

Ganna
Walska



LOTUSLAND

NEWSLETTER • FALL 2021

ECOLOGICAL GARDENING

A Model of Sustainability

LOTUSLAND CELEBRATES

Petal to the Metal



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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

Plants thrive by adapting to their environment. As an organization, Lotusland has done the same. Over the past 18 months, we have found new ways to sustain the Garden and enrich the lives of our visitors during the pandemic.



On behalf of all of us at Lotusland, I proudly report our accomplishments:

- Hosting more than 2,100 students and families through our Jr. Botanist Program. With the guidance of skilled volunteer docents, schoolchildren learned about plant science in our outdoor classroom.
- Remaining open last Winter for the first time in our 28 years of operation, allowing guests to view the spectacular beauty of the golden Ginkgo and *Aloe* in bloom.
- Raising more than \$200,000 to launch efforts to protect our prized Cycad collection against the root fungus *Armillaria*.
- Offering virtual programs in a new *Lessons from Lotusland* series. Lectures included the history and care of our topiaries, the essence of the Japanese Garden, a deep dive into aquatic plants, and even a hands-on Kokedama workshop.
- Hosting virtual booths at Earth Day, I Madonnari, and participating in the American Public Garden Association's annual conference and Public Garden Days.
- Launching our first collaborative Lotusland brand partnerships with Artiste Winery and Heretic Parfum.
- Watching happy couples exchange vows in intimate ceremonies and families experiencing photo shoots in the Garden.
- Reconvening members of *The Lotus Society*, our legacy group, to picnic in the Garden and to hear from esteemed bromeliad expert Ginny Guess.
- Curating our first offsite Art Exhibition and Sale. More than 30 artists shared pieces inspired by Lotusland, thanks to the support of GraySpace Gallery and dedication of our volunteer curators.
- Creating a new format for the Lotusland Celebrates gala and auction, realizing our most financially successful event to date with our Petal to the Metal Committee and Curators.
- Voted among *USA Today* and *Veranda* magazine's best Botanic Gardens in 2021.

Join us as we embrace our evolving habitat and find new ways to ensure Lotusland's continued vitality. Your participation and support preserve our collections and enable Lotusland to inspire and enrich the lives of thousands of adults and children.

Appreciatively,

Rebecca Anderson
Executive Director
randerson@lotusland.org

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.



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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



AS WE USHER IN AUTUMN, I have exciting news to wrap up an extraordinary year at Lotusland.

We have experienced incredible interest and demand for visitation this year, and we are dedicated to providing a quality guest experience to each visitor and Member.

To support this commitment to the information and care we provide our guests, as of mid-September, we *finally* are able to announce the return of our beloved volunteers working as docents. Docent-led tours will be an option, which guests can choose upon their arrival, space permitting. Alternatively, guests can continue to choose self-guided tours. Many docents are thrilled to be back guiding guests both through the Garden and I encourage you to take advantage of their vast wealth of knowledge on horticulture, and of course, Madame Walska.

I am also pleased to announce that Lotusland is proudly participating in the Museums for All program, which is a program of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), administered by the Association of Children's Museums (ACM), to encourage people of all backgrounds to visit museums regularly and build lifelong museum-going habits. The program supports those receiving food assistance (SNAP) benefits by offering free admission with the presentation of an Electronic Benefits card. This new program furthers Lotusland's goal to provide access to underserved members of our community. Sixteen cultural institutions in Santa Barbara are participating in this program, which includes more than 700 museums, science centers, botanical gardens, and zoos across the country.

We thank you, our members and donors, for your continued support which, among other things, allows us to participate in such an important program! It is our goal to share Lotusland with all guests, regardless of their ability to pay.

Sincerely,

Lesley Cunningham,
President, Board of Trustees



ECOLOGICAL GARDENING

A Model of Sustainability

By Debra Piot, Ph.D. and Corey Welles, Lotusland Environmental Impact Manager

A VISIT TO LOTUSLAND is incomplete without understanding its role in garden sustainability and biodiversity guided by Lotusland’s Corey Welles and the amazing, hard-working horticultural team who daily strive for a long-range vision in ecological gardening. The program has become so successful and admired that Lotusland serves as a model for many public gardens, businesses, large estates and home gardens. The focus on increased biodiversity supports plants as pollen and nectar specialists and garden allies. Along with help from plant nurseries, plant collectors, entomologists, scientists and conservation groups, including Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation, we are working to understand scientific horticulture adapted to a time of accelerated climate change. The program addresses water issues, invasive pests and other landscape challenges, while benefiting the health and longevity of a diverse group of plants and pollinators. We cannot improve our ecosystem’s biodiversity, in which humans play a shared role as participants

and beneficials, without your ongoing support for which we are very grateful.

A MODEL SUSTAINABLE MEADOW GARDEN. During the long months of the pandemic, Corey found an opportunity to add new plantings in the fruit orchard to help the trees perform more productively while creating thriving habitats for pollinators and other beneficial critters. The plan combines cover cropping and insectary plantings, with approximately 80 percent native seeds and 20 percent non-native seeds. The result: beautiful ribbons of perennial clovers and large swaths of mostly native annuals and perennials offering pollen and nectar. Trials were carried out over many years amidst periods of extreme weather such as drought, fire and torrential rain.

Corey started with native California annuals including poppy, lupine and *Phacelia tanacetifolia* on a 6' x 18' open patch of ground. Then, zucchini and pumpkins became a priority to attract the native squash bee. Patches with compost established some non-



TOP: Gulf Fritillary in the Insectary Garden

natives, such as *Cosmos sulphureus*, *Tithonia rotundifolia*, *Coreopsis tinctoria*, sunflowers and cilantro. Year-round plantings for ongoing pollen and nectar offer a variety of foods for beneficial insects and beautiful flower displays. Other benefits include a four-fold increase in fruit production and overall orchard health as fruit trees spread feeder roots and reduce the quantity of wood chips needed for mulch. Though the meadow garden, we are learning about native pollinators and their importance in our food production systems. A crucial connection exists



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Corey Welles with pumpkins in the meadow garden. Squash bee on a pumpkin flower. Deep and infrequent water cycles are most efficient

between sustainable gardens, the biodiversity they support and the food on our plates. Healthy native plants in our yards and landscapes contribute to balanced ecosystems and increased biodiversity.

PILLARS TO SUSTAINABLE GARDEN SYSTEMS. Sustainable pillars discussed below can be thought of as a set of filters for landscape ideas, plans and maintenance. When the garden design or a specific plant makes it through the filtering process with the sustainable pillars, wonderful rewards await.

