The Robinson Estate will begin its centennial year in September of 2011. The Friends are making exciting plans to celebrate Virginia Robinson and her enchanting gardens. How proud she would be to know that her passion has been shared not only with the surrounding community, but also with visitors from around the world! In preserving her legacy and extending her vision, we become a part of its history as well.

As your new president, I am very fortunate to have an enormously talented incoming board, which includes new positions to manage innovative programs and expand ongoing projects to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible. One of our most exciting programs is expansion of the Children’s Outreach Committee. It has long been our goal, if not our dream, to offer children of all ages the opportunity to enjoy the gardens and greenhouse projects. With increased community funding though grants and individuals, we will also be able to serve a wider geographic area.

Another new committee is the Special Events Team, which has already scheduled outstanding programs for Friends and Fellows including private garden tours, an evening in the Chinese garden at the Huntington and a visit to Hearst Castle, just to mention a few!

Finally, perhaps the most challenging project of the year will be the publication of our first book about Virginia Robinson Gardens. Marcella Ruble has dedicated years to researching the history of the Robinson family and archiving photographs of their lives in the swiftly growing frontier that was early Southern California. Evelyn Carlson is co-chairing the project, functioning as editor and assisting in the production of the book. Photographs of the development of the property will be included, along with many beautiful pictures of the gardens as we know them today.

Strolling through the gardens, it is exhilarating to imagine how gratifying it would be for Virginia and Harry to rediscover the intriguing landscape they sowed from seed in 1911.

Sincerely,
Jeanne Anderson
The Fellows trip to Montecito demonstrated the importance of preserving our historic and cultural heritage. Jeanne Anderson, the Friends tour coordinator, greeted us when we arrived at Carrie and George Fox Steedman’s home, Casa del Herrero. A jewel of Spanish Colonial Revival architecture, designed and built by George Washington Smith in 1925, the home reflects the passion for Spanish art and architecture that Mr. Steedman developed through the enthusiastic encouragement of Arthur Byrne and Mildred Stapley. The home is a complete work of art in itself, incorporating the many antiques Steedman purchased and the creations Steedman continued to make in his well-equipped workshop, such as his exquisite silver plates. The gardens also had a thoughtful complexity developed over time by the Steedmans in collaboration with several garden designers including Lockwood de Forest, Jr. and Francis T. Underhill.

Next, we visited the home of Cynthia and Chapin Nolen on the grounds of the Birnam Wood Country Club golf course and learned the interesting history of the Birnam oak trees. Here, we were joined by our luncheon hostess, Joan Selwyn, founder of Friends of Robinson Gardens. The group enjoyed a delicious lunch in a private dining room at the Birnam Wood Country Club.

After lunch we had the opportunity to see another breathtaking estate that has been meticulously restored, enhanced and expanded by the creation of seven outdoor garden rooms. This perfect place is the work of John Saladino, an architect and designer whose time spent in Rome is evident everywhere you look. He revived a dilapidated stone structure into a truly romantic Italian hillside fantasy with spectacular views to the ocean. He described the entire project as “a complete act of folly,” which inspired him to name the estate, Villa di Lemma.

We ended our tour with a trip to a contemporary hillside villa garden. The garden provided many lovely statements, including a wonderful belvedere with a pavilion containing a dining table and a view to the ocean. A bubbling stream, a unique fountain and a clever stone maze were some of the other thoughtful elements included in this garden.

