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LETTER FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Members and Friends,

LEO TOLSTOY'S MUSING, "SPRING IS THE TIME OF PLANS AND PROJECTS," embodies this spring season at Lotusland. Warm sunny days produce prime conditions for the



Japanese Garden Renovation team to gain momentum and complete the project by our mid-June deadline. The daily rate at which the Japanese Garden transforms is astounding. This renovation is the greatest, most complex and time-consuming project ever in the history of Lotusland, and we are thrilled to be in the final stretch.

With the arrival of spring also comes the start of a new era as we begin implementation of Lotusland's three-year strategic plan. Adopted by the Board at the end of 2018, the strategic plan provides the fi st steps on a path to secure Lotusland's fi ancial and physical sustainability. With the

severe restrictions placed on Lotusland's operations by the Conditional Use Permit issued by Santa Barbra County, we simply cannot generate enough earned revenue to ensure Lotusland's fi ancial well-being. This is a unique constraint very few other cultural organizations in our entire nation are forced to overcome.

On the other hand, Lotusland is the most unique garden in the US. Listed every year as a top ten garden of the world, Lotusland is placed in the company of some of the greatest botanic gardens on Earth. One of the most recently famous — Gardens by the Bay, in Singapore — recently sent their team to learn how to incorporate Lotusland's sustainable horticulture techniques into their operations.

Lotusland may be internationally renowned, but we strive to be a Santa Barbara County resource. We are your local treasure — the botanical gem in your backyard. As a world-class garden, our strategic plan prescribes that we provide a world-class experience for each and every guest to this emerald nirvana and engage all of our community in a way that is relevant to them and inspires them to support the Garden. The ultimate objective of our strategic plan is to ensure that Lotusland is here in perpetuity.

Th s fi st year of the strategic plan implementation is focused on getting our old systems updated and new systems in place so that we can deliver new programs and experiences of distinction only Lotusland can provide. I hope you will watch for these changes and let us know what you think.

We extend our deep gratitude to those of you who participated, just over one year ago, in the early research phase of this strategic planning process. Your comments and perspectives helped us understand what Lotusland means to you, and you helped defi e what more we can do for you and others in our community.

I look forward to seeing you in the Garden!

Gwen L. Stauffer Chief Executive Offic

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.



NEW STAFF Diane Jeffers, Kiosk Manager



DIANE HAS LIVED IN **SANTA BARBARA** for 25 years. She is the mother of two amazing daughters, both currently in college. Diane is a student at UCSB, pursuing dual majors in the History of Art and Architecture and Studio Arts. On her many visits to Lotusland she immediately

fell in love with the garden's artistic design. Diane describes how she "loves the way the garden beckons you in, fills ou with its beauty and charms, then leaves you with peaceful memories."

Diane's job as the Kiosk Manager allows her the fl xibility to continue her education while utilizing her talents for helping to create an exceptional guest experience. Diane says she "loves interacting with visitors, docents, staff and that occasional squirrel that may make its way to my island kiosk."



Lotusland's Flag Flies on the Breakwater

LOTUSLAND TRUSTEE MIMI MICHAELIS generously donated a flag with our lo o and secured a prominent position for it to fly on the Santa Barba a breakwater. A series of 27 flags epresenting local nonprofits has be ome an important part of this iconic local landmark. Lotusland is pleased to be part of this public art project.



LOTUSLAND'S SPECTACULAR gardens and dramatic landscapes create an inspirational botanical wonderland, but we are so much more than just a pretty place. Lotusland is uniquely positioned to increase awareness and appreciation of plants and to connect people with nature. The Garden also functions as a life raft for threatened species, acting as an insurance policy against extinction. It is our job to not only ensure the best care and maintenance of the plant collections but also to manage and curate the collections for the benefit of future generations.

Botanic gardens are defi ed as having documented plant collections the purpose of science, research, conservation, display and education which, in large part, describes the role of Lotusland's Curatorial Department. Our job is to manage information without documentation, the value of the collections to the scientific community diminishes. Curation at Lotusland began in the 1970s when Charlie Glass started inventorying plants on the property. His records start with the emblematic Encephalartos woodii as GWL 0001 - the fi st plant to ever be accessioned.

The duties of the Curatorial Department have evolved since the days of Charlie Glass and now include overseeing all aspects of plant collections management while collaborating with all entities of the organization. We maintain the plant record database and digital map of the collections, which includes accessioning and deaccessioning plants, conducting inventories and mapping their locations. Curation assures our adherence to current taxonomy and ever-changing nomenclature by researching updating to currently accepted plant names.

