



LOTUSLAND

NEWSLETTER VOLUME 26 NO. 2 SPRING 2017

Lotusland's Nursery: Where the Future Happens

BY PAUL MILLS

THE NURSERY at Lotusland is where the future happens and the next generation of plants is started. Nursery operations are one of the many crucial behind-the-scenes operations at Lotusland. Our globally important plant collections rely on the nursery as a fundamental pillar of support for building and caring for these collections. The nursery supports many diverse aspects of Lotusland operations, including producing plants for the gift shop and for the Fourth Grade Outreach Program; acting as a hospital for declining plants from the collections; and introducing new plants to the garden. They also manage much of the extraordinary *Exceptional Plants: Lotusland Auction & Sale* event, to be held this year on Saturday, October 7.

It's hard to be sure what existed at Lotusland in the way of a nursery when Madame Ganna Walska bought the property in 1941. There are remnants of

Continued on page 2



The greenhouse at Lotusland is the backbone of nursery operations. Housed in this climate-controlled environment are plants in varying stages of development from sprouting seeds to plants ready for the garden.

IN THIS ISSUE

Lotusland's Nursery: <i>Where the Future Happens</i>	1	Japanese Lantern Exhibit <i>Begins the Preliminary Phase of the Japanese Garden Renovation</i>	9	Cacti and Cocktails	15
Director's Letter	4	ADOPT-A-LANTERN	9	Mother's Day Tea and Tour	15
Lotusland Featured in <i>Garden Design Magazine</i>	4	Members' Family Day	10	A Compost Tea Party <i>A Focus Tour of Lotusland's Compost Tea Program Exclusively for Garden Lover Members</i>	15
Horticultural Happenings	5	In Memoriam: Bruce Wingfield Van Dyke 1922-2016	12	June Solstice Twilight Tour	16
Collections News <i>The Golden Fuchsia</i>	6	New Employees	13	Summer Bounty Dinner	16
Lotusland Welcomes 18 New Docents	6	March for Science and Earth Day	14	LotusFest!	16
Virginia Hayes Retires	7	Help Make Lotusland's Wishes Come True	14	Thank You to Our Garden Champions, Garden Visionaries, Garden Stewards and Garden Guardians	16
Donor Profile: David & Judy Jones	8	Lotusland Celebrates: <i>Avant Garden</i>	14	New in the Garden Shop	17
Giving Life Insurance <i>One of the Most Satisfying Ways to Donate</i>	8				

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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.



This *Zamia integrifolia* was grown from seed received from Montgomery Botanical Center in Coral Gables, Florida.

Continued from page 1

a greenhouse (the foundation) that burned in the 1964 Coyote Fire at the north end of the property. Prior to our current greenhouse, two dilapidated wood and glass greenhouses were in its place that could possibly have pre-dated 1941.

Current nursery facilities consist of one greenhouse, various shade structures and a couple of hoop houses that are at best adequate, but need updating. The nursery is dependent upon volunteers for maintenance, watering, weeding and plant production, and they alone produce almost 3,000 plants needed for the educational outreach program. All the plants in the nursery are tracked by the curation department, and we continually update the security

systems that are in place to protect these valuable plants.

Lotusland propagates from many of the plants that date to the original commercial nursery on the property that belonged to Ralph Kinton Stevens in the 1880s. We have produced second generations of the two oldest *Jubaea chilensis* (Chilean wine palm) on the property that tower over the Sycamore Canyon gate. We grow seedlings of the centuries-old *Dracaena draco* (dragon trees), although it's sometimes hard to tell where Stevens' end and Ganna Walska's begin, and we have a handful of saplings of the stately Monterey cypress of the Great Lawn.

As plants senesce (deteriorate with age), they often become vulnerable to attack from pathogens or pests. It is important for these plants to be identified early so an attempt can be made to save them either by bringing the entire plant to the nursery or by propagating from seed or a cutting. It was recently observed that a large plant of *Euphorbia canariensis* on the main drive had lost its roots because of oak root rot fungus (*Armillaria* sp.). In this case, there was no hope of saving the entire plant so cuttings were taken to the nursery and re-rooted in pumice beds.

Through Lotusland's many collaborations, we often receive seed or young plants that are new to the collections or have a more detailed provenance. Some of these seeds or plants may not be destined for the garden for another ten or more years, needing to be nurtured



Encephalartos seedlings destined for the Garden Shop.

and grown in the nursery. For example, Lotusland is part of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Plant Rescue program, and we received 20 confiscated seeds of a rare central African cycad 11 years ago that are still being grown to a size that will be adequate to plant in the garden.

Lotusland has a long and close relationship with Kirstenbosch Botanic Garden in Cape Town, South Africa. Many plants have been grown here from seed provided by Kirstenbosch dating back to the early 1990s, including *Strelitzia reginae* 'Mandela's Gold' that is found at the top of the Parterre behind the Main House. We received this seed in 1997, just three years after the initial introduction of this gold-flowered form of the bird of paradise.

In 2011, thanks to a generous donation from Lotusland benefactor Paul Glenn, three individuals of a critically endangered South African cycad were purchased from Kirstenbosch as part of a species survival program where the money from the purchase of these plants will directly benefit the plant in the wild. These plants are being grown in the nursery until they are large enough to go into the garden.

