A REVERENCE FOR NATURE

Japanese Garden is Open

MEMOIRS OF A GARDEN

Lotusland Celebrates
LETTER FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Members and Friends,

FINALLY, AFTER MORE THAN TWO YEARS OF ANTICIPATION, we are so very pleased to welcome all of you back into Lotusland’s Japanese Garden! The last phase of the renovation — construction of the Pavilion — will complete the project later this year. With wide, comfortable paths, six new gathering areas and plenty of seating throughout, the garden is ready for you to stroll and linger in all its beauty and serenity.

Japanese gardens are designed specifically to generate a sense of well-being so that those who enter are drawn into contemplation. Indeed, the effect of Japanese gardens on wellness has been measured by cognitive science researchers who found that exposure to Japanese gardens has a soothing effect on the viewer’s mood — an effect that was more profound than any elicited by viewing other styles of garden, including a managed forest. Researchers measured heart rate, respiratory rate and brain activity of visitors in Japanese gardens and found that their heart rate and respiratory rate dropped — a sign of reduced stress — while brain activity increased, indicating positive stimulation. Researchers also measured eye activity and noted that viewer’s eye movement slowed down, an indication of reduced anxiety. Visitors were visibly more relaxed and engaged. These physio-psychological responses are attributed specifically to the design tenets of Japanese gardens that call for simplicity and ma — translated as “empty space” — and the triangulated arrangement of prescribed elements such as stones, trees and lanterns. The wisdom of Japanese garden design is rooted in the connection of human perception and design patterns to encourage self-reflection and pause.

While we were planning and implementing the renovation of Lotusland’s Japanese Garden over the last six years, we steadily collected the data from this emerging science and design analysis of Japanese gardens and health. It has long been a desire of ours to create wellness programs in the Garden, and the timing is right.

We are fortunate to have Wendy Cooper join our team as Director of Education and Outreach, who is working with me in consultation with local psychotherapists and ecotherapists, to create a variety of programs that will help foster well-being among our community — a need that exists as much now as ever. We will announce new wellness programs as we roll them out. In the meantime, please come to stroll, linger, relax, refresh and be renewed.

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.
LOTUSLAND WELCOMES
New Trustees

RON CAIRD
Ron was born in Los Angeles to immigrant parents from Scotland and England. His father was the head gardener on the large estate where they lived in Hollywood. His family moved to Santa Barbara where Ron attended Santa Barbara High School, taking a special interest in horticulture. He graduated from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo with a degree in Ornamental Horticulture.

Ron worked for Mistletoe Sales, followed by a long career working at Griffin Tree and Landscape. He spent a considerable amount of his time working at Lotusland starting in 1968. In the early 1970s, Ron purchased property off south Patterson Avenue and began Por La Mar Nursery. Ron later sold Griffin Tree and Landscape to concentrate on the growth of the nursery.

He remains very active in the nursery and sits on the Ag Advisory and Crop Science Advisory Committees at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, and the Goleta Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Ron and his wife, Pat, have supported Lotusland for 14 years.

JEFFREY ROMANO
A native Californian, Jeffrey is originally from San Jose. He has enjoyed gardening since he was able to walk and shares his grandmother’s passion for growing and nurturing plants. Today, Jeffrey enjoys focusing his gardening on indoor plants and container gardening.

Jeffrey holds a Bachelor of Science degree with a concentration in Accounting and Finance from Santa Clara University. He recently retired from a challenging 35-year career with Chevron Corporation in a number of roles, including Finance Manager, Chevron Oronite; Group Manager, Corporate Audit; Internal Controls Manager, SEC Coordinator, and Accounting Policy Manager, Corporate Controller’s Office. Chevron generously matched many of Jeffrey’s donations to Lotusland over the years.

Jeffrey and his spouse Stan Shayer have enjoyed visiting and supporting Lotusland for the past 13 years, and they joined The Lotus Society in 2014.
**THE ART OF JAPANESE GARDENS** is one of Japan’s most significant art forms. The different styles of Japanese gardens were strongly influenced by the prevailing philosophy and religion of Shinto, Buddhism and Taoism, but what they have in common is the intent to capture the landscape in its natural form and bring a spiritual sense to the gardens. All styles of Japanese gardens follow strict design tenets to reveal the purity of Nature in an artistic way, thereby creating a tranquil place for contemplation.

Takuma Tono, the designer of the Portland Japanese Garden (1963) and one of the most important Japanese landscape architects of his time, wrote *A Secret of Japanese Gardens*, in 1958 to help Americans understand Japanese garden design. This thin, modest paperback is still cited by Japanese garden designers today. In it, Takuma Tono describes necessary design elements and insists that these are used not to produce a mere reproduction of natural beauty but are employed with a reverence for nature and are guided by nature’s revelation so that Nature is held by humans as important and precious. “The fundamental aim of landscape gardening in Japan primarily rests upon “Viewing, Instructing and Consoling,” he wrote. “We are content to spend our hours of leisure in the contemplations and in the repose of true landscape garden. Gardens are intended to break the connection with the outside world…and to produce a fresh sensation conducive to full enjoyment of [the] aestheticism of Nature. It is communion with Nature…”