Much as museums have collection policies so do botanic gardens because, after all, they are living museums. The collection policy is developed and administered by the Curatorial Department and guides the development and management of the collections and how plants are acquired or removed from the collections and assures that it is all done ethically.

The Curators manage the nursery and oversees plant propagation, constantly working to build the collections and acquire new plants, often in the form of seed. The nursery also acts as a hospital

for plants that are not performing well in the landscape, and we produce plants for the gift shop, *Exceptional Plants* (our annual plant auction), and provide nearly 3,000 succulents each year for the Fourth Grade Outreach program.

Lotusland's globally important plant collections are very diverse. We have 3,400 types of plants and approximately 35,000 individuals that are often massed in large quantities — keeping track of every single plant is an enormous challenge. The plant record database allows us to track plants from their arrival, either as seed or plant, throughout their lives and beyond, having an entire table dedicated to the plants that are no longer in the collections. As each plant or group of plants, arrives they are assigned a unique number that links them to their record in the database. An embossed aluminum accession label is attached to a stake at the base of the plant in the garden for identifi ation.

A plant record holds very signifi ant data. For example, we have cycads that were legally collected as seed as part of a joint expedition between Lotusland, Montgomery Botanical Center (Florida) and Jardín Botánico Francisco Clavijero



ABOVE: Each dot represents a plant in this ArcGIS map of Lotusland.

(Mexico) that have exact collection data and can be traced back to the parent plant in the wild — the highest level of scientific v lue for a botanic garden.

Another critical tool for management and planning is ArcGIS, an advanced geographical information and mapping software tool. The map is linked to our database by the plant accession number, allowing us to search the collections in an effici t manner. This is an added safeguard in case a plant's accession label is misplaced, assuring that we can relocate it in the garden.

We map using tape measures to triangulate from point to point, which is highly accurate but time consuming. Lotusland was professionally surveyed in 1998 (hardscape, buildings, water features, etc.) with control points placed throughout the garden which we use as a reference when mapping. The Curatorial Department has been working since 1998 to populate the map with the plantings. We are making a move to modernize our mapping and database capabilities and are raising funds for a **Trimble Geo7x** handheld GPS device to facilitate these efforts (See Wish List items on page 14).

As botanic gardens take on increasing roles in plant conservation and research, it becomes more important to share valuable information about individual gardens holdings. Lotusland shares our plant records database with Botanic Garden Conservation International's (BGCI) Plant Search database, the only global database of living plants, seed and tissue collections. By accessing this enormous database, one is able to search 1,397,421 collection records representing 552,237 taxa at 1,103 contributing institutions. Th s is an extremely powerful tool that allows botanic gardens to search for and request information and plant material for research and conservation activities. Lotusland receives many requests and recently shared some leaflets from a critically endangered South African cycad for genetic studies being conducted at the San Diego Zoo for conservation purposes.

There are many globally important plant collections at Lotusland but the most relevant in terms of science, research, conservation and education are the cycads. Our cycad collection is part of the

American Public Garden Association's Plant Collections Network's multi-site cycad collection. The Plant Collections Network "coordinates a continent-wide approach to plant germplasm preservation and promotes excellence in plant collections management."

We are active members of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Species Survival Commission's Cycad Specialist Group. Th's group works to assess the global level of threat to individual species of cycads with the ultimate goal of halting extinction of cycads, the most threatened group of organisms on the planet.

Although Lotusland is a place of much needed respite in this increasingly noisy world, there is much work that goes on that is not apparent to the public. As we begin working with the IUCN and colleagues in South Africa on a species survival plan for a critically endangered cycad, the role of Lotusland's plant collections, as beautiful as they are, become increasingly important on a global scale.







Horticultural Happenings

ORCHARD CARE AT LOTUSLAND

LOTUSLAND has two historic orchards filled with a variety of interesting and delicious fruit trees. This year, with the return of ample rain, staff—as been been thrilled to devote renewed energy into the deciduous orchard, planting 17 new trees and developing a sustainable plan for orchard care. The deciduous orchard is an assortment of stone (peaches and plums) and pome (pears and apples) fruits but also has persimmon, fi , pomegranate, mango, avocado and chestnut.

With so many different trees we were fortunate to consult with Larry Saltzman, President of the Channel Islands Chapter of the California Rare Fruit Growers, for advice. He was very helpful in developing a sustainable plan for the orchard.