PROMOTE POLLINATORS AND BENEFICIAL INSECTS. Planting the right habitat is essential to both biodiversity and insect ecology. Think of insects and spiders as guards employed to protect your plants. Once a native habitat is in place, a variety of butterflies, birds, reptiles and amphibians are attracted to

do their part to protect the system from imbalances and pests.

ONLY USE NATURAL MATERIALS TO FEED PLANTS AND THE SOIL. Inputs or additives such as alfalfa meal, sea kelps and organic nitrogen sources improve many soil conditions, slowly release nutrients, and promote strong resilient plant growth. In contrast, most of the problems that arise in gardens can be attributed to high nitrogen chemical fertilizers.

RECYCLE ALL PLANT MATERIALS REMOVED FROM THE GARDEN. Reusing organic material from the garden in the form of composts, compost teas and mulches complements other natural inputs and balances the entire system. Organic matter feeds the soil organisms and drives the system in a healthy direction.

SELECT PLANTS THAT ARE KNOWN

TO GROW WELL IN YOUR AREA.

There is no reason to bring in plants not well vetted for our bioregion. Remove invasive plants. It pays to do basic research on the plants going into our landscapes and make sure they will adapt to our soils, climate, water rationing and local conservation strategies.

CAREFULLY MANAGE WATER USE.

Conserving water usage becomes much easier with sustainable inputs. Deep and infrequent water cycles are usually preferred for plants with a few exceptions. Overwatering clay-based soils unleash a variety of pest issues including snails, bacterial and fungal diseases and suffocate root systems.

Debra Piot, Ph.D. is an ecologist working on plants, pollinators, butterflies and biodiversity with Corey Welles, Environmental Impact Manager, Lotusland.

See Page 18 for Ecological Gardening Sustainability Educational Resources



ABOVE: Sea kelp is an organic source of plant food with more than 70 micronutrients.

Horticultural Happenings

TILLANDSIA EIZII

A HIGHLIGHT OF LOTUSLAND'S

Lower Bromeliad Garden for the past few months has been our blooming specimen of *Tillandsia eizii*. It was donated to Lotusland in 2008 by two dedicated volunteers, Bob and Ginny Guess, and originates from a population of *T. eizii* seed they released in 1996 in a protected nature preserve in San Cristóbal de Las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico. Our plant is estimated to be around 25 years old.

T. eizii grows epiphytically in oak and pine cloud forests in southern Mexico (Chiapas) to northwestern Guatemala (San Mateo to Soloma). The specific epithet honors Dr. Eizi (Eiji) Matuda (1894-1978), a Japanese botanist who emigrated to Chiapas in 1922

and specialized in aroids of Mexico. He founded the Matuda Herbarium and worked as a professor and senior curator of the Instituto de Biología at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.

This species of *Tillandsia* is monocarpic, meaning it does not produce offshoots, and must be solely propagated by seed. In habitat *T. eizii* seed is dispersed by wind action and adheres to wet tree bark where it germinates. It is threatened in the wild due to habitat destruction and over-collection for decorative purposes. Because it is known for low seed viability in cultivation, our specimen at Lotusland received special treatment and was hand-pollinated by Assistant Curator of Living



ABOVE: Anna Bower hand pollinating *Tillandsia eizii*.

Collections, Anna Bower. Pollen was also shared with a local *Tillandsia* nursery with the hope of producing novel hybrids. We are anxiously watching the seed capsules develop and will know in one to two years if viable seed has been produced.

—Anna Bower

2021 SUSTAINABLE PLANT HEALTHCARE INTERN

Bonnie Colwell

Each Summer, Lotusland offers a competitive residential internship for one sustainable horticulture student or career professional.



I STARTED this internship eager to learn with a curiosity of the unknown. Living at Ganna Walska Lotusland is like passing through the looking glass and into a place that is out of the ordinary. I graduated from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo with a background in

Agriculture, not quite knowing what to expect moving into a horticulturist sanctuary. I started working alongside Plant Healthcare Coordinator Corey Welles, who welcomed me with a life's worth of knowledge committed to sustainable practices that have helped Lotusland flourish. We worked together amending the soil for the beneficial insect habitats, weeding and mulching, brewing compost tea, and integrating pest management. I also enjoyed researching the environmental core boundaries that are imperative

when designing a successful sustainable botanical garden. These are a few of my favorite things: walking through the water surrounded by lotus and the fragrant water lilies, songs of mourning doves and zebra finch while taking care of the Insectary Garden, walking into the Lower Bromeliad Garden when sun begins to shine through the *Tillandsia* and onto all of the brightly colored bracts and inflorescence, learning the art of Niwaki style pruning, the breeze that shares a bouquet of sweet roses, and enjoying the harvest from the orchard after a full day in the sun with my newfound friends, the gardeners. I would like to extend my gratitude to Mr. Arthur Gaudi and the John Percival and Mary C. Jefferson Endowment Fund. It is because of your generosity that I was given this unforgettable opportunity to expand my knowledge in sustainable horticulture while living at Lotusland. I have learned so much from all the gardeners and it is obvious how much their passion reflects in what they do to keep this place looking remarkable. I would also like to share my appreciation for the docents, volunteers, and staff that I have had the chance to interact with while learning in the Garden, your consistent presence really helps make Lotusland a true gem.

COLLECTIONS NEWS

Former Lotusland Curator, Virginia Hayes, Honored

By Paul Mills, Curator of the Living Collections



EACH YEAR the Southern California Horticultural Society (SCHS) honors an outstanding individual as Horticulturist of the Year. Starting in 2020 the award ceremony went virtual and the SCHS decided to honor noted horticulturists posthumously for their lifetime achievements.

This year's presentation on

September 23 will honor Virginia Hayes, longtime Curator of the Living Collections at Lotusland, along with two other horticulturists – Bill Baker and John Dourley.

Virginia's contributions to the worlds of horticulture, botany and botanic gardens are innumerable. She originally came to Santa Barbara to attend college and soon became the owner of Santa Barbara Water Garden Care, providing maintenance on the water gardens at Lotusland prior to joining the staff. It was Steve Timbrook, Director Emeritus of Lotusland, who originally hired Virginia in 1992. Her role as curator spanned 25 years during a pivotal time in Lotusland's history as it transitioned from private to public garden. Virginia did much to catapult Lotusland into the national and international limelight and represented Lotusland at many conferences. She was regarded as a world expert on lotus (*Nelumbo*), earning a Master of Arts while studying the floral morphology of the genus. Virginia was a prolific writer and authored articles in every Lotusland newsletter during her tenure and wrote for *Pacific Horticulture*, *Santa Barbara Independent*, and more. She was on the board of the American Public Garden Association, a reviewer for the APGA Plant Collections Network, volunteered to save Franceschi Park, co-founded the Horticulture Consortium of Santa Barbara and was awarded the Santa Barbara Horticultural Society's "Bouquet of the Year." I am honored to have had the opportunity to attempt the impossible by encapsulating the lifetime achievements of my friend and mentor, Virginia Hayes, as she is recognized by the Southern California Horticultural Society.