Another important collaboration is with the Montgomery Botanical Center (MBC) in Florida. MBC is known for its extensive research on palms and cycads with the majority of its plant collections consisting of wild collected material. Lotusland has received a number of palm and cycad seeds over the years



Lotusland's nursery provides succulents that are given to the students who visit with the Fourth Grade Outreach Program.

from MBC including *Zamia antillarum*, the zombie palm, and *Copernicia alba*, the Caranday wax palm, which were grown in the nursery and are now on display in the Palmetum.

Recently, we received seed from Montgomery Botanical Center of *Zamia integrifolia*, which is the only cycad native to the United States, with a range that stretches from Florida, south into the Caribbean. Although not new to our collections, what is interesting about this seed is that it came from the

northwesterly most limit of the range of this species in Taylor County, Florida, near the Panhandle.

Plants with known provenance, or field collection data, provide the most scientific, educational and conservation value to botanic garden collections. Lotusland has been part of two joint cycad collecting trips to Mexico with MBC and Mexican institutions in 2001 to collect plants of *Ceratozamia* and in 2004 to collect seed of *Dioon*. Plants and seeds are treated differently upon arrival, but they were nurtured in the nursery for years until they could be incorporated into the cycad garden.

In 2011, the nursery at Lotusland produced seed of the critically endangered cycad *Encephalartos heenanii* for the first time ever in the United States—one of our nursery's greatest accomplishments to date. So far one plant has been shared with the University of California Botanical Garden at Berkeley, and we plan to share one with MBC in the near future. We are in conversations with colleagues in South Africa about repatriating some of these plants to the wild.

The role of a botanic garden will always be that of a place for pleasure and relaxation, but plant conservation depends on botanic gardens, and botanic gardens depend on their nurseries to help safeguard global plant diversity.



This shade house provides filtered light for begonias and ferns.

Horticultural Happenings

LOTUSLAND ROSES FEEDING TIME IN THE ROSE GARDEN

SPRING IS FERTILIZING TIME and feeding is on every rose lover's mind. It's easy to get excited knowing those gorgeous flowers are on their way in just a few weeks. First we must determine the best organic fertilizer for the garden. At Lotusland, we do everything possible to keep the roses blooming and the soil alive by feeding the plants healthy organic materials like alfalfa, fish and kelp. Soil organisms recognize these natural materials, consume them and convert them into usable nutrients. It's these organisms in the soil that best orchestrate rose feeding. Without robust soil ecology and organic inputs, the roses would have to be fed with chemicals every couple of weeks. Chemical fertilizers bypass much of the natural process and actually bleach the soil, reducing its life. You may get a big push of growth using chemicals, but bugs and disease are likely to follow. Organic fertilizers and the associated microbes evenly feed the roses throughout the entire year, strengthening the roots and leaves and producing strong luxurious plants. Fine-textured mulch is applied over the organic fertilizer twice a year to seal in the moisture, allowing



Mike Furner and Bruno Reginato combine for more than seven decades in the garden.

worms and other organisms to move around the root zone. Having a complete program for rose feeding and soil ecology that is performed once in spring and again in late summer makes rose gardening more manageable and creates a truly sustainable rose bed.

—Corey Welles

FIXTURES IN THE GARDEN

MIKE FURNER'S AND BRUNO REGINATO'S tenure is more than seven decades of working at Lotusland, both having

been in the garden when Ganna Walksa was living.

Mike started in 1977 and was originally hired to move numerous cycads including the awesome responsibility of transplanting the three precious *Encephalartos woodii*. He says he "made the biggest root balls he could think of and thank goodness Madame liked where they were planted." Mike has worked in almost every capacity in the garden and can now be found nurturing and caring for his beloved bromeliads, on which he has developed an expert's warehouse of knowledge.

Bruno Reginato began working at Lotusland in 1979, brought on board by his uncle, longtime Lotusland gardener Mario Franceschini, which gives him the status of being second generation in the garden. Bruno has worked in nearly every garden on the property. In addition to contributing to all team projects, he focuses on the *Dracaena* Circle and the courtyard in front of the house.

When you see Mike or Bruno in the garden, after congratulating them on their amazing careers at Lotusland, ask them if they might share with you a Madame story from years gone by.

Lotusland is grateful for their extraordinary dedication and is fortunate not only for their horticulture expertise, but for their vital link to the history and lore that make this garden so magnificent.



A healthy rose produces more blooms and is better equipped to ward off pathogens.

COLLECTIONS NEWS

The Golden Fuchsia

IN 1976, while studying the flora of Chiapas, Mexico, Dennis Breedlove of the California Academy of Sciences came across a group of plants with vivid gold flowers that he had not previously seen in his travels. He referred to it as “unknown *Rubiaceae*”



The Golden Fuchsia (*Deppea splendens*) has attractively ribbed bright green leaves.

until 11 years later when, together with David Lorence of the University of Hawaii, he described it as a new species called *Deppea splendens*.

One year prior to formally describing the species, Mr. Breedlove returned to the site where the plant had been collected only to find it converted to agriculture. Having been the only known stand of *Deppea splendens*, it was believed to be extinct in the wild. Seed had been collected and distributed, but only seven individuals (clones) were known to exist in 2000, three of which were propagated and distributed by Pacific Plant Promotions, which is a collaboration between the Huntington Botanic Garden, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden and Pacific Horticulture. Mildred E. Mathias Botanic Garden at UCLA went on to produce seed by cross pollinating the individual plants, and there is hope that some of these plants can be used for reintroduction of *D. splendens* into its native habitat.