Lotusland’s Japanese Garden, as envisioned by Ganna Walska and Frank Fujii, is of the style of strolling gardens first constructed during the Edo Period (1600–1854), featuring a central pond or lake with paths going around it. By following the path, the stroller encounters scenes which are specifically intended to be viewed at key points around the path. Japanese strolling gardens feature the technique of “borrowed scenery,” which uses elements outside of the garden such as temples or mountains to create the illusion that the garden is much larger than it is. Japanese strolling gardens also use the technique of “hide-and-reveal,” which uses the angle or direction of the path, structures, thick foliage or fences to hide a particular scene until the stroller is at the ideal viewing point.
As we meticulously planned and executed the renovation of Lotusland’s Japanese Garden over the past six years, we adhered to the essential design elements of a Japanese strolling garden. We vigilantly protected Ganna Walska’s and Frank Fujii’s legacies and vision for the garden while also working to modernize the garden with practical and critically necessary physical improvements such as fully accessible paths, gathering areas for tours and programs, and a healthy pond. We also heeded Takuma Tono’s urgings to create a tranquil place where guests may consort with Nature and the Divine to be refreshed and consoled.

When you stroll through the newly renovated Japanese Garden, you will recognize original features that were carefully protected or restored. You will come across new features as well – some of them originally conceived by Walska and Fujii, but not executed in their time. Altogether, the garden will look different yet feel very familiar. As you walk, pause at the revealed views to the pond and beyond. Rest on a bench and contemplate nature’s beauty. Listen to the gentle streaming of water over rocks and falls. Breathe deep. Be restored.

**JAPANESE GARDEN FEATURES:**

OPPOSITE PAGE: The Torii now features two options for entering the garden – either down new steps with handrails or via a path to the left for guests in wheelchairs. Both lead to a landing at the pond’s edge with magnificent views of the garden and the “borrowed scenery” beyond. The original Torii steps were re-purposed as stone benches throughout the garden.

1. The Japanese Maple Walk is a new path winding through the Araucaria forest, with many “hide and reveal” opportunities. The path leads to the Miwatasu, or Scenic Overlook, which is the highest point in the garden and overlooks the pond, the Lotus Viewing Deck, and Pine Island below.

2. The Lotus Viewing Deck, originally conceptualized by Frank Fujii, is now a prominent feature. Large enough to welcome many guests, it will serve as one of six new places in the garden for programs and events. More than that, it is the best place to watch the koi swimming among the lotuses surrounding the deck.

3. The Karesansui, or Dry Garden, is inspired by the raked gravel “rings” Ganna Walska had placed around boulders in this area. Also called “zen garden,” the karesansui is intended to aid meditation. Sit on the large bench, once the landing at the Torii, to contemplate the raked sand “water.”

4. Hidden among the grove of Cryptomeria japonica (Japanese cedar), pruned in niwaki style, the Cryptomeria Gathering is a lush and shady copse with boulder benches, enhanced by the playful and palliative sound of water streaming from the waterfalls and adjacent streams.
THE NEW NORMAL

IN SPITE OF A WET 2019, climate scientists tell us that drought is likely the new normal for Southern California. The winter rains were enormously beneficial in helping to replenish our reservoirs, irrigate our drought-distressed trees and cleanse the soils of built up salts. We all should be aware that our groundwater basins will still take years to refill and the dry years will return.

Some gardens fared better than others during this multi-year drought and Lotusland was relatively fortunate. We lost some of our favorite historical trees and the lawn was reduced to a dryland stubble, however all the gardens and important plant collections survived due in large part to our sustainable horticulture program.

Lotusland is in a unique position to implement and experiment with the latest scientific breakthroughs in plant health – good science equals good drought preparedness. Below are the leading elements of our sustainable horticulture program.

• DEVELOP THE LIFE IN THE SOIL. Organisms in the soil hold the key to good soil conditions; these include bacteria, fungi, and worms. They help plants develop deep roots and effectively quadruple the root system size. When drought conditions exist, the expanded root system is able to access more area to find every available drop of water.

• MODERNIZE DRIP SYSTEMS. Subsurface drip irrigation is a low pressure, high efficiency system that prevents root intrusion inside the tubing. This system saves more water than previous drip systems and trains roots deep into the soil profile.

• ADD MULCH TO THE SOIL. Mulching is one of the most important techniques gardens employ to enhance irrigation efficiency. In addition to water saving and weed suppression, mulch breaks down into needed nutrients, discourages erosion and introduces life-giving microorganisms into the soil.

• PLANT NATIVE PLANTS. All of Lotusland’s perimeter plantings utilize native plants from the Santa Barbara bioregion. Native California plants are an excellent choice and the local native plants from our foothills are most effective at providing the nectar, pollen and other resources for our local insects, birds and fauna.

Erika Anderson writes in Forbes that change often happens in two ways: evolutionary change and disruptive change. Evolutionary change happens gradually and is less destructive. Disruptive change happens suddenly and can be very destructive. If we apply this concept to gardening in drought prone regions, we see that our gardens will benefit from a gradual evolutionary change that involves implementing the elements of our sustainable horticulture program. Much of Lotusland’s success has been achieved with a gradual evolution, begun in earnest 25 years ago. Lotusland has survived times of drought because we have evolved our practices to include sustainable techniques at the core of our horticultural philosophy. — Corey Welles
THE ARCHIVES AT LOTUSLAND hold a wealth of historical information. Madame Ganna Walska kept detailed files of correspondence relating to the garden, her musical career, art collections, spiritual matters and husbands. The institutional history held in the archives is invaluable and is overseen with expert care by Rose Thomas, Lotusland Curator.