Armillaria Remediation and Plans for Cycad Growing Facility

By Paul Mills, Curator of the Living Collections

AS WE EMBARK UPON the *Armillaria* remediation project in the Cycad Garden (Spring/Summer 2021 Newsletter, Pg. 6) we have activated the first step of the project – the construction of a new hoop house to accommodate infected plants, acting as a hospital and temporary home. The hoop house is fashioned exactly as the one that was constructed for the highly successful multi-year *Armillaria* remediation project that took place from 1999-2003 in a different part of the Cycad Garden. The new 60' x 20' structure is fitted with raised beds that have a network of tubing with recirculating hot water which is covered with about 10" of pumice. As affected cycads come out of the garden they must be excised of the infected tissue and then re-rooted in the pumice



TOP: New hoop house in the nursery.
BOTTOM: Cycads recently excised of infected tissue.

bed with the use of bottom heat, which increases the successful development of new roots. A number of the cycads that were initially pulled out of the garden have begun to re-root and leaf out using this method in the main greenhouse.

As part of Lotusland's comprehensive cycad conservation program, we are

simultaneously raising funds to build a secure growing facility for the *Encephalartos heenanii* assurance colony (Spring/Summer 2021 Newsletter sidebar, Pg. 5). This facility will not only be used for *E. heenanii* but for other critically endangered cycads such as *E. latifrons*, *Dioon stevensonii* and others that are currently in the nursery. The secure growing area will now serve a double purpose, not only physically protecting the plants but having been planned and designed to prevent *Armillaria* infections by planting these vulnerable plants in raised beds with a custom soil mix. With these critical projects, we continue on our mission to protect and constantly improve Lotusland's invaluable cycad collection.

LOTUSLAND'S ARCHIVES

Madame Walska and Countess de Castiglione

By Rose Thomas, Lotusland Research Associate

PICTURE A BEAUTIFUL, YOUNG, Italian countess sent by her government to the French Court of Napoleon III, to garner the emperor's favor and gain his support in the fight for a united Italy. Imagine the salons, extravagant balls and galas, the beautiful gowns and jewelry, the intrigue, the politics. . . this was the heady world in which Countess de Castiglione found herself in 1855. During the peak of her social fame, she began to frequent the preeminent photography studio of Pierre-Louis Pierson. Their collaboration on her self-staged portrait compositions continued, off and on, for forty years, recreating "la Castiglione's" glory days, staging her dramatic fantasies, and later recording her decline.

Living in Paris in the 1920s, Madame Walska became aware of the legendary Countess when several acquaintances declared that they resembled one another. After seriously studying the life of "the Divine Countess," Madame found herself relating to several aspects of this woman's story. She purchased a portfolio containing hundreds of the Pierson photographs from a 1922 estate auction,

and in 1929 she commissioned a musical play called *La Castiglione*, playing the lead on the stage of her Théâtre des Champs d'Élysées.

In 1975, many of Madame's Castiglione photographs were acquired by the Metropolitan Museum of Art. An exhibition in 2000, that originated at the Musée d'Orsay and then traveled to the Met, along with a comprehensive exhibit catalog, brought new attention to these historic portraits.

But that's not where the story ends.

A few years ago, while consolidating and identifying items belonging to Madame Walska, an archival box was discovered in the dark back corner of a linen closet in the Lotusland Main House. In light pencil was written "Photo album with painted borders."

Surprisingly, it contained the remainder of Madame's collection of Castiglione photographs inside a portfolio with the Countess's coat of arms. Even long-time staff had no idea that this box existed or the significance of its contents. Since

PICTURED: *Scherzo di Follia*, Countess Castiglione by Pierre-Louis Pierson, c. 1865.

many Castiglione photographs have disappeared or been destroyed, the collection remaining at Lotusland is an incredible find.

The photographs are mounted on 9" x 12" hard cardstock (both front and back), with many images and their surrounding borders meticulously hand painted. The portfolio and each card page have been archivally protected, rehoused, and stored away from light. Both the Getty and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art have expressed interest in the Castiglione photographs. Lotusland welcomes their assistance in evaluating the extraordinary photographic portraits of Countess Castiglione found in our collection.

INTRODUCING LOTUSLAND X HERETIC:

Osmanthus, a new fragrance inspired by the Japanese Garden



MADAME WALSKA was the proprietor of a popular line of cosmetics and perfumes in Paris during the 1920s and 1930s. Douglas Little, perfumer and founder of Heretic Parfum returned to Lotusland — his parents brought him here as a child — to collaborate in the creation of an organically based fragrance. Our inspiration was a fall flowering shrub planted in the Japanese Garden in the 1970's — Osmanthus.

Mr. Little donated his fragrance blending and marketing expertise for this initial limited edition collaboration with Lotusland's Garden Shop. The limited edition 10 ml roll-on perfume is available for purchase at lotuslandshop.org for \$45.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT

Buildings & Grounds

LOTUSLAND IS only able to operate with the active participation of its Board of Trustees and many volunteer committees, both governing and operational. Our Buildings and Grounds Committee members are leaders in their fields and are extremely knowledgeable in areas of construction, building trades, maintenance, and design. This hands-on group provides invaluable oversight, professional planning and services for the maintenance, and operations of the estate's buildings, grounds, and infrastructure. They ensure our efforts support our mission, vision and master plan. Members give generously of their time, knowledge and provide generous pro bono services. We sincerely appreciate their talents and service. Meet our members below.



Committee Chair **Anthony Grumbine** is a Trustee, a notable architect and a dedicated father. As the principal at Harrison Design, Anthony's architectural services are in high demand. In addition to his Lotusland commitments, he volunteers on the City of Santa Barbara's Historic Landmarks Commission and is Board President of Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation.

Lotusland Trustee and Past President **Dan Bifano** is a Master Rosarian and works with celebrities like Barbra Streisand, Tom Ford, and Oprah Winfrey. Dan grew up nearby Lotusland and continues his volunteerism and

deep commitment to the Garden with an active role on the Buildings and Grounds Committee and serves as liaison to other Lotusland committees.

Trustee **Geoff Crane** is Co-Founder and President of Giffin and Crane, Santa Barbara's preeminent construction company. Geoff and his wife Kim have been Lotusland Members since 1995. Geoff has been involved in nearly every major restoration and building project at Lotusland for the last 26 years and has served on the Board for more than 15 years.