The genus *Deppea* is relatively small with about 25 species that are found in the American tropics from southern Mexico to Brazil. *D. splendens*, or golden fuchsia, is a highly ornamental



Look for this *Deppea splendens* in the Fern Garden at Lotusland this spring.

plant that is not actually related to fuchsias, but its pendant flowers with petals that recurve at the tip very much resemble those of fuchsias.

A native of the cloud forests of Chiapas, this mountain dweller is well suited to coastal California's cool climate, wanting some cover to protect from hotter mid-day sun and drying winds. Look for *Deppea splendens* in the Fern Garden this spring. —Paul Mills

Lotusland Welcomes 18 New Docents

LOTUSLAND RECENTLY graduated 18 new docents. After completing a rigorous 10-week course of study, this group of dedicated and enthusiastic individuals is ready to lead tours, interpret the exotic plant collections and share the fascinating history of the garden. The extensive docent training program provides top-notch lectures, guest speakers, classes and training over a four-month period.

Our next docent training program begins in September 2017. For more information, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Kitty Thomassin at 805.969.3767 ext. 112.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Lynne Cummings, Elisabeth Soth, Lynn Johnson, Sally Jones, Debra Lorier, Roberta Collier, Rebecca Flynn, Ginette Watson, Gail Herson, Alicia Sorkin, Lisa Cobb, Shela West, Carol Prentice, Marie Tuohey-Mote. NOT PICTURED: Mary Jane Buchanan, Linda Conger, Zita Greenup, Monica Norwood.

Virginia Hayes Retires

VIRGINIA HAYES, Curator of the Living Collection, retired this spring after a remarkable career at Lotusland that spanned 25 years. Building on a Master's degree in Evolutionary Biology from the University of California Santa Barbara (of course with an emphasis on the lotus—*Nelumbo nucifera*), her life's accomplishments are prodigious;

Virginia's highest curatorial priorities were to expand and preserve the amazing historic collections, and the international recognition that has been bestowed on Lotusland is to some degree the result of her work. She has represented Lotusland at International Conferences on Cycad Biology in Australia, Mexico, Panama, China and Vietnam and at the 1998 Botanic Gardens Conservation International Congress in Capetown, South Africa.

Virginia is a prolific writer. She has authored articles in every Lotusland Newsletter for the past 25 years, contributed to the publication of numerous books including *Ganna Walska Lotusland Collections and Horticulture*, co-authored with Steven Timbrook, and *The Garden Gourmet*, an organic gardening book published by Barron's. She has written for *Pacific Horticulture*, hundreds of columns for the *Santa Barbara Independent* dating back to 1999 and the list goes on.

Virginia started at Lotusland in 1992. She applied for a job as the water gardener, but was deemed overqualified and was hired instead as Associate Curator. Soon thereafter, she took up residence at Lotusland, living in what was originally called the dormitory, a small quaint cottage that sits on the north side of the house—a home in the garden at Lotusland. Steve Timbrook, Lotusland Director Emeritus, originally hired Virginia and describes her as “bringing to the position a wide knowledge of the plant groups most important to Lotusland. It took very little time for me to realize what a great addition she was to Lotusland's horticultural staff.”

One of her most far-reaching accomplishments has been preparing docents to lead tours. Virginia helped develop curriculum, planned the courses and has trained every docent since

1992. Her encyclopedic knowledge was daunting, and many wondered how could they ever do justice to the garden the way Virginia does. In her always calm, reassuring way, she would simply advise, “Let the garden speak for itself.”

Executive Director Gwen Stauffer describes Virginia's contributions this way: “She applied her incredible knowledge of plants to build these outstanding collections, and her passion for sharing her knowledge with others helped make Lotusland an important resource both locally and internationally.”

Virginia was the go-to person to show the garden to influential visitors. Martha Stewart was charmed to such a degree that Lotusland was featured on the cover of her magazine. Anne Dewey, who worked with Virginia for 25 years, shared the story of a visit by the Royal Family of Qatar for what, at their request, was to be a 45-minute tour. When Virginia returned, three hours later, she had the entire group laughing, asking endless questions and impressed to the degree that they made a very generous donation.

Virginia's neighbor and co-worker for 25 years, Mike Iven, held Virginia in the highest regard. “Virginia's plant expertise was an invaluable asset to all programs and just as important was her knowledge of Ganna Walska and Lotusland's history. Her input was

critical as the staff worked to develop a healthy, site-specific horticultural program while remaining true to Madame's creation and vision.”

Virginia's research and archival examination of the life of Ganna Walska benefited the organization by providing a more insightful understanding of the intellectual power and passions behind our original benefactor. Madame's unique personality and remarkable life story were things she absorbed, studied and perhaps even embodied to a degree, by living in a small house in Madame's treasured garden for more than two decades.

Lotusland Research Associate Jeff Chemnick speaks of “Virginia's impeccable reputation and her comforting “Mother Earth” aura, which assured everyone that everything was going to be alright. She was always striving to protect the integrity of the gardens, the quality of the horticulture and the historical perspective that embodied Madame Ganna Walska's vision...this was the work ethic that became synonymous with Virginia Hayes.”

Teacher, mentor, author, plant-geek, photographer, environmentalist, mother, scientist, web-master and friend. Virginia's wonderful spirit and amazing breadth of knowledge are quite irreplaceable, and Lotusland will be forever grateful for all she has done for the garden.

—Bob Craig



Virginia Hayes retired this spring after a remarkable career at Lotusland that spanned 25 years.

