

Ganna
Walska



LOTUSLAND

NEWSLETTER • FALL 2018

FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

A Timeless Masterpiece

LOTUSLAND CELEBRATES

Gems of the Garden



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LETTER FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Members and Friends,

WITH AUTUMN HERE, the gardens of Lotusland take on a subdued personality with the waning sun hanging low in the sky, its softened light cutting through the trees and giving all the plants a gentle aura. In the cacti gardens, the low angle of the sun makes the spines glow. It's magical.



The fall season always feels like a time for reflection, but this year's autumnal transformations in the garden seem particularly metaphoric. Just as we launched Lotusland's 25th anniversary celebrations, our community was struck with the worst disasters in its history. Our community and Lotusland survived but we are forever changed by the "new normal." Likewise, as Lotusland passes the quarter-century benchmark as a public garden, we are not the same — nor should we be.

Psychologist and poet Bonaro W. Overstreet wrote, "October is a symphony of permanence and change." Nature is harmonious in its response to autumn, as most plants engage in a final frenzy of productivity and burst of beauty before settling into a state of dormancy by season's end. The lotuses themselves appear gone, but their tough and tenacious rhizomes are simply resting deep in the mud, waiting for the seasons to cycle and spring's signal to surge with renewed strength and growth.

There is a certain comfort in the reliable repetition of the seasons, yet these reassuring patterns in nature also remind us that change is inevitable, and to *be* permanent, we *must* change.

Now, as we conclude our 25th anniversary, the Lotusland Board and staff are deeply engaged in a strategic planning process concentrated on organizational and programmatic restructures so that we can meet Lotusland's most immediate challenges and opportunities over the next three years. Our focus is on securing Lotusland's financial sustainability to ensure the permanent future of Lotusland – a demanding endeavor given the severe constraints of our Conditional Use Permit. While preserving our core organizational values, we will shed old ways, adopt new ones, and transform our organization. We will be ready to share details of our plans with you at year's end, and then we hope you will join us as we prepare to address the future and the inevitable changes it will bring.

Gwen L. Stauffer
Chief Executive Officer

MISSION

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.

FALL 2018

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LOTUSLAND WELCOMES NEW TRUSTEE ANTHONY GRUMBINE

ANTHONY GRUMBINE, AIA, IS AN ARCHITECT and Principal of Harrison Design's Santa Barbara office, one of eight offices worldwide specializing in high-quality architecture in a range of styles. He received his bachelor's degrees from Carlton University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, in both Architectural Studies and Art History, and a Master of Architecture degree from the University of Notre Dame. In addition to being an architect, Anthony teaches drawing and architecture history at Santa Barbara City College. Anthony serves on the city of Santa Barbara's Historic Landmarks Commission as Vice Chair and Architectural Historian, and is Second Vice President of the Board for the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation. He is active in a range of programs that promote the understanding and appreciation of architecture, including Coalition for Sustainable Transportation walking tours. An accomplished artist in watercolor renderings and architectural drawing, Anthony regularly contributes articles regarding architecture to a number of local publications. He is a "scholar" of George Washington Smith. Anthony has generously provided *pro bono* services over the last two years to modify Lotusland's Visitor Center and guest entry, working closely with Gwen Stauffer and Geoff Crane.



FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

A Timeless Masterpiece

By Gwen Stauffer

LOTUSLAND'S MISSION: *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.*

In these final days of celebrating Lotusland's 25th anniversary as a public garden that is renowned as a "top ten garden of the world," one can't help but wonder if Ganna Walska knew Lotusland would become her masterpiece and her lasting legacy.

In August 1979, as Ganna Walska contemplated the future of her estate, she asserted, *"Time and circumstance permitting, I hopefully dreamt that I might fulfill my work to develop Lotusland to its maximum capacity into the most outstanding center of horticultural significance and of educational use."* This

avowal is one of the few "instructions" we have from her. So busy was she with building the gardens that she did not make time to write down her intentions. The blueprint for the garden was in her head, and she despised the idea of organizing the design of a garden from a drawing on paper. Her scrapbooks and correspondence with friends, and the recollections of individuals who worked with her are the only insights we have

the consternation of her gardeners, often moved established plants in the pursuit of aesthetic perfection. In keeping with the "more is more" philosophy of her friend and contemporary, the costume and movie-set artist Tony Duquette, she arranged plants in generous, compact and embellished masses. This one design principle of planting *en masse*, is key to Lotusland's enchantment. Large clusters of common species planted close together

"Never could I do anything comfortably or halfway."