Derrick Eichelberger is a founding principal of Arcadia Studio and has

practiced as a landscape professional since 1986. His 35 years' experience was cultivated as an historian before receiving his Master's Degree in Landscape Architecture. His work with historic restoration, including as the design lead in the restoration of the Japanese Garden, is one of his many talents shared with Lotusland and other significant properties in Montecito.

Morgan Jones is owner and principal engineer of Doyle-Morgan Structural Engineering and has been working on the engineering for new construction and remodeling of estate and custom homes in Santa Barbara since 2000. Morgan has a degree in Architectural Engineering, plying his trade locally and in Hawaii.

Michael Viettone has owned his firm since 2010, and more recently joined the Committee as our resident civil engineer sharing his services and deep knowledge with Lotusland as it relates to facilities and infrastructure improvements.

Architect **John Margolis** earned his Master's of Architecture from the University of California, Berkeley. He pursued his lifelong passion for architecture and urban design during his tenure at numerous prestigious firms and is presently working at the celebrated firm of Apple on Partners LLP in Santa Barbara and Santa Monica while also serving as an active member of this Committee.

We are pleased to recognize this active group of volunteers, who generously gift both time and expertise for the great benefit of the Garden and its visitors.

LOTUSLAND CELEBRATES

PETAL TO THE METAL

THE SUMMER SEASON WAS CROWNED by our reimagined extravaganza, **Lotusland Celebrates: Petal to the Metal.**

After a year of virtual events, our annual Lotusland Celebrates fundraiser returned to an in-person experience. For more than two decades, our summer showstopper has dazzled attendees with unique and whimsical themes, live entertainment, garden odysseys, incredible auction items and a gathering of our community to raise much needed funds to keep the Garden thriving.

This year Patrons, led by Presenting Sponsor the Armand Hammer Foundation, found the metal amongst the petals as they encountered an outdoor exhibition of Italian automobiles. Exhibition curator Ron Hein with co-curators Paul Hageman and Andrew Tymkiw selected a spectacular concours display from private collectors including beautiful examples from Ferrari, Alpha Romeo, Lamborghini, Cistalia, Fiat, and more.

In addition to automotive design, Alex Rasmussen of Neal Feay displayed incredible engineering and design in metal with installations in the Japanese Garden and, on the Great Lawn, including a modular pergola which doubled as the centerpiece main bar. Painter and muralist, Chris Wyrick

sought inspiration from Lotusland's collections responding to the play of light and wind to create murals for the Great Lawn and Sycamore Gate as well as additional works displayed in the Garden's outdoor dining rooms.

After exploring the exhibitions, Sponsors gathered in individual gardens for an exquisite family-style picnic al fresco by duo catering and events. Patrons and Sponsors received gifts from local businesses including wines from Lieff Ranch and a special gift of Heretic Parfum's *Osmanthus*, the debut Lotusland's new fragrance.

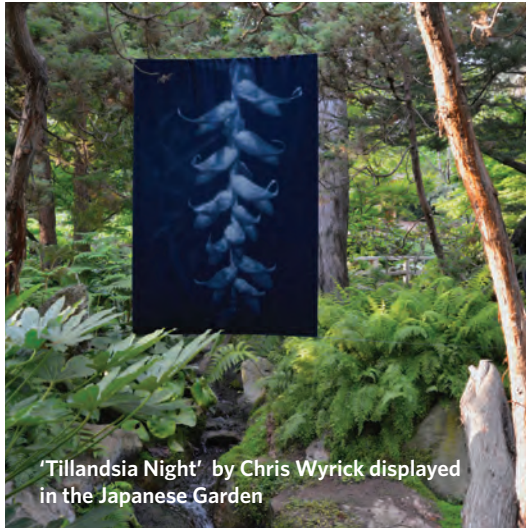
The *Petal to the Metal* Online Auction was our most ambitious to date with 60 items including fine art, jewelry, luxury travel, and experiences.

The tally at the till and the satisfaction of supporters proclaimed 2021 our most successful event yet. Following pandemic doldrums, July 24 brought a genuine celebration demonstrated by the devotion and spirit of community volunteers and philanthropists combined with ingenuity and creative problem solving. *Petal to the Metal* was the convergence of a generous community, fun outdoor festivities, and masterful automotive artistry.





Car Exhibitor Janice Feldman and Mitchel Grossman



'Tillandsia Night' by Chris Wyrick displayed in the Japanese Garden



Chair Emerita Belle Hahn and James Semick



Lotusland Trustees and Event Co-Chairs Caroline Thompson and David M. Jones



Hania Tallmadge with Trustees Daniel Bifano and Mimi Michaelis



John Bernatz & Trustee Joseph Marek with Patty & Michael Rosenfeld



Sponsor Chris Toomey with guest Lady Leslie Ridley-Tree



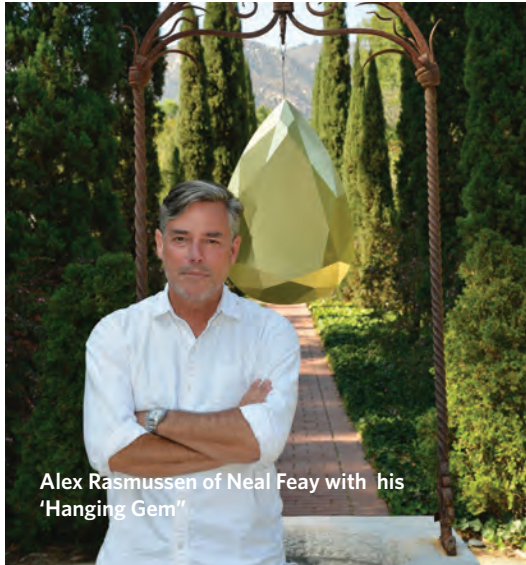
Exhibit co-curator Paul Hageman, Curator Ron Hein, Executive Director Rebecca Anderson, and co-curator Andrew Tymkiw



John Percy & Lifetime Honorary Trustee Connie Percy with Ginni Dreier, Miles Hartfield, G etchen Loeff



Trustee Crystal Wyatt and Cliff Wyatt



Alex Rasmussen of Neal Feay with his 'Hanging Gem'



Michael Hammer's 1991 Ferrari F40



The Lotus Society members Kia McInerny & Gary Kuist



Platinum Sponsors Belle Hahn and Lily Hahn



Lynda Weinman, Gold Sponsor, with Eric Nagelmann, and Sharon Ludtke



1938 Alfa Romeo 8C 2900 Touring Spider owned by Ray & Janet Sherr on display

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Wine: Abacus Life
Collector's Lounge: Judy Shea
Curator's Corner: The Tweten Foundation, *in honor of Susan Venable*

Event Program: Laura-Lee Whittier Woods

Invitation: Collector Car Vault

Floral Sponsor: Hank & Mari Mitchel

Italian Ice: Merryl Brown

Madame's Moment:

Caroline Kramer Faust Foundation

Champagne: Jeffrey Romano & Stan Shayer

Photo Booth: Joseph Marek & John Bernatz

Ice: Mimi Michaelis

Key Ring: Kelsey Martin, Goldman Sachs

Mural: Carolyn & Phillip Wyatt

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We are overwhelmed by your generosity! Lotusland would like to express our utmost gratitude to our many sponsors, partners, and donors for their help in sustaining our mission through the Petal to the Metal event. Thank you for including Lotusland in your charitable giving!