Each location we experienced underscored the importance of learning from the past in order to create a richer future. Indeed, as the sun set, we all were richer for having had the opportunity to spend such a magical day in Montecito.
Kazanjian Hollywood Collection

The Kazanjian Foundation sponsors the Jewels for Charity Hollywood Collection Tour featuring prized jewelry formerly owned by Hollywood's A-list celebrities including Bing Crosby, Clark Gable, Eva Gabor, Howard Hughes, Franklin Roosevelt and Madonna, among others. The Jewels for Charity Hollywood Collection is shown at select venues worldwide and recently was presented at The Natural History Museum in Los Angeles, California.
Brilliant color, dazzling flowers, wonderful music, exciting entertainment and divine food… “who could ask for anything more?” The 2010 Benefit Patron Gala was as successful as it was beautiful. When the stage was set with exquisite jewelry from Kazanjian & Fogarty, displayed in the richly paneled Pavilion Game Room; when the estate tennis court was alive with jazz musicians performing above an expansive bar; when the tented Great Lawn became a shimmering ballroom bathed in jewel toned light, the Friends of Robinson Gardens once again welcomed the community to Virginia Robinson’s glorious home. Gala Chairmen, Jill Tavelman Collins and Angela Movassaghi, along with Friends

President Leslie Kavanaugh presented this year’s “Spirit of Beverly Hills” Award to the Kazanjian Family Foundation, represented by Virginia, Michael, Douglas and Michelle Kazanjian, as well as Michael’s brother and partner Stan and his wife Kristie Kazanjian.

Throughout the evening, models presented formal gowns by David Tupaz Couture and estate jewelry from the Kazanjian collection. It was a glorious night when the starlit sky mirrored the sparkling party below. Friends of Robinson Gardens wishes to thank the many patrons and sponsors who supported this special event. Proceeds will go to fund future restoration projects.

The Friends wish to gratefully acknowledge the following additional contributions received during the Benefit Season.

Rose Hills Foundation
Jackie and Howard Banchik
Katherine Damagaard
Maria and Michael Kantor
Bruce McLucas and Gwen Aldridge

Peter and Merle Mullin
“Congratulations and best wishes to our dear friends Virginia and Michael Kazanjian”
Ann Peterson, Dr. Leslie Pam, Thomas and Christine Hanscom

Flowers by Marc Byrd

Kirstin Royce, Kristina and Jordan Grotzinger and George Royce

Howard and Ruth Gilliam, Madeline Gussman and friend

Barbara Marcus, Andy and Julia Klein, Jeanne Anderson

Kazanjian jewels in centerpieces

Carolyn Bloom and Audrey Jessup

Gala chairs Angela Movassagi and Jill Collins

Paul and Joan Selwyn
2010 Benefit Tour

Bringing a garden tour to “concert pitch” requires the forces of man, nature and luck to all come together on the same day. This year everything and everyone was in perfect rhythm, resulting in a spectacular, if not flawless, Benefit Tour. The five extraordinary private gardens were acclaimed by all to be a wonderful selection – each complemented the other – each exemplified excellence in landscape architecture. None of this would have happened without Jeanne Anderson, Sunday Taylor and Cindy Fields who masterfully conducted. Other musical sections were overseen by Laura Alpert, Maralee Beck, Robin Blake, Marion Buxton, Evie Carlson, Jill Tavelman Collins, Elaine Doran, Katrina Fuchs, Leslie Kavanaugh, Cathy Kurstin, Ellen Levitt, Ellen Lipson, Shiva Moshtael, Kerstin Royce, Leslie & Rolf Tillmann and March Wisely.

The floral and design exhibitions at the Robinson Estate once again transformed the house into a world of color, style and a bit of whimsy. Each artist interpreted his/her individual space with an innovative eye that resulted in an open, casual elegance. Guests were invited to enjoy a delectable buffet luncheon complete with our famous peach fuzzies and a dramatic fashion show by Kevan Hall. Grand Marshal Peri Ellen Berne of the Rodeo Retailers Association was presented with an engraved silver tray to commemorate the occasion. Throughout the day the “Sparkling” Gift Boutique, as well as plant sales by Proven Winners and Greenwood Daylily Gardens, was open to shoppers. This year’s book signings featured Nancy Goslee Power – *Power of Gardens* and Mark Peel of Campanile Restaurant – *New Classic Family Dinners*. In addition, a botanical art exhibit by students in the Robinson Garden Botanical Illustration Program, a floral workshop by Marc Byrd AND a silent auction/opportunity drawing kept everyone busy until late afternoon, when the last number was drawn and the champagne flowed. Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2010 Benefit Season. We look forward to seeing you next year!
Designers and Floral Exhibitors