From a curatorial and horticultural standpoint the files relating to the garden are fascinating to peruse and provide a snippet of Lotusland’s horticultural past, dating back to the 1940s. There are receipts for plants that were acquired from some of the most prominent nurseries and plant people of the day as well as letters detailing the travails of acquiring some of these plants.

Of all the important archival material relating to the plant collections, one of the most important pieces came to us unexpectedly. Charlie Glass, who worked for Madame Ganna Walska from 1973 to 1984 on many important projects, including creating the Cycad Garden, was known to keep excellent documentation of all of his endeavors. For this reason it seemed odd that there was scant information regarding the creation of the Cycad Garden in 1978.

Twenty years later a sturdy three ring binder, compiled by Charlie, was discovered detailing every cycad that was planted in the garden, including size (height, circumference, diameter) and how they reacted to being moved into their new location by documenting leaf flushes and coning for years afterwards. There is also much information as to the origin and provenance of plants. This binder wasn’t discovered hidden in the archives at Lotusland, but in the possession of a private cycad collector until the late 1990s when Jeff Chemnick, renowned cycad expert and Lotusland Research Associate, was visiting and spotted Charlie’s binder. Opening it, he instantly realized the value of the information he held in his hands. Jeff was told by the collector that if he bought a certain plant he would throw the binder. Thankfully, Jeff bought the plant and promptly delivered the binder to Lotusland. How the collector came to possess this priceless information remains a mystery but it has now joined the myriad of other invaluable items in the Lotusland archives.

Presenters were Pamela Koide-Hyatt, owner of Bird Rock Tropicals and a renowned Tillandsia expert, Dr. Terrie Bert who has been involved in national and international bromeliad societies at many levels and Brian Kemble, Curator of the Ruth Bancroft Garden. Previous summits hosted by Lotusland include a Cycad Summit and Aloe Summit.
“We are proud to have Etro as our Premiere Partner sponsor for this year’s Lotusland Celebrates: Memoirs of a Garden. Their prestigious natural fabrics, original designs and innovative colorways are a perfect fit to what Lotusland embodies: an exquisitely designed botanical garden that exudes horticultural passion and vibrant colors throughout.” —Event Tri-Chair, Setenay Osman

ETRO’s generosity continues through July 27, when you shop at their Beverly Hills boutique. Please mention Lotusland when shopping! For private appointments call 310.248.2855 or email bogar.martinez@etro.com.

To celebrate the partnership between ETRO and Lotusland, the Lotusland Celebrates Event Committee hosted a Trunk Show in May at the beautiful home of Nati and Michael Smith.

**A Dinner Party in Paradise**
**Wine Collector’s Ultimate Luxury Dinner for Eight**

JOIN LEGENDARY WINE AFICIONADO John Tilson, one of the most prominent wine collectors in the nation and editor of *The Underground Wine Letter*, for an evening of exquisite food paired with extremely rare wines at the Tilson estate in the hills of Montecito. This package includes four rooms at the luxurious Belmond El Encanto resort overlooking the Pacific for a two night stay in paradise.

**Host a Bespoke Dinner for 10 in Japanese Garden**

EXPERIENCE A JAPANESE OMAKASE DINNER with sake pairings for ten at Lotusland, artfully crafted by Chateau Hanare, the new restaurant at the famed Chateau Marmont. Take with you a very special gift: a pair of late nineteenth century Okimono duck sculptures from the Meiji Era – a precious treasure from the collection of Alexandra and Charles Morse to cherish for years to come.

**Floral Dream Moonstone Necklace by Irene Neuwirth**

ADORN THE ONE YOU LOVE with a one-of-a-kind signature rainbow moonstone necklace by award-winning jewelry designer Irene Neuwirth. This 18-karat yellow gold 24-inch necklace set with rose-cut rainbow moonstones makes an awe-inspiring statement and beautifully showcases the gems, which have been coveted throughout history for their healing and balancing powers.

**Exclusive New York Encounters to Remember**

CHECK IN FOR FIVE NIGHTS AT THE LOWELL HOTEL in a one bedroom Deluxe Suite as you experience the best art and architecture New York has to offer. Begin with a private VIP tour of the September 11 Memorial with famed architect and founder of SNØHETTA, Craig Dykers, followed by lunch at his office. Experience custom-curated art encounters tailored to your interests, and visit one of the most coveted Zen Gardens outside of Japan – a private, never-before-seen masterpiece.
Legacy of a Lifetime: Naming Rights to Madame’s Most Special Lantern

ENJOY PERMANENT RECOGNITION AT LOTUSLAND with naming rights to Madame’s favorite lantern in the Japanese Garden. The lantern is appropriately adorned with a lotus finial and has never been moved since Madame placed it. Dedicate this gift to the garden during a private naming ceremony with traditional Japanese music and a champagne toast for your party of 12.

Escape to One of Italy’s Most Magical Countryside Estates

REVEL IN ALL THAT THE ITALIAN COUNTRYSIDE has to offer at Cascaroni, a stunning farmhouse located in Montone, one of Italy’s best-preserved Medieval villages located near Assisi in Umbria. Your farmhouse features original elements that date to the 12th century as well as four private en suite rooms for your party of eight.

Drawing Dreams: Custom Portrait Session with Acclaimed Illustrator David Downton

THE WINNING BIDDER WILL SIT FOR A PORTRAIT SESSION with David Downton, a fashion illustrator whose artwork has appeared in Harper’s Bazaar, The Times, The New York Times, VOGUE, and Vanity Fair. His classically elegant yet highly contemporary portraits have recorded the fashion industry’s most iconic faces, including Cate Blanchett, Dita Von Teese, Iman, and Paloma Picasso, in addition to a new posthumous portrait of Madame Ganna Walska, a recent addition to Lotusland’s permanent collection.