LOTUSLAND GUEST SPOTLIGHT

Mira Puacz

ON MONDAY, JULY 19, the blossoming lotus welcomed a special guest to the Garden. Visiting from Poland, Mrs. Mira Puacz, the wife of Madame Ganna Walska's half-brother, Edward, enjoyed a private tour of Lotusland.

Awed by the beauty, growth, and energy of the Garden, Mira reminisced about her time with Madame Walska, their shared love of France, and the memory of Madame's melodic voice. It had been decades since she had seen the lotus in bloom, and Mira noted that the Garden was still as magical as she remembered.

We are grateful to have had the opportunity to personally welcome Mira on her recent visit and to hear her recollections of Madame and Lotusland.



Photo: Lisa Cardela

IN MEMORIAM

Jeanne C. Thayer 1917-2021

A PERSON OF GREAT CHARM AND INFECTIOUS LAUGHTER.

Jeanne C. Thayer came to California in the mid nineteen-nineties at the invitation of her son, Tom, to decide if she wished to leave New York and live in California. She visited Los Angeles and then came to Santa Barbara. Here she met Carol Valentine, who at the time was President of Ganna Walska Lotusland. Carol convinced her to come to Santa Barbara and later to become an active supporter of Lotusland. Jeanne visited the Garden regularly and attended many events, but her major contribution was to serve as co-chairperson of a campaign to renovate the Topiary Garden and to endow it in honor of Carol. I served as co-chairperson with her. A friend of mine asked me what I did to make the campaign a success. I replied that Stanya Owen and I had asked Jeanne to be co-chairperson. My friend said, "Well, that means you had nothing more to do." Jeanne had broken her arm just before the campaign began. She propped herself in bed with a list of names to call. The first person she called gave \$50,000. The second person she called asked what everyone else was giving. Jeanne said \$50,000. So, he gave \$50,000 and the campaign was on its way. The campaign received over \$650,000 in less than four months — enough to pay for the renovation and an endowment.

Jeanne was splendid. Her greatest gift to Lotusland was her very presence as a supporter. It affirmed to the community that Lotusland was a serious organization doing important work. We remember her as a person of great charm and infectious laughter. She was the very best of good company. She had a love of life. She looked forward.

We at Lotusland had the pleasure and the privilege to be a small part of her carefully planned and gracious life.

By Arthur R. Gaudi, Lifetime Honorary Trustee

A LEGACY CELEBRATED

The Lotus Society

ON JUNE 6 the Garden received enthusiastic members of our legacy group, *The Lotus Society*, gathered for a picnic on the Great Lawn at Lotusland for a reconvening of community in the Garden.

Over a picnic lunch, Peggy Wiley, Chair, introduced new members in attendance and welcomed longstanding members and their guests. The group was enthralled as Lotusland volunteer bromeliad expert Ginny Guess took the microphone and shared about her career working with bromeliads. Ginny has spent over twenty years studying interactions of indigenous people with bromeliads in southern Mexico. Ginny and her husband Bob joined veteran gardener Mike Furner in the Lower Bromeliad garden to share and display the incredibly rare bloom of the *Tillandsia eizii* which was in full bloom during the event.

JOIN US! Endowment donors are like-minded in their love of Lotusland and passionate support in the preservation of this horticultural masterpiece for future generations. Through gifts to endowment or using gift-planning vehicles such as bequests and life income gifts, you can address personal financial goals and make a meaningful and lasting gift to Lotusland. Individuals who have planned a bequest or life income gift are welcomed into *The Lotus Society* along with supporters who elect to give now to support Lotusland's endowment. The most important benefit you will receive from joining *The Lotus Society* is the satisfaction derived from making a lasting contribution to our long-term success.

If you have included Lotusland in your estate, or are considering doing so, please share your gift intentions with Patricia Sadeghian at 805.969.3767, ext. 125 or psadeghian@lotusland.org.

Thank you for considering Lotusland for your philanthropic legacy.

The LOTUS SOCIETY
PRESERVING AND ENHANCING A UNIQUE BOTANICAL TREASURE



Three generations gather in the Garden: Jennifer Smith and Lotus Society member Anne Smith Towbes.



New Lotus Society members docent Connie Wernet and husband Ed Wernet



Lotusland volunteers and longtime members Curt and Sallie Coughlin



Drs. Jan Timbrook and Director Emeritus, Steven Timbrook visit with Lotus Society member MaryLou Ardohain and Bob Warden



Lotus Society Chair Peggy Wiley with husband Wilson Quarre.



Volunteers and Lotus Society members Leslie Cane Schneiderman and Lori Kraft Meschler sharing their love of Lotusland



Gregory Dahlen, Diane Dunhill, & Cristi Walden, new members with long-standing ties.



Sally & Charles Fairbanks



Research Associate Jeff Chemnick and Dr. Satie Araime reconnect with long-time members Connie and Nigel Buxton.



Lotus Society member Sintija Felder with Sheila Murphy enjoying the June Garden Party



Peggy Wiley, Rebecca Anderson, Lesley Cunningham, and Dan Bifano

LOTUSLAND GIVING FOR IMPACT

Tax-Wise Considerations in Current Market

CURRENT MARKET CONDITIONS have created major tax-advantaged gifting possibilities to Lotusland. We are grateful for your charitable gifts which comprise two-thirds of our annual revenues. We rely on your enthusiastic participation as visionaries and generous donors to keep our collections and gardens sustainable and in prime condition. We are also grateful for the approximately 250 dedicated volunteers who serve as docents and give in other vital ways. While we operate in an efficient manner, our operating costs, like every business, continue to grow. It takes \$3.6 million a year to tend and run Lotusland. Your gifts make it possible to keep growing our gardens and programs. You are our champions, our partners and our friends in making Lotusland an important world-class, sustainable, cultural and historic garden filled with our love, vision and momentum!

Below are ways the current market conditions offer beneficial major gifting possibilities.

Current gift rules. Non-itemizers may write off \$300 (if single) and \$600 (if married) of charitable cash contributions, whereas itemizers who file Schedule A on their tax returns write off contributions, but only for amounts above the standard deduction amount for singles of \$12,550 (\$14,250 if 65+) or for married filing jointly of \$25,100 (\$27,800 if 65+). At first glance, these appear to be extreme limitations on traditional charitable giving.