— GANNA WALSKA

to guide and inspire us in honoring her legacy while at the same time realizing Lotusland's potential.

One clue about Ganna Walska's intentions for Lotusland comes from familiar stories told by many of her collaborators. First, she understood that a garden is never finished. She continuously added new plants and elements to her gardens and, to

in each garden stir marvel and awe, while dense forests of tall trees and palms along the main drive and in various gardens throughout Lotusland invoke the feeling of safety, comfort and tranquility in a timeless green Eden.

Second, Ganna was always seeking new plants to add to the Garden. She was known to frequent nurseries from Santa

Barbara to San Diego, always in search of the latest plant introductions and the newest offerings, buying everything that she did not already have represented in her collections.

Preservation of Ganna Walska's masterpiece is key to our mission, although it is truly impossible to lock a garden into a place in time because plants grow, change and die in the relentless cycle of life. Moreover, we are keenly aware of the Garden's progress through Ganna Walska's inclination for change—constantly adding, often re-arranging, sometimes subtracting, always seeking out the new. This is perhaps the best instruction she could leave us, and it is one that she self-described: *to develop Lotusland to its maximum capacity.*

The mission of Lotusland — and our ongoing challenge — is a complex recipe of preservation, restoration, renovation, enhancement and evolution. We keep one foot firmly planted in history, ever mindful of Ganna's and Lotusland's personal style, as we step into the future with a focus on continuing the development of Lotusland as Ganna would have done. It is critical to the future of the Garden, that Lotusland always be accessible, relevant and inspiring to future generations.

During this 25th anniversary year we looked back on all that we and our predecessors accomplished since Ganna Walska left us to carry on her work. Most gardens have been renovated or restored, and as time goes by and plants die, these treatments will be required again. Even now we are deeply engaged in the largest and most complex project in the history of Lotusland — the Japanese Garden renovation. These were not the only changes — the extensive list of completed capital projects includes major building repairs, office modifications and a visitor center, repair of the motor court, upgrades to the irrigation systems and nursery, expansion of gardens to

make way for increased and growing collections, and construction of a massive floodwater drainage system to protect the Garden. We have enlarged and diversified the plant collections to strengthen Lotusland's purpose as a repository for rare and endangered plant species; we have incorporated sustainable horticulture practices to ensure the best health for our collections, our staff and our guests; and we have established award-winning programs for people of all ages.

Lotusland will continue to evolve in the spirit of Ganna Walska, as we persist with garden renovations and develop new programs that honor her legacy and her dream to keep Lotusland meaningful and inspiring to our present and future community and contemporary world. If she were able to see her beloved garden today, we believe Madame would be thrilled to see how so many people have given so much to insure her timeless masterpiece will thrive for the benefit of many generations.



TOP: Ganna Walska directing a garden staff member.
BOTTOM LEFT: Scrapbooking inspiration for the horticulture clock.
BOTTOM RIGHT: Dragon tree specimens date to the 1800s.

OLIVIA McCANDLESS Sustainable Plant Healthcare Intern

TO WAKE UP EVERY MORNING and find oneself immersed in the magic of Lotusland is an experience difficult to put into words, but one thing is for sure: A summer at Lotusland is a summer like no other. From renovating bromeliad beds to pruning roses, installing drip irrigation and going on nursery visits, I was not only able to further develop my practical horticultural skills during my time here, but I was also able to cultivate a deeper understanding and passion for sustainable horticulture.



For two months I worked alongside Plant Healthcare Coordinator Corey Welles, who was my mentor as I learned Lotusland's approach to sustainable landscape management and plant health. Lotusland

approaches sustainability from the ground up: creating and maintaining proper soil health is the foundation on which to build a long lasting plant collection. Through brewing compost tea, sifting compost and applying mulch, I learned first hand how to amend soil to create a healthy belowground ecosystem of microbes and nutrients. Healthy soil grows healthy plants, and healthy plants can better self mitigate any pests and diseases they might encounter without the need for any harmful chemicals.