DONOR PROFILE

David & Judy Jones

"We feel so fortunate to have such a world-class botanical garden in our neighborhood. There was so much thought that went into the design and development of Lotusland that we wanted to help insure its future for many generations." —David and Judy Jones

DAVID AND JUDY JONES discovered Santa Barbara on a coastal drive from San



Francisco to San Diego in the early 2000s. Captivated by Santa Barbara, they decided to return for a month the next year to explore the area. What was meant to be a temporary stay ended in a home purchase and resulted in a love affair with our city that has been going strong for nearly 20 years. Today, the Joneses split their time between Santa Barbara and their native Naples, Florida, where they support scholarships for local students.

As residents, being philanthropic in the community was equally important. Upon introduction to Lotusland, they were awestruck by its beauty and became more involved by attending

Lotusland events and visiting the gardens. Recently, Judy and David have generously invested in Lotusland with a gift of life insurance, a tool he is familiar with as a wealth advisor specializing in estate planning and insurance. David hosts informational seminars relative to this subject, and he has offered his expertise to help provide information and insightful strategy for Lotusland supporters.

Judy and David wish to support Lotusland so it remains vibrant long after their lifetimes and are excited about the experience and education Lotusland offers Santa Barbara residents and visitors alike.

Giving Life Insurance

ONE OF THE MOST SATISFYING WAYS TO DONATE

LIFE INSURANCE can be a tool with many purposes. When your children were young, you may have purchased policies to provide them with financial protection in case something should happen to you or your spouse. Many retirees have purchased life insurance in the past to help their heirs pay their estate tax bills. Exemptions have risen dramatically over the years from \$600,000 to \$5,500,000 per person, and many families find that they no longer need the coverage. Have your circumstances changed? If so, you might be interested in one of the most satisfying uses for life insurance that you no longer need—donating it to Lotusland. A gift of life insurance creates leverage for your gift as well as possible income and estate tax savings. Here are three ways to arrange this gift.

1. Give an existing policy

WHEN YOU CHOOSE to name Lotusland as the policy owner and beneficiary, you receive an immediate income tax charitable deduction. If premiums are still payable on the policy, you would

continue to pay the premiums (if needed) and would receive additional income tax deductions each year for these payments. At your passing, Lotusland receives the death benefit income tax free, and it will not be taxed in your estate!

2. Retain ownership of an existing policy and make Lotusland the beneficiary

IF YOU WOULD rather retain ownership of a policy for your own financial security or that of others, you have the following options.

Name Lotusland as the primary beneficiary, while retaining the right to change the beneficiary as owner of the policy.

This option does not produce a current income tax charitable deduction, but any amounts payable to Lotusland at your death will not be subject to federal estate tax and will not be included in your estate. This gives you flexibility in future planning just in case your financial situation changes.

3. Create a new policy for future charitable gifts

YOU CAN BUY a new policy and name

Lotusland as the owner and beneficiary. All premiums paid by you (which would go to us first, and we would pay the premium) would be tax deductible. People are living longer and life insurance rates have fallen dramatically over the past 30 years. Most large carriers will issue new policies on insureds up to age 85 at very competitive rates.

It is possible to also buy a second-to-die policy on yourself and your spouse, creating further leverage and lower premiums. We have also seen some donors choose to insure their children or grandchildren to keep the premiums as low as possible (or in case the older donor may not be insurable).

FIND OUT MORE

WHEN CONSIDERING any of these charitable arrangements, it is especially critical to have a skilled planning team with expertise in finance, law, taxes and life insurance. We are happy to answer any questions regarding charitable giving that you or your advisor may have. For more information, please call Rebecca Anderson at 805.969.3767 ext. 104 or email her at randerson@lotusland.org.

Japanese Lantern Exhibit

BEGINS THE PRELIMINARY PHASE OF THE JAPANESE GARDEN RENOVATION

FOR THE PAST few months, Lotusland's staff has taken advantage of the winter season to execute preparatory tasks that must be completed well before the heavy work of the Japanese Garden Renovation project can begin. The timing was extremely critical for most of these tasks. The koi fish prefer to be moved when the weather is cool, before they spawn. The niwaki sculpted trees—many of them started by Frank Fujii, Ganna Walska's gardener and co-designer—had to be dug up and boxed during their winter dormancy. The trees will be returned to their original positions in the garden near the end of the project, and the koi will be returned to the pond as well.

Another critical task was moving the Japanese stone lanterns out of the garden to prevent any damage to them during the renovation. Ganna Walska amassed more than 30 Japanese stone lanterns, or *ishi-dōrō*, to embellish her Japanese stroll garden. The lanterns were placed in appropriate locations by Walska and Fujii, each according to their purpose. Set with stones or wash basins and an arrangement of plants, they fit seamlessly as an important garden ornament. This winter, the lanterns have been carefully cataloged, along with their accompanying rocks, basins and plants, so that they can be returned to their original positions to complete the renovation at the end of 2018.

We took advantage of the need to move Walska's exquisite and historic lantern collection to showcase them, all together for the first time, in the stunning *Ishi-Dōrō of Lotusland* exhibit along the main drive, opposite the Japanese Garden. Walska's *ishi-dōrō* collection includes stone lanterns of many styles and purposes, representing many different periods in Japanese history and culture. While the provenance of these lanterns cannot be verified, records indicate that some of them were acquired from the Japanese gardens of local Montecito estates, some of which were dismantled during World War II as a show of patriotism. It is likely that some came directly from Japan, possibly

for the Japanese Emperor's exhibit at the 1904 World Exposition in St. Louis, which were subsequently sold to merchants and wealthy patrons.