However, note that the 60% of AGI (Adjusted Gross Income) gifting limit is suspended for 2021. Of course, you should check with your tax advisor on your unique situation. Lotusland welcomes gifts from Donor Advised Funds, recurring gifts, etc. Here are several more intriguing ideas to consider (and discuss with your advisors) that can easily overcome the IRS limitations cited above.

- **Gifting stock and avoiding capital gains.** The market is at record levels after last year's surge and this year's continued gains, as may be the case for some of your individual stocks or funds. If the market plunges, your portfolio might plunge also, unless you sell or gift stock or funds beforehand. Gifting highly appreciated securities from your portfolio to Lotusland avoids taxes on selling and you receive a substantial tax deduction for 2021, subject to the above limitations. Why not gift the stock while it's valued high now? Why wait? If a stock loses half its value later, and an appreciated stock plunges from \$200K to \$100K (or less) a gift now makes sense, locking in the gain, benefitting Lotusland and reducing your taxes.
- **IRA gifting.** If you're 70 1/2 or older, consider gifting part or all your annual RMD (required minimum distribution) amount to Lotusland and avoiding taxes on the distribution. Doing so is not tax-deductible, but you save on tax that you otherwise pay.

- **Real estate gifting.** Consider gifting real estate to Lotusland. Avoid capital gains on its sale and have a sizeable tax deduction. This can be done during your life or in your estate plan. Separately, we are reaching out for gifts of property on separate site(s) for the purpose of new buildings for nurseries, maintenance and storage.

- **Bunching.** Bunch your gifts into big ones every two to three years to significantly overcome the standard deduction amounts in one particular year. Instead of gifting, say, \$1,000, \$10,000 or more a year, consider gifting \$3,000, \$30,000 or more once every two to three years to increase the portion of your gift that is deductible.

- **Legacy & The Lotus Society:** Include Lotusland in your Will or Trust, and join as a *Lotus Society* member with special events and your name on the Lotusland Wall of Honor (if you wish).

- **Summary of gifts to consider:**

- Cash gifts
- Appreciated stock gifts to lock in portfolio gains tax-free with a tax deduction.
- Donor-Advised Funds gifts (DAF). See website.
- Set up recurring gifts (automated monthly from your bank account). Consistent monthly giving provides steady source of revenue.
- Consider adding an extra amount to your annual membership fee.

Our Garden grows and prospers with your continuous and generous charitable giving. With your responsive and generous financial assistance we can accomplish important work and you can enjoy the satisfaction of making an incredible impact.

Please note: we advise consulting your tax-preparer, CPA and/or estate attorney on benefits of gifting in your individual situation.

DOCUMENTARY FILM SCREENING BENEFIT

Lutah—A Passion for Architecture: A Life in Design

LOTUSLAND IS HONORED to collaborate with the Lutah Maria Riggs Society for a 2021 screening of the documentary film ***Lutah—A Passion for Architecture: A Life in Design***.

Join us on November 20 at the Lobero Theatre, a building where Lutah's finer print has been revealed. We will screen the film and commemorate Lutah, who dedicated her life to her profession and to our community.

Lotusland's archives contain several drawings by Lutah for the George Washington Smith projects executed for the Gavit family in the mid-1920s. Research reveals Lutah's extraordinary love of gardening, her awareness of native plants and her ability to get her hands in the soil. Fall is a perfect time to celebrate Lutah, she was born on October 31, 1896 – a time when we see slight changes to our Santa Barbara landscape and the Lotusland gardens prepare for their winter sleep.

A panel discussion immediately following with architects Deming Isaacson, Marc Appleton and Anthony Grumbine, as well as Lutah Maria Riggs Society Historian Melinda Gandara and Lotusland Research Associate, Rose Thomas; moderated by Gretchen Lieff.



Saturday, November 20th
Lobero Theatre
5:00 PM Patron Reception
6:00 PM Screening
7:15 PM Panel Discussion

To buy tickets: www.lobero.org or 805.963.0761

\$75 patron reception and screening; \$35 general admission

In an effort to create the safest possible environment all guests will be required to show proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test (within 72 hours of the event.)

EXCEPTIONAL PLANTS Lotusland Auction and Sale

Please join us on Saturday, October 9 for our tenth annual plant sale. This year's event features both silent and an always rousing live auction. Many of the rare specimen plants were grown right here at Lotusland and we have received scores of highly collectible species that are nearly impossible to find elsewhere. Come for the plants and stay for the party. See page 20 for more details.

Arrangements have been made to event logistics to ensure physical distancing including new digital touchless silent auction bidding.



Ochagavia carnea



Encephalartos longifolius



Gasteria rawlinsonii



Rauhia peruviana

WELCOME New Staff



ANGIE LEE Reservations Manager

Angie Lee joined Lotusland as our Reservations Manager in April 2021. Born and raised in Minnesota, she entered the social enterprise sector at Finegans Brew Co., a Minneapolis beer company that donates their profits to feeding the hungry. Angie

went on to become the Marketing, Events, and Volunteer manager for seven years launching the first ever Reverse Food Truck and the opening Finnegans Taproom. With a unique set of skills and a B.A. from the University of St. Thomas, Angie moved to Santa Barbara two years ago and hasn't complained about the cold since. Before joining Lotusland, she kept busy in the local hospitality industry working as an assistant manager of The Palace Grill and as a prep cook at Zen Yai Thai. Two things she is proud of are being part of the hard-working Lotusland team and that she no longer takes photos of every ocean sunset she sees.

SHANNON GRANT



Membership Manager

Shannon Grant joined Lotusland in April. Prior to this role, she was head of membership at The Tugboat Group where she was responsible for growing a community of mission-driven CEOs. It was in these conversations with female CEOs that she saw

a gap in the market for female founders raising venture capital. In parallel, Shannon helped found and is Co-President of Wharton Alumnae Founders & Funders Association, a non-profit whose goal is to increase the number of Wharton alumnae founders and the number of alumnae funded. The group has grown to over 4,000 members and has produced 50+ digital and in-person events, and helped numerous founders get funding, since its inception in April 2018.

Shannon brings a passion for building and growing communities and a desire to influence meaningful connections for Lotusland Members. Shannon holds a B.A. in Government from Franklin & Marshall College and an Advanced Graduate Certificate in Business and Marketing from The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania.