I spent the majority of my time navigating the wealth of knowledge in the unique insectary garden. The insectary is a wonderful illustration of the beauty, resiliency, and hardiness of native plants as well as a great display of biological diversity and its role in ecosystem function.

As I continue in the field of public horticulture and sustainable landscape management, I will take with me the experiences I have gained during my time here at Lotusland. My sincerest gratitude to Mr. Arthur R. Gaudi and the John Percival and Mary C. Jefferson Endowment Fund for making the Sustainable Plant Healthcare Internship possible. It is an honor to have participated in such a program and I am excited and grateful for the doors it has opened for me. Thank you to everyone who is a part of this special community and took the time to share their knowledge, perspectives and friendship with me. — *Olivia McCandless*

Horticultural Happenings

SHOT HOLE BORER BEETLE A NEW PROBLEM FOR CALIFORNIA



A new damaging tree beetle is establishing itself in Southern California. The Shot Hole Borer beetle carries a pathogenic fungus called *Fusarium Dieback* (FD), a fungus that can inhibit the flow of water and nutrients in at least 137 tree species. Trees that are FD-susceptible may experience branch dieback and canopy loss. The miniscule Shot Hole Borer beetle originated in Asia and scientists have mapped its distribution to California. Currently no effective cure has been discovered. One alarming aspect about this beetle is that it attacks scores of tree species including coast live oak, California sycamore, varieties of maples, avocado and many more. There are several things all of us can do to counteract this serious problem:

- Deep water trees twice during the summer — even native trees. Studies show native trees benefit from occasional summer water during drought years.
- Mulch trees with 4" of woody mulch to protect roots and improve soil qualities.
- Avoid spraying trees or injecting them with pesticides. No insecticide has proven effective and sprayed trees become toxic to the thousands of non-target animals that naturally live in trees.
- Avoid high nitrogen fertilizers. The lush growth from these products makes the trees highly attractive to pest insects. If a plant needs additional nutrients, organic fertilizers offer a low nitrogen alternative and they improve soil qualities.
- Prune intelligently. Pruning more than 20% of the foliage at one time can weaken a tree's defenses. It's better to spread corrective pruning over several years so the tree experiences less shock.

As exotic insects like the Shot Hole Borer move through the area, some trees will be affected more than others. It all depends on the species of the tree and its condition. Inevitably, we will be replacing lost trees with more resilient species as we try to preserve our urban forests. Researchers are looking for biological solutions for an environmentally compatible and permanent solution to the problem. — *Corey Welles*

COLLECTIONS NEWS

Exceptional Plants: Lotusland Auction & Sale

LOTUSLAND HAS LONG CULTIVATED strong relationships and support from the plant community, not only to contribute to the continued development of our plant collections, but also through contributions to Lotusland's signature plant auction, *Exceptional Plants*. Many of the plants that are offered at *Exceptional Plants* are propagated from Lotusland's own plant collections, but this signature event very much depends on donations of rare and hard to find plants from our cadre of generous plantsmen and women. One unexpected benefit of our plant auction is that many of the donors have also made donations intended to benefit collections in the garden, helping to increase their diversity.

For example, a few years ago longtime friend of Lotusland, Ron Caird of Por la Mar Nursery, donated an amazing and rarely seen variegated form of *Monstera deliciosa* which is also known as split-leaf philodendron from tropical America. The plant found itself the center of much attention in the live auction, until one lucky winner took it home. Realizing its highly ornamental value, Ron insisted we choose another *Monstera* whose radiant foliage now graces Lotusland's tropical garden.