If you are unable to attend the gala but would still like to support Lotusland, you can bid remotely on one of our exceptional auction items. For more information or to place your bid, please call Sarah Haselschwardt at 805.969.3767, ext. 126 or visit lotusland.org.

SPONSOR APPRECIATION

Paul Lato, the Prince of Pinot

AN ELEGANT EVENING held in a beautiful private garden among majestic oaks kicked off the sponsor appreciation for Lotusland Celebrates: Memoirs of a Garden. Paul Lato, “the Prince of Pinot”, generously gifted his incredible wines and tremendous expertise to accompany a special, intimate dinner party designed to thank our top sponsors for this year’s Lotusland Celebrates event. “Paul is charming, entertaining, and deeply knowledgeable,” says Gwen Stauffer, CEO, “and his wines are delicious!”

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES IS GRATEFUL for the service and dedication of the 2019 Event Committee’s volunteerism and participation in the planning and support of the Memoirs of a Garden Gala. In its 25th year, Lotusland Celebrates garners significant revenue for the Garden to operate.
WAYS TO SUPPORT THE GARDEN’S GROWTH

What matters most to you?

Open Pathways
Support the award-winning program that lets Lotusland invite Santa Barbara County citizens who are in the most need to visit the garden at no cost so that everyone can experience the Garden, regardless of their ability to pay. Open Pathways serves low-income residents, at-risk youth, seniors and citizens with mental or physical challenges.

Specimen Plant Fund
Support the acquisition of rare or unusual plants to add to our world-class plant collections. Gifts ensure Lotusland’s ability to acquire rare plants and add them to our collections for plant protection and propagation.

Architectural Preservation
Ensure the pride and preservation of Lotusland’s iconic buildings with gifts to maintain the historic architecture of George Washington Smith and Reginald Johnson.

Plant Conservation
Help Lotusland share plant material with botanic gardens around the world to ensure that the species are secured and protected. Your gift supports the hand-delivery of Lotusland propagated plants as they journey to South Africa and Thailand as our Curator of the Living Collections, Paul Mills, travels to repatriate these near-extinct species with partner organizations and in the wild.

Conservation Nursery
Your gift supports development of a new conservation nursery at Lotusland, which will become a species Recovery Site for globally rare cycads. This conservation nursery requires highly secure propagation and growing facilities.

Fourth Grade Outreach
Engage young minds through your support of Santa Barbara County fourth grade students visiting Lotusland. Lotusland staff and trained educational docents visit student classrooms in advance of the Lotusland field study experience. Students across the county revel in their visit to Lotusland and remember it as a high point in their elementary education.

Sustainable Horticulture
Help Lotusland teach sustainable horticulture techniques and best practices to our community and beyond. Lotusland’s Sustainable Plant Healthcare Coordinator shares his knowledge with organizations, municipalities and botanic gardens across the country, and trains interns on our campus so they may permanently adopt sustainable gardening practices in their careers.

Endowment
We actively seek support of Lotusland’s endowment through our planned giving program, The Lotus Society. To join, Lotus Society members make an outright or future gift designated to endowment. Donors may designate their support to a favorite Lotusland garden, staff position or program. Naming opportunities are available.

Pilot Programs for Wellness
Support research and curriculum development for new wellness programs. Lotusland is working with local psychologists and eco-therapists to develop programs focused on supporting and promoting wellness.

BRUNCH AND BUTTERFLIES
In Appreciation of Eric Naglemann

Longtime Lotusland friends and members gathered on April 15 in the Insectary Garden for a light brunch to appreciate and commemorate the many gifts Eric Naglemann has bestowed upon Lotusland. The Insectary was the perfect background for the intimate gathering, as it is one of several projects Eric has created at Lotusland with his signature talent of making art in nature.

Native painted lady butterflies were released to join the other beneficial insects and pollinators in the garden as guests toasted Eric’s many contributions. Gwen Stauffer dedicated an engraved piece of slag glass to reside in the Insectary, to remind all who enter of the goodness and good fortune enjoyed by Lotusland thanks to Eric’s active involvement.

To learn more about his work, or support Eric’s next exciting Lotusland project please call 805.969.3767, ext. 104.
ON JUNE 2 devoted Lotus Society supporters gathered in a stunning private garden to recognize and promote the advancement of Lotusland’s mission. This community is our legacy group whose goal is to keep Lotusland healthy with their thoughtful endowment support. The Lotus Society event allows Lotusland to gather and recognize supporters during their lifetime in appreciation for their future generosity. Lotusland gratefully acknowledges these members whose legacies will continue to grow with seeds they are planting now.

Planned gifts can offer tax savings and some even provide you with income for life.

To learn more about gift and estate planning options and endowment support, contact Rebecca Anderson 805.969.3767, ext. 104.

Photos by Nell Campbell
MEMBERSHIP
Navigating Your Membership

A FEW TIPS AND TRICKS help you gain the most from your membership and makes all your visits to Lotusland more enjoyable.

We would love for you to be able to visit Lotusland every day, but access to Lotusland is strictly controlled by the County of Santa Barbara and our Conditional Use Permit (CUP). The CUP limits the daily number of guests and vehicles and the yearly visitation may not exceed 15,000 people, including Members.