The *Ishi-Dōrō of Lotusland* exhibit is temporary, but will remain in place

while the Japanese Garden undergoes the urgent renovation to repair water features, rebuild the path system to make the garden fully accessible, restore original plantings and fulfill Walska's and Fujii's vision for the garden.



Lotusland is most grateful to Montecito Bank & Trust for their support as presenting sponsor for the Ishi-Dōrō of Lotusland exhibit.

ADOPT-A-LANTERN

Permanent naming opportunities for elements of the Japanese Garden are available, including individual lanterns, through a gift of \$10,000 each.

Each sponsored lantern will feature the donor's preferred name listed on a beautifully engraved plate.

Individual, foundation, honorary and memorial listings are welcome.

Only 30 lanterns are available for naming, and they are being chosen on a first-come-first-served basis.

To be a part of this effort or adopt a lantern in the exhibit or make a donation to the Japanese Garden Renovation, please contact Rebecca Anderson at randerson@lotusland.org.

Learn more about the Japanese Garden Renovation at www.Lotusland.org.

Members' Family Day • A Magical Garden!

SATURDAY, MAY 20 • NOON TO 4:00 PM

Lotusland wants to thank you, our members, for your support by hosting our 20th annual Members' Family Day. All members are invited, especially children of all ages!



Generously Sponsored by
Thomas & Nancy Crawford, Jr. in Honor of Their Grandchildren

Activities will include:



Mr. Funn presents a family-friendly magic act and balloon art entertainment in the Theatre Garden • 1:30 TO 2:15 PM and again at 2:45 TO 3:30 PM
Dress up in magical-themed costumes and pose for your free souvenir photo taken by photographer extraordinaire Bob DeBris • NOON TO 3:30 PM
On the Great Lawn, everyone can enjoy activities and crafts, face painting by Anji Lawson and the giant mural created by Kathy Mills • NOON TO 3:30 PM

Garden Admission to Members' Family Day IS FREE!



You must reserve space for your family by mailing in the reservation form,
along with a non-refundable vehicle fee of \$15.

Due to the popularity of this event and to allow as many members as possible to attend,
Lotusland requests one vehicle per membership.

Members are welcome to bring family or friends, but please leave four-legged friends at home.
Don't have enough room in your vehicle? Please consider asking your guests to become members
and purchase their own vehicle pass. All vehicles are valet parked.

Mail your reservation form early to assure your attendance as this event often quickly fills to capacity.

No phone or email reservations, please.

Call Member Services 805.969.3767 ext. 120 or ext. 115 if you have questions
or need a membership brochure mailed to be able to include more guests.

Bring your own lunch basket and enjoy a picnic on the lawn!
Remember: No food will be available to purchase.

Complimentary lemonade, iced tea, juice boxes and water will be available all afternoon.
Enjoy a complimentary ice cream cone served on the main house patio from 1:00 TO 3:00 PM.
A limited number of picnic blankets will be available, or you can bring your own.



☐ Enclosed is our family's non-refundable one vehicle
fee of \$15.

**We know to bring our lunch basket if we choose!
There will be no food to purchase.**

All vehicles are valet parked;
no neighborhood parking allowed.

Complimentary assorted drinks will be available all afternoon.

**Don't delay mailing your reservation form
as this event always fills to capacity.**

Reservation Form

Member Name(s) _____ Total no. in vehicle _____

Street Address _____ No. of adults _____ No. of children 3 to 12 _____

City _____ Zip _____ No. of teens _____ No. of children 2 and under _____

Best Email Address _____ Knowing children's ages helps us to plan activities.

Best Phone Number _____

Payment Method:

☐ Check # _____ enclosed
made payable to Ganna Walska Lotusland

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ AMEX ☐ Discover

Card Number _____

Exp. Date _____ Security Code _____

Signature _____



In Memoriam: Bruce Wingfield Van Dyke

1922–2016

BRUCE VAN DYKE grew up in Fallbrook, California, and attended UCLA before joining the Army Air Corps during World War II. He was a bomber pilot who trained cadet pilots and bombardiers.

He married his college sweetheart, Miki Harkness, and when the war ended, he resumed his studies at UCLA. Bruce changed his major from physics to subtropical horticulture, and his life revolved around plants from then on. After graduating from UCLA in 1948, he moved with his young family to Carpinteria to take a job as an instructor at Santa Barbara Junior College.

Bruce eventually started his own horticultural services company offering grafting, pruning, spraying and consult-

ing services. He was involved in almost every aspect of gardening and horticulture in the community. Bruce was a horticulturist at Lotusland for more than 20 years. Current Lotusland volunteer and retired Santa Barbara County Agricultural Commissioner Bill Gillette recalls a time when Bruce phoned him about a rust fungus in the Aloe Garden at Lotusland. It turned out to be *Uromyces aloes*—rare and potentially very damaging. Bruce immediately removed all the infected plants and, in Bill Gillette's estimation, saved the Aloe Garden and potentially kept the rust from spreading throughout the state.

Bruce worked in all sorts and sizes of gardens, and there are trees in backyards all over Santa Barbara that he

grafted, gardeners throughout the county who learned how to prune their fruit trees from him, and countless friends who remember him for his good humor, kindness and love of plants.