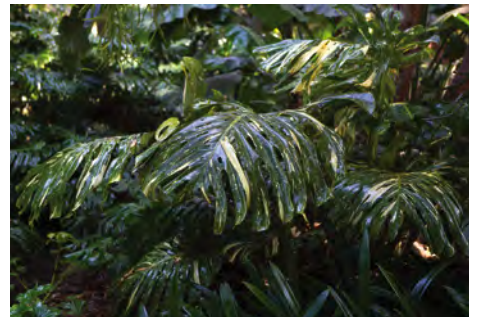


At *Exceptional Plants* we offer a cross section of the plants one finds at Lotusland, such as begonias, which are prominently featured in the fern garden. Some of the most impressive begonias at the auction tend to come from such magnificent growers and local Begonia Society members as Mike Flaherty, Paul and Laurel Carlisle, Diane Dunhill and Dennis Wheeler, who have also donated to

Lotusland's collections. While perusing the *Begonia* collection in the garden, Paul and Laurel were surprised that we didn't have *Begonia* 'Cachuma', a stellar hybrid created by local *Begonia* expert Rudy Zeisenhenne, and soon after they generously donated a beautiful specimen that is now thriving in the original fern garden.

The majority of our plant donors, who are too numerous to mention here, are experts in their specific plant groups and many are renowned within the realm of botanical gardens, commercial growers and as private collectors. Whether they are growing cycads, palms, cacti and succulents, begonias, bromeliads, Australian plants or other unusual rarities from all over the world, these generous and dedicated individuals have added remarkable plants to just about every garden at Lotusland. — *Paul Mills*

Exceptional Plants: Lotusland Auction & Sale is Saturday, October 6.
Space is limited. Call 805.969.9990 for tickets.



FROM TOP: *Beaucarnea* bloom, Variegated *Monstera*, Blue cycad, *Begonia* 'Cachuma'
INSET LEFT: *Begonia* 'Rudy'

Summer Progress!



THE RENOVATION OF THE JAPANESE GARDEN is the largest and most complex project ever undertaken at Lotusland. The team executing the project is made up of several different trades and professions, all working in coordination to take advantage of summer's long and sunny days to make incredible progress.

The south side of the pond liner, made of a 30-millimeter PVC liner placed on geotextile fabric and sealed with a layer of concrete, has been installed, and includes planting beds for aquatic plants. The liner is finished to look like a clay and rock bottom. Boulders that once graced the edges of the pond were carefully inventoried, tagged, photographed and set aside before the renovation, and are now being carefully placed back to their original location. Installation of the pond liner on the west side of the pond is underway, and installation of the Lotus Viewing Deck, bridge and Torii Landing will be finished this autumn.

The small pond by the large forest of bamboo by the Aloe Garden has been rebuilt with a deep liner to support koi and aquatic plants, with a new waterfall to replace the historic one that did not function. A new path through the bamboo leads to a clearing at the pond's edge, across from the waterfall, where visitors can sit on a stone bench in the shade and relax to the sound of water gently tumbling over boulders.

Dismantling of the waterfall built by Ozzie Da Ros is underway. After the boulders were carefully inventoried and removed, the team will replace failed plumbing and install a new liner behind the waterfall and along the stream to stop leaking and erosion. Some time ago — longer than anyone can remember — the waterfall stopped working as designed, and all of us can't wait to see it flowing again as Ozzie intended.

One of the most difficult challenges of the project has been the placement of paths that are fully accessible per requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Santa Barbara County. We want the garden to be fully accessible with as few steps as possible and without handrails. The difficulty of making gently sloping paths within the existing steep grade is made greater by our priority to save as many trees as possible. To save the trees we must avoid disturbing their roots. Careful excavation around the large Araucarias on the southeast corner of the garden to reveal surface roots forced us to reroute the paths several times until we were able to meet all our objectives.

In early September, Lotusland staff led donors through the Japanese Garden to witness our renovation progress and learn about the complex process of putting the garden back together. If you are interested in joining us for a progress tour as you consider a gift to help us complete our renovation project campaign, please contact Rebecca Anderson at 805.969.3767, ext. 104.



TOP: The Bamboo Pond is being refurbished.

BOTTOM: All the ponds use a multi-layer liner technology.