(Continued From Page 5)

ECOLOGICAL GARDENING Sustainability Educational Resources

GARDEN ALLIES. Frédérique Lavoipierre, Lotusland's garden friend and consultant, who writes for *Pacific Horticulture*, parallels our mission in an exciting new resource, *Garden Allies: The Insects, Birds, and Other Animals That Keep Your Garden Beautiful and Thriving*. As an entomologist, consultant to public gardens and former Director of Education at Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, Lavoipierre's work clearly describes the programs that Lotusland has been using for decades in dealing with challenges to the garden. The reality is there are some huge challenges, for example gophers, exotic diseases and droughts that every site is going to experience and plenty of game-time decisions. That's where Lotusland excels.

For over three decades, Lotusland has been a pioneer in adopting ecological gardening practices by blending the garden collections and habitats via ecology control, beneficial insect habitat, soil development and compost tea. We are building a sustainability model for California coastal communities in sync with local ecology. Each pillar of a sustainable gardening system is crucial to the success of the whole.

We are grateful for the generous donors who fund our sustainable programs, scientific research that guides us, dedicated volunteers and student collaborators. Thank you for your ongoing support!

Recommended resources for a sustainable garden

Eaton, Eric R. 2021. *Wasps: The Astonishing Diversity of a Misunderstood Insect*. Princeton University Press.

Frankie, Gordon W., Coville, Barbara Ertter. 2014. *California Bees and Blossoms: A Guide for Gardeners and Naturalists*. Berkeley CA: Heyday.

Lavoipierre, Frédérique. 2021. *Garden Allies: The Insects, Birds, and Other Animals That Keep Your Garden Beautiful and Thriving*. Portland, OR: Timber Press.

Rincon-Vitova Insectaries. 2010. Catalog of Beneficials. www.rinconvitova.com.

Tallamy, Douglas W. 2020. *Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard*. Portland, OR: Timber Press.

Wilson, Joseph S. and Messinger Carril, Olivia. 2015. *The Bees in Your Backyard: A Guide to North America's Bees*. Princeton University Press.

Xerces Society. 2021. www.xerces.org.

Xerces Society. 2021. *100 Plants to Feed the Monarch: Create a Healthy Habitat to Sustain North America's Most Beloved Butterfly*. N. Adams, MA: Storey Publishing.

Xerces Society. 2016. *Gardening for Butterflies: How You Can Attract and Protect Beautiful, Beneficial Insects*. Portland, OR: Timber Press.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Pat Crotteau

PAT CROTTEAU retired after 50 years in the medical device industry, working as an engineer and leader. Pat continues supporting the medical device industry as a consultant. He has been a docent at Lotusland for the past three years. Pat and his wife, Sandy, have been Lotusland members for 18 years. They have two children and three grandchildren. They moved to California 25 years ago from the Midwest and enjoy spending their time giving back.



When and where were you happiest?

At the birth of my children and seeing my wife's smile.

What is your greatest fear? I am terrified of bees because of a bad childhood memory running into one at night on the farm.

Which living person do you most admire? My wife, for putting up with me for so many years!

What do you consider the most overrated virtue? How can a virtue be overrated? I'll take all I can get!

What is your greatest extravagance? My children and grandchildren.

On what occasion do you lie? I believe in telling the truth, so if I can't do that, I will just shut up!

What do you regard as the lowest depth of misery? A bad hamburger.

Where would you like to live? Wherever my wife is most happy - Happy Wife = Happy Life!

What or who is the greatest love of your life? I'm an engineer, so it has to be learning how things work.

What is your current state of mind? Chillin', thinking about visiting Lotusland today.

What do you most value in your friends? Their friendship and putting up with me.

Who are your favorite writers? I love mysteries and high-tech novels; Dan Brown and Michael Crichton are high on my list.

Who is your favorite hero of fiction? I am not big into fictional heroes; there are too many real-life heroes around us every day.

What is your most treasured possession? My family.

Which talent would you most like to have? I really would like to be able to play a musical instrument, I'm sadly tone deaf and can't carry a tune!

What is your motto? "Do something!"

What is your favorite garden at Lotusland? I often am asked what my favorite garden is by visitors. I tell them it depends on the time of the year because the gardens are always changing. However, if I was pressed to pick one it has to be the Lower Bromeliad Garden, it is wonderful and reminds me of the time I spent in Costa Rica.

THANK YOU TO OUR GARDEN LOVER CIRCLE MEMBERS

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UPCOMING EVENTS



Saturday, October 9 ▪ 1:30 to 5:30 PM **Exceptional Plants:** **Lotusland Auction & Sale**

THE ULTIMATE PLANT PARTY IS BACK! Join kindred spirit plant people to enjoy camaraderie, great food, specialty cocktails and an idyllic setting. This is a most unique and enjoyable day on the Great Lawn featuring 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.

COVID-19 safety rules are in effect at the Garden in accordance with local and state guidelines. Adjustments have been made to event logistics to ensure physical distancing including new digital touchless silent auction bidding.

Space is limited and advance reservations are required. \$95 Members, \$120 non-members. Please call 805.969.9990 for reservations or visit www.lotusland.org/plantauction/. To sponsor the event contact Patricia Sadeghian, 805.969.3767, ext. 125.

Thursday, October 28 - **Saturday, October 30** **Monstera Mash: A Boo-tanical Stroll** **through Lotusland for Halloween** Arrivals at 12:30 PM, 2:00 PM, 3:30 PM

GATHER IN THE GARDEN for a boo-tanical stroll and experience the thrills and chills of the season. Follow the *Monstera Mash Map* through the gardens to find spooktacular decorations, learn about poisonous plants and creepy creatures, and discover mysterious surprises around every corner. Costumes are encouraged for all ages!

Space is limited and advance reservations are required. Please call 805.969.9990 for reservations.

Members \$35 Adults, \$20 Children age 3-17,
Free age 2 and under

Non-members Thursday & Friday \$60 Adults,
\$30 Children age 3-17, Free age 2 and under

Non-members Saturday \$70 Adults, \$35 Children
age 3-17, Free age 2 and under



LOTUSLAND GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES DONORS

April, May, June and July 2021

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Diane Evans & Tom Farr
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Ms. Connie & Ed Wernet

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NEW GARDEN LOVER MEMBERS

We welcome new *Garden Lover* Members who joined in April, May, June and July 2021

NEW GARDEN LOVER MEMBERS

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Beth DeWoody & Firooz Zahedi

CONSERVATOR

Donny Hall
 Marilyn Krahe
 Dorothy Largay & Wayne Rosing
 Kevin & Lauren O'brien

CULTIVATOR

Mr. Jordan Bollag
 Sandra & John Fallat
 Simon Fuller
 Alec Leach & Buff Lagrange
 Patricia & Tom Loeb
 Analise Maggio
 Nancy & Tony Ochoa
 Rick Oshay & Rebecca Brand