→ Members receive free admission for public tours.
→ All guests, including Members, must make a reservation by calling 805.969.9990.
→ New Members are encouraged to take a docent-led tour to acquaint themselves with our 37-acre property and hear the fascinating stories of our history and horticulture. Only Members are afforded the privilege to self-guide and this includes your guests who accompany you.
→ The main entrance is open between 9:30 and 10:00 AM for morning visits. In the afternoon we open the gate from 1:00 to 1:30 PM. These arrival times apply to Members who are self-guiding or taking docent-led tours. Your reservation confirmation has directions to the Cold Spring Rd. gate.
→ Members are encouraged to share the garden with their guests. Admission is $50 for age 18 and above, $25 for 3-17, free under 3.
→ On Thursdays, Members save $10 on each guest admission.
→ Lotusland is open for public tours Wednesday through Saturday.
→ Lotusland closes to the public from mid-November to mid-February – but keep an eye on the Lotusland website for special Member events to tour the garden during our Winter Recess.
→ Lotusland has high season in the Summer months, so we encourage you to make your reservations early. Please note special events may occasionally block standard touring days.
→ Members and paying visitors can easily cancel a reservation 24 hours in advance, and if you paid to bring guests, the amount is credited for another public tour in the same calendar year.
→ Membership cards include Member names and are non-transferable.
→ Please check our Lotusland newsletter, website and monthly emails for special events.
→ Members receive a 10% discount at the Lotusland Garden Shop, plus discounts at a number of local nurseries and garden specialty stores. Find out where to shop and save at lotusland.org/membership/shopandsave.
GARDEN VOLUNTEERS

Among the Niwaki

By Ernie Witham

Recently, Judy Chandler and I were pruning on opposite sides of a large Japanese Maple. I was expounding on something obviously important when a docent, who could not see Judy behind the tree, stopped and asked, “Are you talking to yourself?” I quickly replied, “No, of course not, I’m talking to the tree.” I think her tour group was impressed.

After working with bonsai for 12 years, I began volunteering in the Japanese Garden to learn the art of pruning Lotusland’s prized niwaki under the guidance of Terri Clay. Terri worked with Frank Fujii for 20 years, and has worked for 33 years overall, planting and maintaining the Garden. Along with fellow pruning partner Judy, who has been volunteering in the garden for over six years, I have spent the last few years in a fun, challenging and rewarding outdoor classroom.

Fortunately, I love to prune, because according to Terri “Whether in training or established, everything from the smallest shrub to the largest tree in our garden is pruned with niwaki principles in mind.”

The first step is to learn about each individual niwaki. Terri often starts a training session by saying, “Tell me about this tree.” At first I would look at it from all angles, including from behind and underneath before concluding, “It’s got a lot of leaves!”

But as I listened to Terri explain what we were trying to accomplish I began to understand. “We need to define and maintain the structure of the tree, develop distinct levels of foliage, find the apex of the tree and flow of each branch, and to honor its location in the garden. Whether cascading down a hill, growing over a rock, or standing proudly at the edge of the pond, we need to aesthetically prune for today and for the future.”

I still have a lot to learn and I look forward to every Thursday with Terri and Judy when I get to be a small part of the amazing gardening crew at Lotusland – and when I get to talk to the trees.

If you are interested in volunteering in the Garden, please contact Kitty Thomassin at kthomassin@lotusland.org.

BECOME A LOTUSLAND DOCENT

Introductory Meeting for Prospective Docents

IF YOU LOVE GARDENS and are seeking a place to volunteer your time, consider becoming a Lotusland Docent. Our docents welcome our visitors with open arms and guide them through our magical gardens. Learn how to use enthusiasm, storytelling and connection to plants to bring greater meaning to Lotusland tours. Come join our team. To apply, please complete the application form on our website, or email Volunteer Coordinator Kitty Thomassin, at kthomassin@lotusland.org. An introductory meeting will be held on Monday, August 26th. The 12-week, two-hour training sessions will begin on Monday, September 9, 2019, at 9:30 AM The training features specialists and professors who will lecture on the various plants, the history and gardens of Lotusland.

SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Open Pathways

In our Open Pathways program we partner with select Santa Barbara organizations serving those citizens who would otherwise be unable to visit Lotusland due to physical, social and/or economic challenges. We are effectively targeting segments of Santa Barbara County’s population who are in the greatest need, including low-income residents, at-risk youth, those with special needs and the behaviorally and mentally challenged. We also welcome First Responders, ER nurses, hospice caregivers, and hospital workers to visit through this program. Open Pathways provides customized tours and programs for these groups for free.

Through Open Pathways Lotusland provides respite and tranquility, and inspires awe and hope for some of the most under-served people in Santa Barbara. This program is generously sponsored by the Wood-Claeyssens Foundation and by Southern California Edison. If you would like to support or get involved with Open Pathways, please contact Wendy Cooper, Director of Education and Outreach, at wcooper@lotusland.org.
LOTUSLAND’S SPECIMEN PLANT FUND is a restricted account that is funded entirely by donations. This important reserve allows us to purchase specific plants for special projects or rare plants that become available but are not part of our annual budget. Often times these opportunities are time-sensitive.

At Lotusland we constantly strive to increase the diversity of the plant collections but also have the increasing need to replace large, older specimens in the landscape that are beginning to fail due to old age. In recent years at least six mature plants have been lost on the main drive planting bed in front of the Pavilion. This summer we will use the Specimen Plant Fund to help restore this area and we have found a source of field grown cacti — *Echinopsis terscheckii* in particular — in Southern California. We will purchase the plants which will cost approximately $500 each.

