossing machine for at least 5 years and have had to contract this service out. \$10,000

#### TWO HAND-HELD BLOWERS

\$200 each

### Charles Glass...In His Own Words

PART XIV 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

INCE MME. WALSKA always referred to herself, before we [Charles Glass & Bob Foster] came to work with her, as the "head gardener", when she asked us what time we wanted to come to work each day, we figured if we were to be directly in charge of the gardeners we should arrive when they arrived. We loved gardening, and if there were any complaint about our former nursery business it would have been that it was too successful and that instead of being able to do a fair bit of the work we loved ourselves, we had

to spend more and more of our time delegating work to others.

At Lotusland, when we first got there, with one or two exceptions there were virtually no "gardeners". There were unskilled laborers who only knew how to take instruction from Mme. Walska. We had to try to train these men to become gardeners. One of our first requests or purchase orders was for a dozen copies of "The Sunset Gardening Book" to distribute among the "gardeners". And we figured we'd get down with them and "stick our

hands in the dirt", partly because we wanted to and partly because it seemed the best way to show them how. At one level Mme. Walska appreciated what we were doing and trying to accomplish, but at the same time she began to think of us more as gardeners than directors. We realized that we had to assume more of a supervisorial

#### **NEXT TIME**

More stories from the Glass memoir. —Excerpts edited by Virginia Haves

### Decorate Your Garden with a Bit of Madame Walska's Whimsical Flair

VER THE YEARS people have asked how they could purchase one of the grotesques that live in Lotusland's theatre garden for their own garden.

Now, exclusively at Lotusland, a limited number of the first in a series of re-creations of Madame Walska's grotesques are available in the Garden Shop. For this first re-creation, we chose a grotesque that originally dwelled in the gardens of Madame Walska's chateau at Galluis in France. Today its particularly impish affect delights children and adults alike as they discover him nestled in the hedges of Lotusland's theatre garden.

The replica has the same appearance

of the original as it stands now in the garden, with evidence of a past, including the broken bits and time worn surface. The statue is 2/3 size, measuring 23 inches tall, and may be purchased with or without a Lotusland pedestal that stands 11 inches tall and is 12 inches by 12 inches square.

Lotusland commissioned sculptor Bruce Lau, mold-maker Doug Hild and finisher Debbie Hild to produce the series. The grotesque is \$1,500 and the pedestal is \$300; they are sold separately.

For more information, contact Garden Shop Manager Karen Kester at kkester@lotusland.org or 805.324.8417.





#### SAVE THE DATE

### **Exceptional Plants:** Auction and Sale SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

2 TO 5 PM

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.

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

## Membership Corner

GARDEN CULTIVATOR LEVEL MEMBERS (AND ABOVE) MAY HAVE A PICNIC IN THEIR FAVORITE GARDEN AT LOTUSLAND

OW THAT SPRING is in the air, what better way to celebrate than with a picnic at Lotusland! Starting at the Garden Cultivator Level, this one-time use privilege of hosting a picnic at Lotusland comes free for up to 10 people. Now you can share the sights and sounds that Lotusland has to offer while enjoying your favorite picnic items.

Not at the Garden Cultivator level? It's easy to upgrade your existing membership with our prorated system.

Please call Member Services at 805.969.3767 to learn more about how to plan your picnic.

## Lotusland Gratefully Acknowledges Donations

DECEMBER 2012, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2013

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### WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS WHO JOINED IN DECEMBER 2012, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2013

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### Renewing Lotus Keeper Members DECEMBER 2012, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2013

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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.



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### Spring and Summer 2013 Member Events

Many Lotusland events are open to nonmembers, so please let your friends and neighbors know about the great activities we offer.

Saturday, April 13

Bees Circling Heaven 3:00 PM See details on page 5.

Thursday, April 18

Inside the Swarm: Get the Buzz!
Tour with Curator Nancy Gifford
4:30 TO 6:30 PM
Exclusively for Lotus Society
members. For information about
the Lotus Society, please call Anne
Dewey at 805.969.3767.

Saturday, May 4

Cacti and Cocktails 3:00 TO 6:00 PM See details on page 5.

Friday, May 10

National Public Gardens Day See details on page 11.

Saturday, May 11

Mother's Day Tour and Tea 1:30 TO 4:00 PM See details on page 5. Saturday, May 18

Members' Family Day:
A Jurassic Adventure!
10:00 AM TO 4:00 PM
See details on pages 8 and 9.
Please return coupon on page 9 to register.

Monday, May 20

Monday Morning Lecture
Aquatic Plants with Virginia Hayes
9:30 TO 11:30 AM
See details on page 10.

Saturday, May 25

Garden Tour with Virginia Hayes 9:00 AM TO 4:00 PM See details on page 11.

Sunday, June 9

Lotus Society Annual Recognition Luncheon at a spectacular private home and garden 11:30 AM TO 2:00 PM For information about the Lotus Society, please call Anne Dewey at 805.969.3767.

Saturday, June 15

Behind-the Scenes tour with Virginia Hayes 2:30 PM See details on page 11. Saturday, June 22

Solstice Twilight tour 3:30 PM TO 6:30 PM See details on page 11.

Saturday, July 13

LotusFest!
2:00 TO 5:00 PM
See details on page 4.

Sunday, July 28

Lotusland Celebrates
Romancing the Garden
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.

Swarm: A Collaboration with Bees will be on view in the pavilion through May 4.

For more information, see page 4. Please call 805.969.9990 to see this very special exhibition.