FAREWELL

Dorothy Shaner, Director of Public Programs, Retires



Dorothy Shaner's 17 year career at Lotusland all started with a tour. She read about Lotusland in a *Los Angeles Times* article, made a reservation and after seeing the garden she was immediately hooked — becoming a Lotusland Member in 1994 while still residing in Long Beach. The Shaner family moved to Santa Barbara in 1999 and Dorothy enrolled in the docent training program, spending a number of years sharing the garden with visitors and as a Fourth Grade Outreach docent. She eventually took a part-time job in reservations and progressed through the ranks becoming the Director of Public Programs in 2006. Dorothy was instrumental in the success of many of Lotusland's most valuable programs and events, including Fourth Grade Outreach, Open Pathways and our highly acclaimed exhibits; *Gone*, *Swarm*, *Enemy of the Average* and *Flock*. Dorothy joined the *Lotus Society* endowment program in 2008 and has attended 20 *Lotusland Celebrates* galas. Dorothy's contributions to Lotusland are significant and we will all miss her unflappable spirit, commitment to the garden and that wonderful resonating laugh that put a smile on everyone's face. When asked about her Lotusland career she marvels at the wonderful and amazing people she has met from all walks of life and the many lifelong friendships forged. Dorothy is proud of her affiliation with Lotusland — "it's been very rewarding to have contributed so much to our community."



LOTUSLAND THANKS Elizabeth Rosas for Her Service

Elizabeth Rosas, Lotusland's Human Resources and Office Manager is departing to pursue an exciting new career opportunity. For over six-years Liz has worn innumerable hats for Lotusland including I.T. manager, bookkeeper and manager of human resources. Liz was instrumental in helping keep Lotusland running smoothly and was very capable in meeting the many challenges that occur on a daily basis. Her strong initiative and dedication allowed for professional growth that greatly benefited Lotusland, as all organizations need to stay current with the complexities of technology, labor laws, insurance requirements and safety training. When asked what she'll miss the most about Lotusland, Liz said, "I'll miss all the people who have become like a family to me and the way everyone is so supportive of each other in times of need." Liz intends to stay involved with Lotusland through volunteering, becoming a Member and attending our great events, this time as a guest. We all wish Liz the best of luck in her new position and look forward to seeing her in the garden.

Lotusland Welcomes New Staff Members



PATRICIA PIZARRO
Director of Guest Experience
and Member Services

Patricia recently moved to Santa Barbara from New York City where she held numerous senior management, client and guest services positions. Her focus at Lotusland will

be making sure our guests and members have a world-class experience. Patricia says she is excited to be living closer to her son in Los Angeles and to be working at Lotusland where her day starts and ends at one of the top 10 Gardens in the World. Look for her on your next visit and stop to say hello.



EDER MEJIA
Facilities and Equipment
Maintenance Supervisor

Eder Mejia is a 31-year Santa Barbara resident having moved here with his parents when he was a child. Prior to his position at Lotusland, Eder was the Facilities Manager at

the Santa Barbara Bowl and he also held positions in aerospace and medical manufacturing. He is married to his high school sweetheart and they have two “amazing” boys ages eight and eleven. Eder enjoys camping, exploring the outdoors and working on cars. He is a self-described “total gear head.” Be sure to give Eder a heartfelt Lotusland welcome.



ALESSANDRA VILLEGAS
Front Desk Coordinator

Alessandra Villegas is a Santa Barbara native with a love for nature and aesthetics. She studied Art and Art History at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and Santa Barbara City College. After living in Hawaii

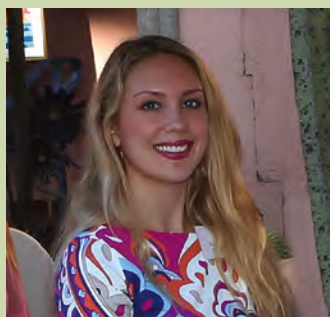
for 10 years, she moved back with her son to Santa Barbara, where she continues to study Art at CSU Channel Islands. Join us in welcoming Alessandra to Lotusland.



ADA HECKES
Development Assistant

Prior to joining the Development Team at Lotusland, Ada Heckes’ career has been art-focused, including a stint at the Santa Barbara Museum of Art. She received her MFA at State University at

Purchase, New York and worked for many years as an artist and gallerist in New York City. Ada, her husband and three daughters are thoroughly enjoying the active Santa Barbara lifestyle. Ada is an avid runner and recently was a finisher in both the Boston Marathon and Mountains 2 Beach Marathon. Her energy and enthusiasm are a welcome addition to Lotusland.