Points for stone and pome fruit tree care:

- Organic fertilizer in spring and early summer: Tom Spellman from Dave Wilson Nursery recommends a humic acid-based fertilizer low in nitrogen (3%) applied early in the year when the trees need it. Avoid high nitrogen fertilizers because they produce far too much lush growth at the expense of fruit. Young trees can benefit from a little more nitrogen as they are building their fi st scaffold branches.
- Summer pruning for size: Tom also recommends pruning and training the trees at the start for good size control and access to the fruit.
- Purchase trees in winter (bareroot) when they are dormant. They are usually less expensive, more varieties are available, and they will develop better root structure.
- Winter chill, especially for apples, is not critical. Don't be afraid to try unusual apple varieties as many heirloom apples thought not to fruit in southern California due to less chill hours can produce very well.
- Native wildfl wers make a fantastic accent to the orchard fl or and attract droves of benefic al insects and birds, guaranteeing good pollination. Many types of wildfl wers will emerge through mulch if it's not too thick.
- Water your trees consistently, especially new plantings, and add three to four inches of mulch. Deep watering encourages the roots to travel down, making the trees much more drought resistant.

Growing fruit trees can be very rewarding as you learn how to prune and enjoy a prolonged harvest, and simply care for something so vital and beautiful. This year we reinvested in our orchards, remembering they represent abundant life and happily sharing this abundance with our guests. — *Corey Welles*



STEVEN TIMBROOK RECEIVES BOUQUET OF THE YEAR HONORS

DR. STEVEN TIMBROOK has been recognized with the Santa Barbara County Horticultural Society's highest honor, the 2018 Bouquet of the Year. The society is one of the longest-running horticultural societies in America, and each year bestows the award upon a person or organization that has excelled in the advancement and promotion of horticulture in the Santa Barbara area. Timbrook joins a prestigious list of previous award winners, including Pearl Chase, Ganna Walska, Oswald Da Ros and Paul Mills in 2014.

Steven was the moving force in opening Lotusland to public visitation, and served as the fi st director, from 1987 until 2005. Though the promotion of the horticultural pursuits of Ganna Walska, Timbrook kept interest in horticulture thriving in Santa Barbara, focusing widespread attention on the plants at Lotusland and its unique theme garden areas. In addition, he wisely hired and then nurtured many who have since become important and prominent figu es in our horticultural community. Prior to his time at Lotusland, Timbrook was the education coordinator at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, where he helped many in the community learn about and garden with our native California fl ra. - Randy Baldwin

Randy Baldwin is a member of the Santa Barbara County Horticultural Society and the President of San Marcos Growers.



MANY LAYERS OF HORTICULTURAL

history make up the plant collections at Lotusland. The fi st layer was put down when Ralph Kinton Stevens and his wife Caroline bought the property in 1882. Named "Tanglewood" for the numerous native oaks that were already on the property, Stevens quickly became interested in plants of economic and horticultural value — especially citrus and palms. He was the fi st nurseryman in California to offer a catalog solely dedicated to tropical and subtropical plants and is credited with introducing Indian lotus (*Nelumbo nucifera*) and nine varieties of palms.

Stevens wrote, "Palms are among the fi est and handsomest of all plants and my collection contains all the best and hardiest varieties adapted to Southern California." He offered 50 different palms for sale with many of them being tested in the landscape at "Tanglewood." In his introduction to the catalog he states, "I can speak with some knowledge on the subject of their growth, habits, etc., as they have developed here." Some of the oldest plants on the property are the

remnants of these original palms planted by Stevens.

One of Stevens' greatest legacies is the 40 mature Chilean palms on the property, the oldest being the two that tower over the Sycamore Canyon gate. It is interesting to think that Stevens would have never imagined that his plants would later become some of the most prominent plants at a world-renowned botanic garden.

Photographs from Stevens' time give insight into the locations of some of the oldest plants that remain in the collections today. Stevens' house stood in the area that is currently the fern garden

and his trial garden was the area that encompasses what is today the dragon tree (Dracaena draco) forest, with his immense Dracaena draco in the center. Upon further examination of the images, one can identify many of the palms that are now some of the largest



LEFT: *Dracaena draco* **TOP RIGHT:** Chilean palms at Sycamore Canyon Gate **BOTTOM:** Stevens' catalog

of their kind. Recognizable in the photos are the *Washingtonia* palms that are now towering over the area – the *W. filifera* near the dormitory and the *W. robusta* at the edge of the Palmetum. An immense Canary Island date palm (*Phoenix canariensis*) and Chilean palm (*Jubaea chilensis*) in this part of the garden are also visible in the early photos.

The plants that originated during the Stevens era are many and also include the massive bunya-bunya (Araucaria bidwillii) trees, the hoop pine (A. cunninghamii) in the blue garden and Norfolk Island pine (A. heterophylla) in the Japanese Garden, which were all offered in his catalog. In the Japanese Garden there is a Torrey pine (Pinus torreyana) that surely rivals the age of the historic Wardholme Torrey pine in Carpinteria, planted in 1888.