We now have the unique opportunity to purchase legally imported plants of the critically endangered cycad, *Encephalartos latifrons*. The seed from which these plants were grown was produced from one of the last few wild populations in South Africa. This population occurs on a private farm where the owners have been guarding and caring for the plants for generations and propagating from the wild plants both for reintroduction and for sale to help alleviate pressure from illegal collecting. Lotusland has a few plants of *E. latifrons* in the collection, but adding plants of wild origin will greatly increase the genetic diversity of our collection.

If you want to learn more about the importance of this crucial fund, please contact Paul Mills, Curator of the Living Collections at pmills@lotusland.org.

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

WELCOME

New Visitor Services Staff

BIANKA RASOULI was born and raised on a ranch just outside of Goleta, where she now resides with her five year old son and four year old daughter. Bianka studied Studio Arts at Santa Barbara City College and finished her education at California State University Northridge. She enjoys baking, reading and running in the morning before her kids wake up. Bianka is excited to be at Lotusland because she gets to interact with many people in a beautiful setting, and on her lunch breaks you can catch her strolling through her favorite garden– the Insectary Garden.

MARNI CHEVEREZ is a third generation native of Santa Barbara and lives with her daughter and husband of 27 years. Before Lotusland, Marni was a competitive choreographer with over 35 national titles, and directed the San Marcos dance program for 20 years. In her free time Marni enjoys the beach and spending time with her family. Her favorite part of the job is seeing people fall in love with the enchanting garden and learning about the history of Ganna Walska. She also enjoys the Cactus Garden because “it feels like being on a different planet!”

BRITTANY McCLELLAND was born and raised in Santa Barbara and has been a makeup artist since 2005. Her favorite thing to do is read and she loves history and research. She even wrote a report on Ganna Walska when she attended Santa Barbara Junior High. Brittany is excited to be a part of Lotusland because she is a people person and feels privileged to work in such a peaceful environment. She looks forward to spending more time in the Japanese Garden as it was her favorite garden before the renovation.
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND OUTREACH
Wendy Cooper

WE WELCOME WENDY COOPER as the new Director of Education and Outreach at Lotusland. She hails from Athens, Georgia, where she began her studies at the University of Georgia, receiving a BA in Art History. While there, she participated in the Museum Studies program of the Georgia Museum of Art, later becoming the director of the program and its Statewide Traveling Exhibition Service. During her tenure as Director of the Friends of the Georgia Museum of Art, the membership and volunteer organization that supports and raises funds for the Museum, Wendy completed graduate studies in historic preservation, focusing on the design elements of historic gardens, buildings and interiors. After receiving her MFA in photography at the Savannah College of Art and Design, Wendy accepted a position as professor of commercial photography at Southeast Missouri State University. While there, she designed the interdisciplinary curriculum, supervised the Student Photography Association and exhibitions and taught courses in commercial photography, graphic design, video, visual communication and creative problem solving. Feeding a lifelong love of hiking and nature, Wendy organized a summer course that included a trip to Yosemite National Park to study its flora and fauna through the lens. It was during this trip that Wendy defined her passion for experiential education and nature-based education and therapy. Wendy came to Santa Barbara to pursue post-graduate studies in the areas of depth psychology and mind-body healing at Pacifica Graduate Institute. Her goal is to connect people to art and nature as healers, preferably in a place of historic significance with our amazing garden. Being a lifelong gardener, Wendy was happy to accept the invitation to be a chaperone on a visit to Lotusland for a group of individuals in the greenhouse program at Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health California, where she was the Manager of External Affairs.

“My first visit to Lotusland was love at first sight. Seeing my favorite flower, the lotus, in such abundance and experiencing the whimsy, creativity and grandeur of the garden truly left an indelible mark,” says Cooper.

“Lotusland provides such a profound educational and healing experience for those who visit.”

“Lotusland provides such a profound educational and healing experience for those who visit. The mission to educate on sustainable gardening practices is in line with my values of the conservation of this planet. I am excited and honored to be a part of the execution of the educational mission here at Lotusland.”

In her role as Director of Education and Outreach, Wendy will work with CEO Gwen Stauffer to develop wellness programs for the garden. Wendy will also work with Stauffer to produce high-caliber exhibitions and educational programs to reach a broader audience. Wendy will supervise all educational programming, including the Fourth Grade Outreach Program and Open Pathways, Lotusland’s grant-funded program that allows Lotusland to provide free tours to underserved populations in the area, including low income, at-risk populations, as well as those with special needs.

Lotusland provides such a profound educational and healing experience for those who visit.”
### Thursday, October 17 or Friday, October 18
**9:30 to 11:30 AM**
**Succulent Wreath Making Workshop**

**MAKE YOUR OWN LIVING WREATH!** Join us for an informative and fun succulent wreath making session at Lotusland. This workshop, designed for beginners, leads you through the steps needed to build a beautiful living succulent wreath that can be used year-round with minimal care. All necessary materials to construct one 14-inch wreath are included in the workshop fee. This member-only event is limited to 15 adults. Members may bring a guest. Tickets are $85 for Members; $105 for Members' guests. Reservations are required and may be made by calling Visitor Services at 805.969.9990.