SUMMER INTERN

ALLISON STROUSS, Westmont College

Allison was an invaluable asset to Lotusland during the busy summer season. In her own words: “I want to thank you all for the incredible opportunity to work alongside a most welcoming and inclusive organization. Coming to Lotusland was a treat and every day I was included in a new and exciting task. I will truly miss your kind energy and the enchanting garden these next few months.” We thank Allison and wish her well.



Lotusland Celebrates brought together supporters and friends in an overwhelming demonstration of support of our beloved Lotusland. For the first time, event proceeds broke records to tip the half million mark, with each dollar raised directed to support Lotusland's daily care and keeping.

The symbolic LOTUS RISING: *Lotusland Celebrates Gems of the Garden*, was a reminder of our community's strength and resilience in an exceptionally challenging year. The event began with a memorial moment for the community with an installation by artist Lily Pon, who handmade over 10,000 flowers created from the mud from the debris flows of this past winter's devastating storms. During the event each guest was invited to place a single clay flower into the poignant sculpture. After this tribute, guests' journey was made decidedly lighter as they joined in celebration of the garden created by Lotusland's founder, Madame Ganna Walska with an unparalleled display of finery in nature, fashion, fine art and jewelry, dance and live music.

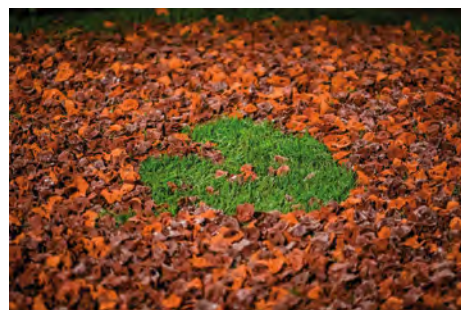
Principal Partners included the fashion house of Oscar de la Renta, and fine jewelers Belperron and Verdura. Oscar de la Renta showed runway looks including botanical prints and striking silhouettes, displayed against the backdrop of Lotusland gardens. "Oscar was a huge fan of Lotusland. He actually made a small part of his garden in the Dominican Republic based on Lotusland," said Alex Bolen, CEO of Oscar de la Renta, during the sold out event.

Guests gathered on the Great Lawn for cocktails, followed by a sumptuous meal of seasonal fare presented by duo catering and events. Pastry Chef Lori Stern created individual desserts using botanical infusions from Lotusland's orchard and garden, before gifting guests her signature cookies as they departed.

2018 marks the 25th anniversary of Lotusland, and it was fitting that the pièce de résistance at the *Gems of the Garden* gala was the garden's gems — its plants. Lotusland's curators and horticultural specialists highlighted an exhibit of some the garden's most extraordinary and exotic plants.

ABOVE: Back Row (l-r): Analise Kjensrud, Daryl Stegall, Kristan O'Donnell, Lynn Cunningham Brown, Heather Kavanaugh, Stacey McMullan, Jennie Grube, Kim Thomas. Front Row: Amanda Lee, Marni Margerum, Caroline Thompson, Setenay Osman, Nati Smith, Yasmine Zodeh, Eileen Rasmussen, Belle Hahn, Krista Blake, Crystal Wyatt, Winnie Dunbar, Oz Arconian.

RIGHT, FROM TOP: Lily Pon's mud flower installation; Oscar de la Renta fashions; *Lotusland Celebrates* Co-Chairs, Yasmine Zodeh, Belle Hahn, Nati Smith, Eileen Rasmussen.



LOTUSLAND CELEBRATES

Gems of the Garden

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GIFT MEMBERSHIPS

Give the Gift of Membership

This holiday give a heartfelt gift that lasts for the entire year — a Lotusland Membership. With the purchase of a new Gift Membership, you will introduce your family and friends to the awe and wonder of Lotusland — including the very exciting re-opening of the Japanese Garden next summer. Members will enjoy exclusive access to experience the unveiling of this transformed garden — whether on a docent-led tour, a self-guided stroll, or by attending one of our unique garden-themed events. Plus, Members enjoy early-bird event discounts, savings at nearly 20 garden nursery centers and free admission to Lotusland all year! To give a Gift Membership simply call or go online. Lotusland will send the Gift Membership packet to your friend or family member.