Many of these old plants are beginning to decline from age. Two years ago, we

had to remove Stevens' most iconic tree due to failing health – the 130-year-old Monterey cypress (Hesperocyparis macrocarpa) that dominated the vista of the great lawn. In planning for the next 130 years, a seedling grown from the venerable original tree was planted in its place and is now 12 feet tall. — Paul Mills



Opens in June!



OVER TWO YEARS HAVE PASSED since we closed the Japanese Garden to drain the pond and move koi, lanterns and trees in preparation for the project groundbreaking. After a decade of research, planning and construction, we are beyond excited to re-open it to you in June.

On your next visit to Lotusland you can enjoy a great view of the progress. We have removed the chain link fence and erected a temporary, decorative fence to keep you safely on the main drive and above the action while you get a full perspective of the continuing construction.

With the reflecting pond completed, we are now in the field phase of the renovation. We are building the Cryptomeria Gathering — a new space among a grove of *Cryptomeria* (Japanese cedar) adjacent to the newly restored waterfall and stream. This lush and shady copse, with boulder benches, will be enhanced by the playful and palliative sound of water streaming from the falls and rippling along the rocky streambed toward the reflecting pond. Exquisite tranquility will await you here.

We have begun construction of the Karesansui, or dry garden, located between cycad hill and the large American elm that rises above the dramatic boulders placed by Ozzie Da Ros. Ganna Walska had a small, raked gravel garden here, and her precedent inspired us to enlarge her concept by incorporating all the existing features into one garden area that harmonizes and elevates the beauty of each. With new seating added, we believe the Karesansui will become one of the more contemplative places in the garden.

With the Karesansui completed, we begin our very last phase of the renovation. The foundation for the Pavilion will be poured, and the water features, garden infrastructure and trees surrounding it will be installed. As this fi al phase progresses, the construction road from the Cold Springs driveway into the north side of the garden will be removed, little by little, until we no longer have need for heavy equipment. At that point we can restore the affected section of the Cypress Allée and re-open the Water Stairs.

After we complete the hardscapes in each phase, the landscape team comes in to install irrigation, ameliorate the soil per Lotusland's sustainable horticulture specifi ations, and install plants. Perhaps the restored garden planting is the most telling sign that we are getting close to fin shing the renovation, with the installation of the paths as the fi al work. The fin shing touch comes when we dismantle the *Ishi-dōrō of Lotusland* exhibit and place each lantern back in its historic position.





When we open the garden in June, you will recognize favorite historic features we worked hard to preserve, even as they are co-mingled with new features that will make the garden more accessible to all our guests and enable us to provide unprecedented programming for all of you. The garden will appear both old and young, but over time it will gain the patina of age that makes the Japanese Garden, and all of Lotusland for that matter, feel timeless.

When the Japanese Garden opens in June, the Pavilion will not be completed — that phase is to come after we meet our renovation campaign goal. Until then, if you are interested in helping us reach our campaign goal, I invite you to join me for a tour inside the garden project site to witness the team's efforts up close and get an intimate experience of the garden's evolution as you consider a gift. To schedule a tour, please contact Rebecca Anderson at 805,969,3767, ext. 104.

— Gwen Stauffer

TOP LEFT: Guests observing the progress in the garden over the new decorative fence on the Main Drive.

INSET LEFT: Lotus Viewing Deck.

INSET RIGHT: Saucer Magnolia.

LOTUSLAND REMEMBERS Rebecca Riskin



Rebecca Riskin was a local legend, both as a Realtor and beloved member of the Montecito community. She will forever be remembered at Lotusland with the commemoration of a new Japanese Maple Walk named in her honor in the renovated Japanese Garden.

A former ballerina who spent 30 years in the local real estate community selling Montecito's most distinguished properties, Rebecca was also a Lotusland Member and supporter of our Insectary Garden, a garden dedicated to promoting sustainable gardening practices.

Rebecca was an exceptional woman whose legacy and love of the outdoors lives on and thrives through her children, Robert and Julia. This memorial gift, organized by her son, keeps Rebecca's spirit at home in an appropriate natural setting - Rebecca was a devoted hiker and lover of the environment.

Visit the Japanese Maple Walk when the garden opens this summer and pause at the bench bearing her name to pay tribute to a graceful woman who was dedicated to enjoying and preserving our natural world.



ABOVE: Pavilion rendering. INSET: Secret Garden adjacent to the Pavilion.