GARDEN LOVER MEMBERS RENEWING OR INCREASING LEVEL OF SUPPORT

April, May, June and July 2021

GARDEN LOVER MEMBERS

VISIONARY

Dina & David Saalis*

STEWARD

Lynda Weinman & Bruce Heavin

GUARDIAN

Carolyn Cooper & Glenn Griffith*
 Lady Leslie Ridley-Tree
 Patty & Michael Rosenfeld
 Stephen P. Schaible & Daron S. Builta
 Susanne & Gary Tobey

CONSERVATOR

Deirdre & Will Arntz
 Priscilla & Jason Gaines*
 Linda & Fred Gluck
 Mary Jane Ingalls & Steve Buchanan
 Maia Kikerpill & Daniel Nash*
 Lori Kraft Meschler*
 Jeffrey Romano & Stan Shayer

CULTIVATOR

Jeanne M. & Robert S. Anderson*
 Ann & Robert Benham
 Susan Brunn
 Connie & Nigel Buxton
 Susan Read Cronin & Ted W. Cronin
 Rachael Douglas*
 Robert Giaimo & Maria Rendon-Giaimo*
 Ms. Debra Ann Galin
 John Jackowski & Neil Spidell*
 Dee & Stephen Jones
 Bonnie Kelm & Bill Malis
 Paula Kislak*
 Irene & Bruce Klores*
 The Lehrer Family Foundation, on behalf of
 Ellen Lehrer Orlando & Tom Orlando
 The Lehrer Family Foundation, on behalf of
 Karen Lehrer & Steven Sherwin
 Mercedes Millington & Jack Mithun
 Adele & Loi Nguyen*
 Mr. & Mrs. James C. Nonn
 Anastasha Rousso & Evan Berger
 Kate Schepanovich
 Laurie Siegel & Joseph Nosofsky
 Jessica Smith & Kevin Brine
 Janet & Jack Underwood*
 Susan & David Viniar
 Mrs. Deanne G. Violich
 Tricia & Ken Volk
 Jeff Wadsworth & Jerre McCulley*

* Denotes Increased Support

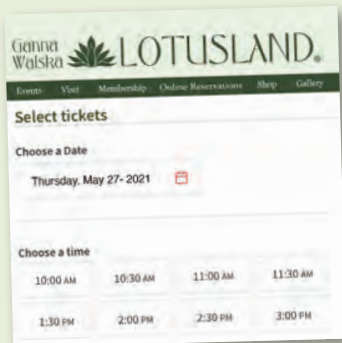


WISH LIST

Help Advance Lotusland's Mission

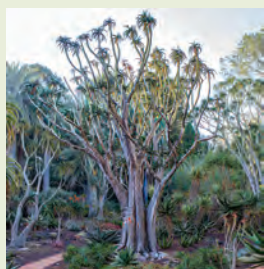
Online Ticketing

Late this year, Lotusland will be integrating our Reservations, Visitor Services, Membership and Development databases



to allow for improved efficiencies and online ticketing. Then, you will be able to conveniently book your Garden

reservation online! This technology requires extensive vendor and staff time and expertise to build and design. There are significant costs to migrate, equip, train and maintain the powerful new integrated system. Your support will help Lotusland become more efficient and add the convenience of online bookings.



Specimen Plant Fund

This restricted fund was designed to be used for crucial horticultural projects and

specimen plants. It is accelerated by your donations and affords Lotusland the opportunity to replace important and historical plants in an aging landscape. Many of the oldest cacti and euphorbias in front of the Main House have been lost to age and more are in need of replacement along with many of the large, old *Aloe barberae* in the Aloe Garden.

We are gratefully accepting donations of any size to support these projects.

TO DONATE, please call, 805.969.3767, ext. 104.



WISHES DO COME TRUE!

LOTUSLAND IS THRILLED to have been gifted four new Haulers to advance the work of our Grounds and Facilities staff. A special thank you to Wish List and grant donors Alice Tweed Tuohy Foundation, Lucifer Lighting Company (for two of the haulers!), and Michael Loftis and Erik Nickel. We truly appreciate their generosity to enable this equipment and efficiency of our work throughout the Gardens.

LEFT TO RIGHT: Jorge Mendiata, Paul Mills, Miguel Obregon-Padilla, Hannah French, Mike Furner, Anna Bower, Holly Huff, Edward Zhu, Alex Chavez, Bonnie Colwell, Tim Cordero, Eder Mejia, Tyler Diehl, Richie Jaimes

VOLUNTEER AT LOTUSLAND

LOTUSLAND IS CALLING! If you love gardens and are seeking a place to volunteer your time, consider becoming a Lotusland Docent or Garden Attendant. Greet, welcome visitors and guide them through our magical gardens. Come join our team! To apply, please complete the application form on our website (www.lotusland.org/support/volunteer), or email Volunteer Manager Kitty Thomassin at kthomassin@lotusland.org.



Please check our lotusland.org for details on an introductory meeting in late September. We are planning a 12-week, two-hour per day training session held on Tuesday mornings in the late fall. It teaches everything you need to welcome the public to these magnificent gardens.

The training features

specialists and professors with Lotusland staff who will lecture on the various plant groups, property and history, the operations and gardens of Lotusland. The Lotusland curriculum is exceptional in its depth, tremendously enlightening, and sure to be a lifelong, rewarding experience. We encourage you to join us for an informal introductory reception.



695 Ashley Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93108

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Fall 2021

Saturday, October 9
Exceptional Plants: Lotusland
Auction and Sale

See page 20

Thursday, October 28 -
Saturday, October 30
Monstera Mash: A Boo-tanical
Stroll through Lotusland for
Halloween

See page 20

Saturday, November 13
Last Day of Tours for 2021

Saturday, November 20
Benefit Film Screening:
Lutah-A Passion for Architecture:
a Life in Design

Lobero Theatre
See page 17

Lotusland Fall Tour Schedule

We look forward to welcoming you to Lotusland! In order to maintain social distancing, we are continuing with self-guided tours, timed tickets, staggered arrivals, limited visitor capacity, and strictly enforced mask policies.

Self-guided tours are available Wednesdays through Saturdays at 9:15, 9:30 and 9:45 for morning visits and 1:15, 1:30 and 1:45 for afternoon visits. Garden visits last two hours. Parking reservations are required.

Call 805.969.9990 to check availability and reserve your tour.

All visits require a prior reservation and space is limited. We recommend making reservations two weeks in advance of your desired visit.

For Your Safety: Staggered Arrival Times for Tours

Including Members

Arrival times are 9:15 AM, 9:30 AM, 9:45 AM, 1:15 PM, 1:30 PM, and 1:45 PM. Garden visits last two hours.

Please call 805.969.9990 for reservations or questions.