### Saturday, August 24 • 3:30 to 6:00 PM
**Summer Twilight Tour**

**THIS UNIQUE GARDEN EXPERIENCE** puts you in Lotusland in the afternoon when the light and shadows create a magical experience. The afternoon begins with a cool beverage or wine in a commemorative Lotusland wine glass that is yours to keep. A light snack is served in Madame’s Sunken Drawing Room overlooking the lawn. There is a whole different feeling and appearance of Lotusland on the Summer Twilight Tour. Members and their guests can explore the garden on their own. Cost is $85 Members; $95 non-members. Reservations are required. Please call 805.969.9990.

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

**ATTEND LOTUSLAND’S 8TH** spectacular plant lovers’ event—**Exceptional Plants: Lotusland Auction & Sale.** This is a most unique and enjoyable day on the lawn at Lotusland featuring more than 200 rare and specimen plants in an impressive silent auction. For a grand finale, enjoy an exciting live auction where the region’s top plant aficionados, collectors and serious gardeners vie for the opportunity to own rarely available plants. It’s also a great party where kindred spirit plant people congregate to enjoy camaraderie, great food, specialty cocktails and an idyllic setting. Auctioneer Jeff Chemnick provides a lively commentary on the day’s rare and exceptional plants, many grown at Lotusland. Proceeds from the event care for and support Lotusland’s botanical collection. Come for the plants, stay for the party! Early bird pricing before September 1: $75 Members; $95 non-members. After September 1: Members $85; non-members $105. Call 805.969.9990 for reservations.
LOTUSLAND GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES DONATIONS

March, April and May 2019

THE LOTUS SOCIETY

NEW MEMBERS
Rachael Douglas  
in honor of Bill & Alex Daugherty
Katherine Murray-Morse
Leslie Thomas
Kitty Thomassin
Rick & Sheila Vitelle

ENDOWMENT CONTRIBUTIONS
Christina Woods

GRANTS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS
Roger S. Firestone Foundation  
directed by Mary & Lucy Firestone  
in honor of Belle Hahn

GENERAL EDUCATION FUND
John C. Mithun Foundation  
directed by Mercedes Millington & Jack Mithun

VISITOR CENTER ACCESSIBILITY FUND
Williams-Corbett Foundation

GPS HAND HELD MAPPING SYSTEM
Judy Cardinal

MATCHING GIFTS PROGRAM
Chevron Matching Employee Program  
directed by Jeffrey Romano & Stan Shayer
The Walt Disney Company Foundation  
directed by Julie Bush
Boeing Matching Employee Program  
directed by Arlene & Alfred Noreen
Rimrock Capital Management LLC  
directed by Clayton Nolde

TROPICAL GARDEN RENOVATION
Deborah Clark
Paul Guido
Christopher Hill & Rodolfo Choperena

JAPANESE GARDEN RENOVATION
Anonymous gifts (3)  
in memory of Rebecca Riskin
Anonymous (2)
Geoffrey & Kim Crane and Family
Scott Francis & Susan Gordon
Hind Foundation
David & Bonnie
Tanny & Court**Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Roger W. Davis
Ellen K. Johnson  
in honor of Deanne Violich
Judy & David Jones
Kristin & Steven Lewis
Mr. Harlis Maggard  
in memory of John Shockey
Siri & Bob Marshall
Lynne Scott
Gwen Stauffer & Mark Taylor

GIFTS FOR THE GARDEN
Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. Herb Aldwinckle
Adrian Bellomo
The Benevolity Community Impact Fund  
directed by Anne Sutherland Fuchs
Ann & Robert Benham
Krista & Tom Blake  
in honor of Pat Sheppard
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Sheppard
Ms. Janet Caroline Brown
Dr. & Mrs. John Bruch, Jr.
Mica Bryant  
in honor of my father Michael Furner for 40 years of dedication to Lotusland
Julie Bush & Tom Gibbons
The Charles Engelhard Foundation
Toby & Phyllis Citrin
Carson Compton
Tina Coury & Greg Welsh
Christine E. Denver
Rachael Douglas
Sarah Harvey
Kelly Heath
Barbara Hilaire

IN-KIND DONATION
Catherine Edwardson
Jason Jewell
Dr. Herman Schornstein
Susan & John C. Brunch & Cynthia Tippet

Ms. Rise Johnson
Ken Kambis & Leslye Givarz  
in appreciation of Richard Ross
Nancy Lee Kemper  
in gratitude to Alessandra Villegas
Dorothy & Everett Kirkelie  
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The Murphy Foundation
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in memory of our friend Judy Thielscher
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Parent  
in memory of Ozzie Da Ros
Michael M. Peacock Foundation  
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Debra Pearson
Marguerita Rice
William Sawyer
Mrs. Judy Shea
Biki Slijepcevic  
in honor of Jeri Moulder
Sarah Stokes
Robin Stoll
Ms. Hillary Tentler
Dr. & Mrs. Daniel Vapnek
Mr. Gary Villalba
Carol & Bill Wagner
Patricia Westphal
Monique Wichin  
Heather Wildharber
Susan Woodward
Lara Wooten
Dr. & Mrs. Philip Wyatt
Kristiann & Tony Zehr
Jules Zimmer & Carolyn Cogan

** Deceased
NEW LOTUSLAND MEMBERS
We welcome new members who joined in March, April and May 2019

NEW GARDEN LOVER MEMBERS
CULTIVATOR
Susan Read Cronin & Edward W. Cronin

ADVOCATE
Carolyn Mehran
Mary Ellen & Peter Alden
Katie Gerpheide & Guillaume de Zwirek
Ms. Rise Johnson