RESTORING BODY & SPIRIT

The Campaign to Renovate the Lotusland Japanese Garden

NEW FEATURES FOR A HISTORIC GARDEN

One of the most beloved and iconic landscapes on the Lotusland grounds, the revitalized Japanese Garden features original elements including the distinctive stone bridge and Torii Gate as well as beautiful new elements including a Lotus Viewing Deck, Karensansui Garden, and a Miwatasu Scenic Overlook.

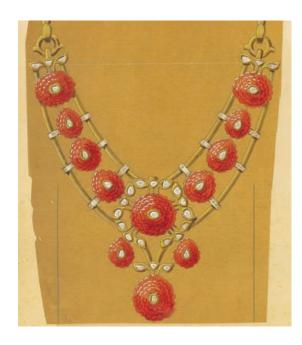
These enhancements will create new spaces for gathering groups and classes, as well as offering new seating for rest and reflection, along with inc easing



pathway accessibility. Just \$700,000 is needed to complete the Japanese Garden construction. It is imperative we raise these funds by June of this year to avoid the encumberment of financing, and to enable Lotusland to reopen the garden in June, 2019, with fundraising completed. Gifts may be pledged over 3-5 years.

We invite you to join us in this restoration of the Lotusland Japanese Garden. For more information, please contact Rebecca Anderson, Director of Development, 805.969.3767, ext. 104 or randerson@lotusland.org.

Major support of the Japanese Garden restoration is made possible by the Hind Foundation and generous neighbors, donors, Members and volunteers. We continue to seek support for the project, and naming opportunities are available.



LEFT: Cartier sketch for proposed ruby necklace, London workshop, c. 1937. This drawing and another sketch for an alternate design were found in Ganna Walska's jewelry scrapbook.

PRESERVING HISTORY

Lotusland's Archives

The archives at Lotusland are a rich resource of information about the history of this property and the development of the garden throughout the years and an extensive repository of documentation from the life and times of Madame Ganna Walska. Ongoing research through the collection's countless papers, photographs, correspondence, and oral histories offers important insights into her long life and continues to add previously unknown details of her fascinating life story.

Among the cabinets filled with innume able files egarding her various business endeavors, her homes, and her considerable philanthropic and charitable contributions, many folders attest to Ganna Walska's patronage of her favorite jewelry house, Cartier. Inside folders with invoices and records of her purchases from their stores in New York, Paris, and London, are personal letters from the three Cartier brothers themselves. In addition, a major surprise was revealed when original Cartier sketches for proposed jewelry designs were discovered in one of Madam Walska's scrapbooks.

Lotusland hosted Heritage team members from Cartier North America, who visited in late March to survey the Cartier-related personal collections in our archive. They hope to reach a deeper understanding of Ganna Walska and her relationship with Cartier, as well as gain new perspectives on the rich history of Cartier and its clients.

With her unique style and vision, generosity and grace, Ganna Walska left us evidence of a life well lived and her ultimate labor of love, the gardens of Lotusland. — Rose Thomas

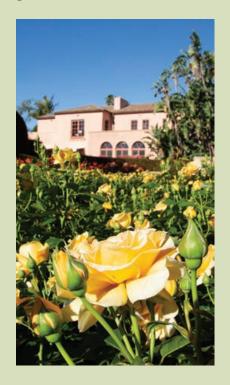
GIVING BACK Make a Recurring Gift Today. It's Easy and Green.

Your gift keeps Ganna Walska Lotusland growing strong and supports everything from beautiful horticultural displays to the advancement of Lotusland's collections and research.

Recurring gifts are ongoing donations for a specific amount that you determine. Recurring gifts are made on a set schedule throughout the year, monthly, quarterly or biannually.

Setting up a recurring gift is convenient, customizable and environmentally friendly. Most important, recurring gifts ensure a steady source of support for Lotusland's world-class gardens.

Lotusland's Development Offi e can help you establish a recurring gift, call (805) 969-3767, ext. 105.



LOTUSLAND SHORT FILM The Garden is Singing

Lotusland's short film The Garden is Singing, premiered at the Santa Barbara International Film Festival and was met with great enthusiasm — it was an honor to be selected. The film was written, directed and co-produced by Karen Kasaba, a Lotusland docent and Emmy nominated screenwriter. Our goal was to create a trailer that will help us raise interest in producing a one-hour documentary that captures the soul of Madame Ganna Walska's internationally renowned garden, while giving special context to the greater global purpose that Lotusland as a botanic garden serves.