PURCHASE A NEW GIFT MEMBERSHIP

BY NOVEMBER 30 and we will send your recipient a reproduction of Kinton Stevens' historic catalog, *The Palm and Citrus Nursery Tropical and Semi-Tropical Fruit Trees*, originally printed in 1893. This catalog is a piece of the long and fascinating history of the garden.

New this holiday season, Lotusland Gift Memberships arrive in attractively packaged and beautifully wrapped gift boxes. This allows you to have the perfect gift ready to give. The recipient simply contacts Lotusland to activate their membership. Gift boxes are available for Individual (\$95), Dual (\$155), Family (\$175) or

Friend (\$295) levels. To order, please call 805.969.3767, ext. 115 or 120 or visit our online store - LotuslandShop.org. Order early to allow for a timely US Mail delivery. Your gift provides valuable support of the garden and, like other donations to Lotusland, is tax-deductible.



Membership Renewal Appreciation Gift

Renew your Membership and receive a special gift from Lotusland as a token of our appreciation. You will receive an invitation for a free one-year subscription to either *Better Homes & Gardens* or *Martha Stewart Living*. If you've already renewed your membership for the year we hope you have taken advantage of this offer and for future renewing members, keep an eye out for the chance to receive either of these gift publications.

THANK YOU TO OUR GARDEN LOVER MEMBERS

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IN MEMORIAM

Sonja Lane

Sonja Lane is remembered as loyal, genuine, caring, intelligent and fun to be around.

Throughout her lifetime, Sonja was a cultivator and collector. As a member of *The Lotus Society*, her support of Lotusland continues.

Sonja had a green thumb and her plant knowledge was extensive. She loved nature, gardening, camping under the stars, art and spending time with friends. She was a devoted wife, a fabulous cook and always remembered friends' birthdays. She had a love for Native American culture and spent time visiting reservations and supporting Native American artisans. One of her favorite places to visit was Santa Fe, New Mexico.

After Sonja came to America from Germany, she first worked for the Los Angeles Public Library. After many years, she moved to Santa Barbara and joined the Santa Barbara Museum of Art, supported the local Food Bank and became an early volunteer at Lotusland. Sonja helped in the Lotusland orchard caring for the fruit trees. She also worked in hospitality helping out at our events. Sonja staffed the Lotusland Garden Shop, assisting with plant sales and visitor purchases. She even discovered one of the shops bestselling items — our cactus shoe notecards. While on a trip to Arizona Sonja saw original artwork of “cactus shoes” and immediately told our shop buyer that they were a perfect fit for our store. Sonja made the lives of all who knew her better. She will be missed. — *Karen Kester*

WISH LIST

Help Make Lotusland's Wishes Come True



Rugged cart for garden use: John Deere Gator TX

This is a rugged utility vehicle well suited for heavier loads and is able to perform more tasks than our existing

equipment. The Gator TX will provide the garden staff with a more versatile, efficient and safe vehicle. \$8,900



Spray Rig for Compost Tea: Rears Model PLR 100

Compost tea spray rigs are a vital component in our plant health program. Our existing equipment is aging and the

rigors of heavy use make them in need of constant and costly repairs. This new rig will increase efficiency and be a reliable piece of equipment for the garden staff. It will help us spray compost tea for years to come. \$6,600



Trimble Geo7X

This hand held GPS device will upgrade our plant records surveying technology and work directly with our existing mapping system. Plus Terrasync Standard and Pathfinder Office software. \$10,600.

TO DONATE, please contact 805.969.3767, ext. 104. Thank you for supporting our Wish List. These tools make a big difference in our day-to-day operations.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Through Thursday, November 15 ***Building a Botanical Nirvana: The Story of Lotusland***

**ON DISPLAY IN THE PAVILION
THROUGH THE REST OF THE YEAR.**

All garden visitors are able to view a fascinating chronology of the development of Lotusland juxtaposed to the life of Ganna Walska. Historic milestones that have helped define the garden are highlighted. The exhibit will run through November 15. For information and reservations call 805.969.9990.