NEW GENERAL MEMBERSHIPS
FRIEND
Mary & John Blair
Annmarie & Michael Cameron
Dr. Jacquelin Charles
Kathy & John Denver
Joel Estrada & Lissette Barragan
Jill Finsten & Sascha Liebowitz
Carol & Luis Fondevila
Kim & David Gardner
Stacey Geldin & Eric Zahm

Lorette & Fritz Harnsberger
Karen & Jorge Herrera
Yessica & Josh Holloway
Doug & Ciji Madey
Lindsay Mahoney & Timothy Harbage
Stan Modin & Sarah Steinberger
Catherine Parker
Katherine & Steve Salant
Christian & Jim Scheib
Michelle Sherman
Christine Steele & Michael King
David & Melinda Tennen
Xiaole Yange & Kenneth Berthal

Dakota & Valerie Matson
Angela & Rita Moritz
Melissa Mose & Steve Postell
Steven & Marsha Nathanson
Renvy & Noel Pittman
Anne & Frank Pope
Andrea & Trevor Reid
Megan Speckmann & Matti Salomaki
Pamela Standley & Tom Fauntleroy
Carolina Starin & Nikola Gruzdev
Delaney Stoval

DUAL
Meagan Ashmore & Ashwin Chipamun
Pradeep & Reena Bajaj
Tom Barta & Lara Edinger
Ruth & Stuart Birdt
Bogda & Shawn Bolouki
Karolina & Eric Campbell
Richard Carlson & Michelle Larson
Camille & Ed Cornelius
Tina Coury & Greg Welsh
Anna & Brad Cox
Kathryn & Al Curtice
Melissa Daghini & Christian Palladino
Ann DuMont & James Thomas
Kevin & Karen Fitzgerald
Laura & Elise Goodell
Patricia & John Grace

IN MEMORIAM
Jean Schuyler
We are inspired by the life of Jean Schuyler, a fierce and loyal advocate of the environment, arts, education and women’s issues. Lotusland is grateful for Jean’s 25-year membership and her many contributions to preserve the natural world in Santa Barbara County and beyond. She will be missed by all who knew her and remembered for her staunch support and protection of the sacred spaces of nature for our community and future generations, including a recent gift to Lotusland’s Japanese Garden.

Jacqueline J. Stevens
Jacqueline J. Stevens was a 19-year Lotus Society member who will be remembered for her deep faith, devotion to family and friends and her kind, generous spirit. She was a regular attendee of Lotusland Celebrates and would often visit Lotusland with her four children. We remember and miss Jackie and thank her for her deep affection for Lotusland.

IN MEMORIAM
Jacqueline J. Stevens
March, April and May 2019

GARDEN LOVER MEMBERS RENEWING OR INCREASING LEVEL OF SUPPORT

GARDEN LOVER MEMBERS

STEWARD
Linda & Fred Gluck
Mercedes Millington & Jack Mithun
Patty & Michael Rosenfeld
Lynda Weinman & Bruce Heavin

GUARDIAN
Lady Leslie Ridley-Tree
Susanne & Gary Tobey

CONSERVATOR
Marcia & John Mike Cohen
Carolyn Cooper & Glenn Griffith
Sheila Klink
Lori Kraft Meschler
Kate Schepanovich

CULTIVATOR
Mr. & Mrs. Robert S. Anderson
Ann & Robert Benham
Susan Brunn *
Mary Jane & Steve Buchanan *
Connie & Nigel Buxton
Sheri Eckmann & William Klansek
Mr. & Mrs. Ian Fisher
Ms. Anne Sutherland Fuchs *
Ms. Debra Ann Galin *
Dorothy & John Gardner
Ms. Katheryn Hudson
Rick & Christie Joy
Karen Lehrer & Steve Sherwin
Ellen Lehrer Orlando & Thomas Orlando

ADVOCATE
Peggy & Kurt Anderson *
Allison Armour *
Mr. & Mrs. Claude W. Case
Thomas & Linda Cole *
Rachael Douglas *
Sally & Mark Egan
Mr. & Mrs. Ray F. Evert
Scott Francis & Susan Gordon
Dolores & Frederick Gillmore
Luci & Rich Janssen
Ms. Diana Katsenes
Sheila & Joel Mendelsohn *
John A. Perez & Ann N. Lowry
Patricia Ryan
Lyne Scott *
Elena Urschel *
Sheri Wechsler
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Wenger
Anne Wilder & Robert Lum *
Carolyn & Bob Williams

* Denotes Increased Support
Summer 2019 Events

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

Sunday, July 7
LotusFest!
Wine & Beer Tasting Festival
2:00 to 5:00 PM
805.969.9990 for reservations

Saturday, July 27
Lotusland Celebrates:
Memoirs of a Garden
3:30 PM
See page 8

Saturday, August 24
Twilight Tour
3:30 to 6:00 PM
See page 16

Monday, August 26
Prospective Docent Meeting
9:30 AM
See page 13

Monday, September 9
Docent Training Begins
9:30 AM to noon
See page 13

Saturday, October 5
Exceptional Plants: Auction & Sale
1:30 to 5:30 PM
See page 16

Monday, October 8
Palm Focus Tour with Dr. Don Hodel for Garden Lover Members
3:00 to 5:00 PM
Postcard invitation arrives mid-August

Thursday, October 17 or Friday, October 18
Succulent Wreath Making Workshop
9:30 to 11:30 AM
See page 16

November 15
Last Day of Tours for 2019

Arrival Times for Tours
Including self-guiding 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