He was generous with his time and knowledge. Bruce taught popular education classes in home gardening, wrote a garden column for the *Santa Barbara News-Press* for 33 years and managed both the Santa Barbara Orchid Show for 21 years and Santa Barbara Flower and Garden Show for 5 years. He was a board member and president of Santa Barbara Beautiful, served as a City Parks Commissioner for 18 years, was a member of the City Street Tree Advisory Committee for 25 years and was a trustee of the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden. When the city of Santa Barbara stopped pruning the rose garden on the Mission lawn, he drafted his good friend Duke McPherson, and the two of them started a volunteer pruning effort that has turned into a Santa Barbara institution in which hundreds of people take part. For all this, he received many awards and acknowledgements including the Heritage Oak Award from Santa Barbara Beautiful for lifetime achievement.

He was also an avid hiker and made many summer trips to the Sierra Nevada. He swam regularly at the YMCA, where he made many friends. Bruce and Miki traveled extensively in Latin America, South East Asia and Africa. He loved snorkeling, photography and, of course, his own home gardens. Miki Van Dyke died in 1996 and Bruce married Dorchen Forman in 2003. He lived the remainder of his life with Dorchen in her beautiful Goleta home surrounded by fruit trees and flowers.

Bruce is survived by his wife Dorchen, daughter Christopher, son Peter, grandchildren Papaya and Nicholas, six great-grandchildren and many dear friends.

The family wishes to acknowledge with gratitude the loving care provided to him at the end of his life by Elza Hernandez and her caregiver team, and in his last days by Santa Barbara Visiting Nurse and Hospice Care.



New Employees

AS WE EMBARK ON ANOTHER EXCITING SPRING SEASON,
LOTUSLAND IS PLEASED TO WELCOME SIX NEW FACES TO OUR STAFF

GENNY BOLTON



GENNY HAS JOINED the Development team as Database Coordinator and Development Assistant. A Santa Barbara native and descendant of the Montecito Cota family, Genny brings much valuable experience to her position, as well as a love for nature and our beautiful coast. Most recently, Genny worked with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) and held a prior position in Development with the Alzheimer's Association.

TARA TAYLOR



TARA RECENTLY BECAME one of the new Lotusland Membership Assistant duo. She hails from Portland, Oregon, where she studied English and creative writing. With a resume full of customer service experience, Tara is excited to contribute to a team with the like-minded goal of preserving not only the amazing force of nature, but the history of the people who nurtured it along the way. Tara hails from a family of landscape architects and has enjoyed visiting gardens throughout the Pacific Northwest.

GRACE CISEK



GRACE JOINED us as a Membership Assistant. She is a Santa Barbara native who grew up hiking the foothills and spending her weekends at the beach. She graduated from Biola University with a degree in Sociology where she then pursued a career in social work. After traveling and working as a Behavior Specialist, she moved back to her hometown of Santa Barbara. Her experience with people and passion for helping others will come into play as she works with new and renewing members at Lotusland to make sure they have the best experience possible.

NANCY YOKUBAITIS



WHILE NEW TO Visitor Services, Nancy is no stranger to Lotusland, having brought her class to the garden for many years with the Fourth Grade Outreach Program. Nancy taught elementary school in Goleta for more than 30 years and brings with her a wealth of patience and problem-solving expertise that translates very well to the position of helping arrange for members and the public to plan their visits our amazing garden.

TINA MARZIO



YOU WILL FIND Tina at the Visitor Center kiosk this season when you first arrive at Lotusland. We are fortunate that Tina brings many years of kiosk experience from her previous position at El Capitan Canyon. She has worked in the California State Park system and was a Santa Barbara County Parks Ranger for 15 years. You'll often find Tina, a lifetime resident of Santa Barbara County, where she is most happy—outside hiking, surfing and now enjoying Lotusland.

THOMAS BAKER-RABE



NEW TO THE garden staff is Thomas Baker-Rabe. His Santa Barbara City College education focused on modern sustainable practices, integrated pest management, soil ecology, organic horticultural solutions and plant care. Thomas is also a practicing arborist experienced in correct pruning and safety procedures. Previously he worked with Arroyo Seco Construction and gained valuable large-scale project landscape experience. Thomas also enjoys collecting and hybridizing rare and unusual plants.

The March for Science and Earth Day

APRIL 22 AND 23



LOTUSLAND IS PROUD to be participating in the *March for Science* on April 22. Speakers begin at 11:00 AM at De la Guerra Plaza and march begins at noon.

This “celebration of science” is about the very real role that science plays in each of our lives and the need to respect and encourage research that gives us insight into the world. At its core, science is a tool for seeking answers based on empirical research and fact. The march finishes at Alameda Park with the *Earth Day* celebration. Lotusland invites you to join us at the march and please stop by and say hello at our *Earth Day* booth on both Saturday and Sunday.

Lotusland exists at the intersection of science and art.

Help Make Lotusland's Wishes Come True

WATER RESERVOIR

OUR WATER WELL feeds into a reservoir that sits on an adjoining property and dates back more than 100 years. The roof is old and is in need of repair. \$10,800. The system of pipes leading from the reservoir that delivers the water to our property are also old and beginning to fail. \$32,300. Any gift is appreciated.



TO DONATE, please contact Rebecca Annderson, Lotusland Director of Development, at 805.969.3767 ext. 104 or randerson@lotusland.org. Thank you so much to our incredible members who have helped us with our Wish List items—it makes such a big difference in our day-to-day operations, and we are very grateful.



SATURDAY, JULY 29 • 3:30 TO 8:00 PM

Lotusland's signature event, *Lotusland Celebrates: Avant Garden*, our annual fundraising gala, is the hottest ticket of Santa Barbara's summer social scene and is always a sold-out affair.

Space is limited. Pre-sale of tables and patron-level tickets are available now.