We are formulating a plan to produce a longform documentary that fully explores the nuances, complexities and wonderful stories that make Ganna Walska Lotusland both a magical garden to visit and an important botanical resource for the planet. Featuring rich visuals of the many extraordinary and exotic plants at Lotusland, it will deliver our core message of plant conservation and environmental sustainability, and look behind the scenes and into the archives to share Lotusland's history, with illuminating interviews of people who keep the garden singing, and provide insights into Ganna Walska's exceptional achievements as an entrepreneurial woman, individualist and feminist whose ultimate legacy to the world is Lotusland. To view the short film, o to the link on our homepage, Lotusland.org.



THE LOTUS SOCIETY MEMBER PROFILE Alisa Freundlich



Alisa Freundlich is a woman motivated by visionary leadership and lasting results. As an attorney and savvy commercial real estate investor, she demonstrates forward thinking in every facet of her life. This is what compelled Alisa to become a Lotus Society member when invited to do so by Chairwoman Peggy Wiley. Inspired

by her passions for gardening and art, Alisa is supportive of Lotusland's commitment to grow its endowment as a sustainable plan for the organization.

Alisa fell in love with Santa Barbara as an undergraduate at UCSB. After earning her JD from Loyola Law School and thriving in a successful career as a Real Estate Capital Advisor, Broker and Attorney, she has returned to our community as a resident and philanthropist. As co-founder of the Los Angeles Giving Circle and board member of other charities, Alisa has dedicated her time as a volunteer to developing and advising groups and individuals on strategic philanthropy. Alisa resonates with the purpose of *The Lotus* Society — to ensure that Lotusland remains a community treasure of educational and scientific importance long into the future.

"How lucky are we to be here to enjoy this amazing place and protect this vision for future generations?"

According to Alisa, being part of The Lotus Society is a gift for the members. "Thanks to the amazing vision and foresight of Madame Walska, this incredible garden is available to the public as a peaceful refuge in this turbulent world. How lucky are we to be here to enjoy this amazing place and protect this vision for future generations?"

To discuss your legacy and to learn more about *The Lotus Society* please call Rebecca Anderson at 805.969.9767, ext. 104.







MAY 16 & 17

Members' Appreciation Barbeque

COME JOIN US FOR A VERY SPECIAL MEMBER APPRECIATION

CELEBRATION – enjoy the rare opportunity to dine in the garden at one of our two early evening barbeques with drinks, activities, live music and lots of fun. Choose an evening that works best for you: Thursday, May 16 will emphasize family friendly activities and crafts or Friday, May 17 will feature livelier music and lawn games for all ages. Both night's festivities will be from 4:00 to 7:00 PM. (*Gate opens at 3:30 PM*)

Remember, vehicles are valet parked and limited to one per Member household, please carpool. Enjoy the delicious flavors of barbeque by the acclaimed Santa Ynez VALLEY PIGGERY serving grilled organic chicken, pulled pork, roasted veggies and an abundance of tasty side dishes. Lotusland will serve a complimentary dessert as well as lemonade, iced tea and coffee. Wine and beer are available for purchase or BYOB. Get to know your fellow Members with communal seating for dinner or bring a blanket for leisurely picnic-style lawn seating.

Don't delay mailing your Reservation Form early or going online to www.lotusland.org/memberbbq to buy tickets and assure your vehicle space is reserved. There will be a wait list. Members are welcome to purchase tickets for extended family or friends that fit into one vehicle, which will be valet parked. Tickets cost \$30 for teen and adult Members and \$40 for nonmembers, \$10 for ages 3-12 years, free for 2 and under.

PLEASE RETURN THE RESERVATION FORM TO:

Ganna Walska Lotusland, Members' Appreciation Barbeque, 695 Ashley Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93108.

Reservations are taken based on postmark or online purchase. Your confirmation and a map will be mailed to you upon receipt as long as space is available.

Members' Appreciation RESERVATION FORM

Circle your date to attend:	Thursday, May 16	Friday, May 17	
# of Adult or Teen tickets @ \$30 each	x \$30=		
# of Children tickets @ \$10 each	x \$10=		Knowing children's ages helps us plan activities Check #: made payable to
Attendees 2 and under are free	x \$0=		
# of Non-Member guests	x \$40=		
	Total =		Ganna Walska Lotusland
Member Name(s):			We accept Visa, M/C, Discover and AmEx
Street / City / State / Zip:			Card #:
			Exp. Date:Security Code:
E-mail:			

Please call by May 9 if your plans change as we will have a wait list. Refunds not available after May 10.