Saturday, October 6 1:30 to 5:30 PM ***Exceptional Plants: Lotusland Auction & Sale*** **THE ULTIMATE PLANT PARTY**

LOTUSLAND'S 7TH ANNUAL —
Exceptional Plants: Lotusland Auction & Sale. Featuring rare and specimen plants in an extensive silent auction followed by a rousing live auction. Proceeds from the event are used to care for and support Lotusland's botanical collection. Come for the plants, stay for the party! Call 805.969.9990 for tickets.



Saturday, November 24 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM ***Members' Holiday in the Garden***

ENJOY THE GARDEN in the glory of autumn with a docent or on a self-guided tour. Afterward, purchase exclusive Lotusland gifts and treasures in the Garden Shop. Members are welcome to bring guests with paid admission, and Friend level and *Garden Lover* members may use their free guest admissions. Space is limited. Please call 805.969.9990 for reservations.

Gardens in Paradise

**A RARE OPPORTUNITY TO
EXPERIENCE THE MOST
EXQUISITE AND STUNNING
PRIVATE GARDENS.**

The series, launched in April, has included extraordinary explorations of some magnificent private gardens. With the generosity of our hosts, Lotusland receives 100% of the proceeds from sponsorships and ticket sales. Special thanks to The Garden Conservancy for their collaboration and sponsorship.

Saturday, October 20 • 2:00 to 5:00 PM **An Afternoon at the Ranch**

Visit utopia during this ranch adventure at a nearby paradise situated on 300 acres of beautiful terrain. Enjoy a delightful afternoon with a viewing of spectacular gardens and a dreamy ranch home led by garden designer, Eric Nagelmann. Finish the tour with a modernist tea time at the top of the world. *Space is limited. Tickets are \$250 per person.*

Thursday, November 15 • 4:00 to 8:00 PM **"A Tale of Two Gardens: East meets West Coast Garden Design and Care"**

To showcase the last of the series, we invite you to join us at a private home and garden in Summerland. While enjoying this local gateway with views galore, listen to the tale of a journey between the east coast and west coast in a lecture about building and maintaining a home and garden in Summerland and at Hollister House, a private home in Connecticut bequeathed to The Garden Conservancy. This event includes dinner. *Space is limited. Tickets are \$750 per person.*

Space remains for the final two tours. Please call now 805.324.8424, ext. 104 for more information and to make a reservation.

LOTUSLAND GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES DONATIONS

June, July and August 2018

THE LOTUS SOCIETY

NEW MEMBERS

Vickie & Bob Craig
Ms. Marian Jean
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We welcome new members who joined in June, July and August 2018

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Perry White
William Wintersteen
Mary Woodyard
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LOTUSLAND GARDEN SHOP

Locally Handcrafted Finds

These fine pieces are handcrafted by local artists and are available in Lotusland's Garden Shop and online at lotuslandshop.org. Members save 10% on all purchases.

TOP: 36" Crystal beaded lotus necklace created by local artist Andria Kester of Whitewater Carpinteria. \$95

CENTER: Cypress wood fountain pen handcrafted from the wood of Lotusland's own felled Cypress tree by artist Jim Gold. \$165

BOTTOM: Lotusland Cypress tree trowel — made by artist Jim Gold, hand forged blade by artist Lucian Avery. \$120



GARDEN LOVER MEMBERS RENEWING OR INCREASING LEVEL OF SUPPORT

June, July and August 2018

GARDEN LOVER MEMBERS

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Carole MacElhenny
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Mr. Christopher J. Toomey
Nita & Henk Van der Werff *

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Fall 2018 Events

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

Now through November 15 **Pavilion Exhibit**

Building a Botanical Nirvana:

The Story of Lotusland

See page 16

Saturday, October 6 **Exceptional Plants:** **Lotusland Auction & Sale**

1:30 to 5:30 PM

See page 16

Call 805.969.9990 for reservations

Saturday, October 20 **Thursday, November 15** **Gardens in Paradise**

Private garden lectures, tours, and events.

See page 16

Thursday, November 15 **Final Day of 2018 Public Tours**

Saturday, November 24 **Members' Holiday in the Garden**

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

See page 16

Arrival Times for Tours

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