Invitations will be mailed to members in mid-June. Individual tickets are available at that time, space permitting.

Reserve your sponsorship now at www.lotusland.org, by emailing ctentler@lotusland.org or by calling Courtney at 805.969.3767 ext. 116

Cacti and Cocktails

SATURDAY, MAY 6

3:00 TO 6:00 PM

ENJOY THE REMARKABLE blooms of the cactus and magnificent epiphyllum on a leisurely garden stroll. Tours are docent-led, or members may self guide. Celebrated mixologists Alvaro Rojas and Kyle Peete of Alcazar and Milk & Honey (joint *Spirit of Lotusland* winners) will serve cactus-inspired cocktails in the garden. Sip prickly libations and enjoy light and tasty fare.

Admission is \$65 for members and \$80 for non-members. Reservations are required and may be made by calling 805.969.9990.



Share a spectacular late afternoon in the garden with delicious craft cocktails and enjoy light and tasty fare.



Celebrating Mother's Day—the Saturday before Mother's Day—on Lotusland's Great Lawn.

Mother's Day Tea and Tour

SATURDAY, MAY 13 • 1:30 TO 4:00 PM

ONE OF OUR MOST popular events is celebrating mothers and Mother's Day on the Saturday before Mother's Day—by touring the garden and enjoying tea and refreshments on Lotusland's Great Lawn. Tours are docent-led, or members may explore the garden on their own. This is the perfect treat for someone special in your life.

Tickets are \$80 for members, \$90 for non-members and \$40 for children ages 3–12. Advance reservations are required and may be made by calling 805.969.9990.

A Compost Tea Party

A FOCUS TOUR OF LOTUSLAND'S COMPOST TEA PROGRAM
EXCLUSIVELY FOR GARDEN LOVER MEMBERS

TUESDAY, APRIL 11 • 3:00 TO 5:00 PM

JOIN LOTUSLAND's sustainable horticulture expert, Corey Welles, along with special guest, renowned educator and pioneering environmentalist Dr. David White, for an insightful look into Lotusland's compost tea program. We will trek to Lotusland's compost piles for a behind-the-scenes look at how the tea is made, the methods of application and the science behind why it works.

Enjoy light refreshments in the Rose Garden with trustees and staff.

RSVP by April 7 to 805.969.3767 ext. 120 or bleonard@lotusland.org.



Compost teas applied as foliar sprays help suppress fungal diseases and increase plant vigor.



A unique opportunity to experience the garden in the evening while sipping a glass of wine.

June Solstice Twilight Tour

SATURDAY, JUNE 10 • 4:00 TO 6:30 PM

VIEW THE GARDEN in the magical light of late afternoon with blooms and colors that are unique to the season. This popular event invites guests to enjoy the long days of summer.

Non-members reserve a docent-guided tour while members and their guests have the option of exploring the

garden on their own. Wine and light hors d'oeuvres are served from 4:30 to 5:15 PM on the geranium terrace overlooking the main lawn.

Admission is \$70 for members and \$80 for non-members. Reservations are required and may be made by calling Visitor Services at 805.969.9990.

EXCLUSIVE INVITATION FOR GARDEN LOVER MEMBERS

Summer Bounty Dinner

A LOTUSLAND FOOD AND WINE FÊTE

SATURDAY, JUNE 24 • 5:00 TO 8:00 PM

CELEBRATE THE BEAUTIFUL evening light of summer with an intimate dinner served on Lotusland's Great Lawn.

Chef/owner Justin West of Julienne and Wildwood Kitchen will prepare a special menu for this farm-style feast, taking inspiration from the garden and

featuring locally sourced ingredients, including a few from Lotusland's orchards. Jaffurs Wine Cellars will provide the wine pairings.

Invitations will be mailed in May to all *Garden Lover* members.

Cost is \$275 per person (\$175 is



tax-deductible). Space is limited to 30 *Garden Lover* members. Please contact Bambi Leonard at 805.969.3767 ext. 120 or bleonard@lotusland.org to purchase tickets or for more information.



LotusFest!

SATURDAY, JULY 15 • 2:00 TO 5:00 PM

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 • Smooth jazz

Delectable hors d'oeuvres • Lotus viewing • Craft beer

Lotus flowers open during the day and close at night.

Prime viewing time during LotusFest will be until 3:00 or 4:00 PM.

Tickets are \$95 for Lotusland members and \$105 for non-members. To register for this fun and enlightening event, please call 805.969.9990.

Thank You to Our

GARDEN CHAMPIONS

Craig & Susan McCaw
Terrie Thurston, Allied PRA SB

GARDEN VISIONARIES

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Durham
Ted & Coleen Friedel
Jeannette & Christopher Hahn
Lady Ridley-Tree

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Mrs. Anitra P. Sheen
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New in the Garden Shop

SHOP ONLINE AT www.lotuslandshop.org

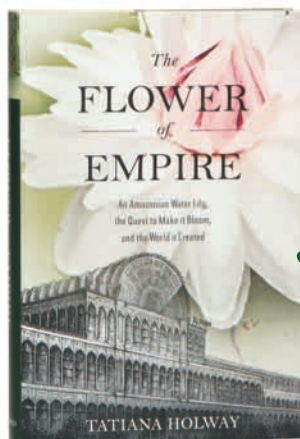
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1



2



3



4



5

1. Lotusland Collection crystal dome lotus paperweight \$42
2. Twig Frog made by local artist \$36
3. *The Flower of Empire* by Tatiana Holway \$29.95
4. Green Lotusland zipper front hoodie sweatshirt \$56
5. Frog on a lily pad bronze plate \$86