FROM L TO R: Tom Reynolds, Laurel Miller, Patty Phillips, Marc Effron, Bonnie Blakley, Peggy Koegler, Cathy Chiu, Vivienne Ninness, Tanda Jacobs, Gillian Connor, Susan Brunn, Patty Riley, Liz Martin, Sherry Gapen, Linda Bednarski, Pat Crotteau, Sandi Wilson, Lisa Rudell, Connie Wernet, Sandy Grasso-Boyd, Carol McHenry.

Lotusland Welcomes 24 New Docents

Lotusland recently graduated 24 new docents. After completing a rigorous twelve-week course, this group of dedicated individuals is ready to lead tours, interpret the plant collections and share the fascinating history of the garden. The docent training program provides top-notch lectures, guest speakers, classes and training over a four month period. Our next docent training begins in September 2019. For more information, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Kitty Thomassin at 805.969.3767, ext. 112.

MEMOIRS OF



SAVE THE DATE Lotusland Celebrates

Journey to Japan at our annual summer gala, and feel the embrace of nature in Madame Walska's tranquil 1960s Japanese Garden, now enlivened after a two-year renovation.

Corporate sponsorships now available! Email events@lotusland.org or call 805.969.3767, ext. 105.

Tickets and tables available mid-April.



JULY 27, 2019

THANK YOU TO OUR GARDEN LOVER

MFMBFRS

CHAMPION

Suzanne & Gilbert Mathews

VISIONARY

Ted Friedel & Coleen Richardson Friedel

STEWARD

Patricia & Larry Durham Linda & Fred Gluck Mercedes Millington & Jack Mithun Connie & John Pearcy Patty & Michael Rosenfeld Dr. Richard Ross Lynda Weinman & Bruce Heavin

GUARDIAN

Tania & John Burke Sophie & Derek Craighead Hermine & Gary Gallup Mr. Arthur R. Gaudi Cyndee Howard & Lesley Cunningham Kim L. Hunter & Paulo P. Lima, Ph.D. Carole MacElhenny Dennis McGowan & Rudie van Brussel Lady Leslie Ridley-Tree Mr. & Mrs. Gary Uwé Rollé Jeffrey Romano & Stan Shayer Jay & Talia Roston Stephen P. Schaible & Daron S. Builta Mrs. Judy Shea Mrs. Anitra P. Sheen Susanne & Gary Tobey Mr. Christopher J. Toomey Nita & Henk van der Werff

WISH LIST Help Make Lotusland's Wishes Come True



Trimble Geo7X

Lotusland's Curatorial Department is responsible for creating and updating maps of our gardens and facilities. Alongside our plant records database, our map allows us to track plants throughout their lifetime in the garden. Having accurate bed maps and knowing the locations of plants is crucial

to our work in managing our living collection. We are looking to upgrade our current mapping system with the addition of a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit. This handheld device would allow us to easily collect datapoints in the field and seamle sly convert and upload the data into our existing mapping software, ArcGIS. We would like to purchase the **Trimble Geo7X**, which has an accuracy level down to 4 inches as well as a laser rangefinde, which allows for accurate mapping in areas where a satellite signal may be weaker (near buildings or under a dense tree canopy). This purchase would also include software installed on the GPS unit and software installed on the computer to convert the data into ArcGIS. See story on page four. Your gifts in any amount help us reach our goals. We are one third of the way to our goal of \$10,600.



Digitizing Lotusland's Archives

Lotusand's archives contain valuable and irreplaceable information about the history of the garden and the life of Madame Ganna Walska. These valuable historical records are our institutional memory.

There are photographs, correspondence, journals, books and personal items dating back over 100 years. We continue thoroughly cataloging and interpreting all the materials we have in our library and archives. Lotusland's goal is to create a comprehensive digital archive to protect and preserve these materials in order to facilitate ongoing research and sharing of this historic and important collection. The scale of this project is significant and securing our archives is a priority. We invite you to contribute to this critical archiving project that we anticipate will cost \$75,000. See related story on page ten.

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.



EXHIBITION Lotusland in Origami: Flora, Fauna and Ganna

Lotusland in Origami features 12 of the most renowned origami artists in the United States (several from the Santa Barbara area) to represent various elements of Lotusland in origami — namely, the flo a, the fauna and Ganna. These artists work in diverse styles and materials to express the nature of Lotusland and the spirit of the garden's founder, Madame Ganna Walska, with incredible ingenuity, sublime elegance and subtle humor.

Co-curated by Asian art historian Meher McArthur and artist Holly Sherwin, Lotusland in Origami celebrates a fascinating form of Japanese cultural art to honor the imminent reopening in June of Lotusland's famous Japanese Garden after an extensive renovation. The exhibit will be open through May 18 and is part of the garden tour.