Lotusland Gratefully Acknowledges Donations

DECEMBER 2016, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2017

GIFTS FOR THE GARDEN

Stephen Aizenstat & Maren Hansen
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Mr. & Mrs. Marc Appleton
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Mr. Roderick Beattie
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In Memory of Anne K. Borax

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Continued on page 18

Continued from page 17

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Merryl & Chuck Zegar
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30th Year Shell Ag Chem Reunion

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In Honor of Eric Nagelmann

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The Little One Foundation

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Sidney Stern Memorial Trust
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& David G. Johnson Foundation
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Mosher Foundation
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In appreciation of Corey Welles' presentation
Susan Schulman
*In appreciation of Starr Siegel
& Larry Feinberg*
Ms. Hillary Tentler
In appreciation of Sandy Russell

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IN MEMORY OF BARBARA WISELEY

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Jo Ann Mermis
Suzanne Tucker & Timothy Marks

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DECEMBER 2016, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2017

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Mr. Sherman Vincent
Ms. Victoria Ward

Lotusland Members

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS WHO JOINED IN
DECEMBER 2016, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2017

GARDEN LOVERS

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Juliana & Andrea Cairone

ADVOCATE

Holly & Joel Dobberpuhl

Beth Parker

Melissa Stewart

Sheri Wechsler

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Penne & David Mengel

Wendy Nicholson-Martini & Brent Martini

Stephen Sussman & Kelly Watson

Amy Varbel & Matt Stebbins

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Gillian & Michael Amery

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Erik & Jennifer Berg

Penelope Borax & John Donald

Charla Brown & Robert Burnett

Joanne & Bill Burkley

Bryan Chen & Denise Lu

Isabel Chen & Bryan Hofmeister

Nancy Clark & Chris Dewey

Joyce & Chris Clarke

Myriam & Romain Doussineau

Joe & Maria Fazio

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Matthew Foehr & Jane Beatty

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Mari Hand & Marianna Brooks

Hannah Henderson & John Moore

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Marguerita Cobelens

Susan Cottingham

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Dawn Fink

Annette Goena

Matthew Hall

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Jody Dolan Holehouse

Genevieve Holloway

Liz Hunter

Nazia Hussein

Nora Huvelle

Kathy Johnson

Rita Karp

Karen Keller

Jytte Kronberg

Yulia Lennon

Larry Liddle

Kimberly Loiacono

Beebe Longstreet

Susan Lungerhausen

Robin Mandel

Don McDermott

Cindy McGonagle

Jane McGuire

Brooke Miles

Judy Pickering

Sophia Reichert

Melissa Rissman

Adam Roberts

Rose Schwab

Kelly Stella

Nancy Stockmann

Gricelda Torres

Damian Vander Wilt

Marian Weaver

Dorene White

Gilda Winkelmeyer

Members Who Have Increased Their Level of Support

DECEMBER 2016, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2017

GARDEN LOVERS

VISIONARY

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Durham

CONSERVATOR

Carolyn Cooper & Glenn Griffith

CULTIVATOR

Connie & Nigel Buxton

ADVOCATE

Marianne Battistone

& Philip W. Norwood

Sheri Eckmann & William Klansek

Mr. John A. Perez

& Mrs. Ann N. Lowry

Ms. Sandra Russell & Mr. Jim Foster

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FRIEND

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Bruce Berlow & Lee Southerland

Mary Ciotti

Joyce & Chris Clarke

Dr. Jay B. Fortman & Dr. James Fortman

Lisa Skyheart Marshall

& Michael Marshall

James Sabourin

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Schiffmacher

FAMILY

Cass & Tom Ensberg

DUAL

Carolyn L. Williams & Wendy Enbody

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 2017 Member Events

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

Tuesday, April 11

A Compost Tea Party

3:00 TO 5:00 PM

Exclusively for *Garden Lover* members. See details on page 15. Please call 805.969.3767 ext. 120 by April 7 to register.

Saturday, April 22 and Sunday, April 23

The March for Science and Earth Day at Alameda Park

See details on page 14.

Saturday, May 6

Cacti and Cocktails

3:00 TO 6:00 PM

See details on page 15. Please call 805.969.9990 to register.

Saturday, May 13

Mother's Day Tea and Tour

1:30 TO 4:00 PM

See details on page 15. Please call 805.969.9990 to register.

Saturday, May 20

Members' Family Day

NOON TO 4:00 PM

See details on pages 10 and 11. Please use the reservation form to register.

Tuesday, May 30

Blooming Bromeliads Focus Tour

Postcards with details will be mailed to all *Garden Lover* members.

Saturday, June 10

June Solstice Twilight Tour

4:00 TO 6:30 PM

See details on page 16. Please call 805.969.9990 to register.

*Printed on recycled and recyclable paper
with vegetable-based inks*

Saturday, June 24

Summer Bounty:

A Lotusland Food and Wine Fête

Exclusively for *Garden Lover* members. See details on page 16.

Saturday, July 15

LotusFest!

2:00 TO 5:00 PM

See details on page 16. Please call 805.969.9990 to register.

Saturday, July 29

Lotusland Celebrates: Avant Garden

3:30 TO 8:00 PM

See details on page 14.

Arrival Times for Members

AM Visit: Gate opens at 9:30 and closes at 10:00 AM.

PM Visit: Gate opens at 1:00 and closes at 1:30 PM.

Call 805.969.9990 for reservations.