Cactus art by Robert J. Lang

VOLUNTEER PROFILE Holly Sherwin



In addition to being the co-curator of Lotusland in Origami, Holly Sherwin has been a docent at Lotusland since 2014. She was raised near Doylestown, Pennsylvania, and educated at Penn State University, which led to working as a naturalist for The Conservancy of Southwest

Florida in the Florida Keys. Holly's career allowed her the opportunity to work in the great outdoors educating adults and children alike. She led birding and snorkeling adventures, canoe and boat trips, and even earned her Coast Guard Captain's license. Nashville, Tennessee was the next stop where she worked on the PBS series "Tennessee's Wild Side." She and her husband, Lanny, and son Alec, moved to Santa Barbara in 2004. They were lured here by the coastal

beauty and the unique character of the community. In addition to her enthusiastic personality, Holly's background as a naturalist blends perfectly into being a Lotusland docent. She is able to pursue her passion for sharing and teaching about the wonders of nature right here in the garden. Holly describes the docent training as being an amazing program full of great instructors all presented like a college level course. She appreciates both the amount of effort Lotusland puts into the curriculum and the standards of excellence to which the docents are held.

Holly's family was introduced to origami by their son Alec, who has a few pieces in the current exhibition. While they all enjoyed the craft of "folding," Alec has excelled and has taken his art to a higher level. Holly says the Japanese Garden renovation inspired her to co-curate the Flora, Fauna and Ganna exhibition to help introduce visitors to this beautiful art form.

LOTUSLAND GARDEN SHOP Locally Handcrafted Gifts

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

TOP: Sterling silver Koi fish neckla e by artist Helen Stiver (17" chain, 1-1/8" koi) \$185

CENTER: Origami star bowl folded by Holly Sherwin (8" wide X 3" tall) \$47

воттом: Origami purse folded by Holly Sherwin (7" wide X 4" tall) \$30





Saturday, May 4 • 3:00 to 6:00 PM **Cacti & Cocktails**

COME ENJOY THE REMARKABLE blooms of the cactus and magnifi ent epiphyllum on a leisurely garden stroll. Tours are docent led, or members may self-guide. We will serve cactus-inspired craft cocktails in the garden. Sip prickly libations and enjoy light and tasty fare. Admission is \$75 for Members and \$95 for nonmembers. Reservations are required and may be made by calling 805.969.9990. Gate opens at 2:30 PM.

Saturday, May 11 • 1:30 to 4:00 PM **Mother's Day Tea and Tour**

THE PERFECT TREAT FOR SOMEONE SPECIAL in your life! Celebrate Mother's Day the Saturday before Mother's Day by touring the garden, and enjoying tea and refreshments on our Pavilion Patio. Tours are docent led or members may explore the garden on their own. Tickets are \$90 for Members, \$110 for non-members and \$50 for children ages 3-12. For information and reservations call 805.969.9990. Gate opens at 1:00 PM.





Sunday, July 7 • 2:00 to 5:00 PM LotusFest!

EXPERIENCE LOTUSFEST! — a wine and beer tasting festival in Santa Barbara's most exquisite setting. Join us for an extraordinary afternoon of libations, live music and delectable hors d'oeuvres as we celebrate the spectacular fl wer that is Lotusland's namesake. This is a unique opportunity to spend an afternoon exploring the garden while sampling some of the area's finest wines and bee s. There is no better place for a party than Lotusland. Early bird pricing before June 1 is \$90 Members, \$110 non-members. After June 1, tickets increase to \$110 for Members and \$130 non-members. Reservations are required, please call 805.969.9990. Gate opens at 1:30 PM.

LOTUSLAND GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES DONATIONS

December 2018, January and February 2019

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Spring 2019 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 23 Focus Tour: Roaming the Roses with Dan Bifano

3:00 to 5:00 PM (Gate opens at 2:30 PM) An exclusive free benefit for Garden Lover level Members Call Member Services 805.969.3767 for reservations

Saturday, May 4 Cacti & Cocktails

3:00 to 6:00 PM (Gate opens at 2:30 PM) See page 16 Call 805.969.9990 for reservations

Saturday, May 11 Mother's Day Tea & Tour

1:30 to 4:00 PM (Gate opens at 1:00 PM) See page 16 Call 805.969.9990 for reservations

Thursday or Friday, May 16 & 17 Members' BBQ

4:00 to 7:00 PM (Gate opens at 3:30 PM) See page 12

Through Saturday, May 18 Lotusland in Origami: Flora, Fauna and Ganna

See page 14

Sunday, July 7 LotusFest!

2:00 to 5:00 PM (Gate opens at 1:30 PM) See page 16 Call 805.969.9990 for reservations

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