Anthropologie
Big Daddy Antiques
Campanile Restaurant
Christopher Guy
Cottage Garden Design
Everage Design
Floral Art Therapy
Garden of Eva
Gearys of Beverly Hills
Greenwood Daylily Gardens
Holly Flora
J-Art Iron
Language of Flowers
Lily Pad Floral Design
Lucia Burke
Garden Design
Luna Gardens Events

Magical Blooms
Flowers & Boutique
Marc Byrd Flower Design
Mark’s Design
Mayfair House
Merrihew’s Sunset Gardens
Nancy Goslee Power
& Associates
Orchids de Oro
Rolf Tillmann
Special Occasions
Event Planning
Stephanie Burton
Floral Design
Swanson-Ollis Interiors
Sticks & Stones
Tic-Tock Couture Florals
Yves Delorme

Swanson Ollis Interiors
Peri Ellen Berne & Mark Peel
Garden of Eva
J-Art Iron
Stephanie Burton
Pastigian Brothers
Mark’s Garden
Mayfair House
Furniture by Christopher Guy
Emily Denver for Language of Flowers
Tic-Tock Couture Floral
Abutilon
Poplar Schoerner & Jen Johnson for Anthropologie
C.J. Forray Cottage Garden Design
John Schoustra of Greenwood Daylily Gardens
Krista Everage Design
Mistyka J. Garcia of Special Occasions
Casey Coleford for Yves Delorme
Joey Corrigan for Sticks & Stones
A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL THE CONTRIBUTORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE OPPORTUNITY DRAWINGS AND GIFT BASKETS…

Accessor Eyes
Anawalt Lumber Hardware Nursery
Ann Petersen
Anne Koral
Artistic Nails
Avant-Garde Fencers Club
Barbara Lazaroff
Barney’s New York
Beverly Hill Beads
Big Daddy Antiques
Borrowed Bling
Bottega Veneta
Bradford Renaissance Portraits
Brighton Shave Company
Bristol Farms
Claudia and Benjamin Deutsch
Cathy Kurstin
Center Theatre Group
Cheryl Chalek
Christophe Salon
Classy Bag Lady
Collette d.
Damiani Jewelry
Daniel Koral
Designs by Georgina
Dominique Duval
Dr. and Mrs. Andy Schwartz
Dumont Jewelry
El Dorado Hotel and Spa
Ellen Levitt
Gears Beverly Hills
Gourmet Blends
Greystone Mansion
Gunilla Horacek
H Concours
Habit Footwear & Accessories
Harvey Alpert
Henry’s Jewelers
Hilary Beane Jewelry Designs
House of An
J. Art Iron
Jacqueline B.
Jacqueline Marie Accessories
James Folsom
Jeanne Anderson
Joseph Martin Salon
K Chocolatier by Diane Kron
Kerstin & George Royce
Kevan Hall
Kiki Bean & Bed Head
Krista Everage
Leslie Pam Ph.D
Linda Meadows
Lisa Smith
Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra
Lotus Land
Louise’s Hats
Maralee Beck
Mark Lipson
Mark’s Garden
Marni Hoffman
Mediterranean Magic
Montage Beverly Hills
Moonlite
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Grabel
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Lipson
Neiman Marcus
Nobu Los Angeles
Over the Top Gifts
Pasadena Showcase for the Arts
Pauline’s Handmade Brittle
Peggy Dark - The Kitchen
Platt Boutique Jewelry
Premier Valet
Primadina
Proven Winners
Rhona Gewelber
Richard Schnell
Robert Holzman
Roberto Cavalli, Art Fashion Corp.
Robin Ruby
Rolf Tillmann
Ronnelle Designs
Rosanna and Gary Grabel
Rowley Portraiture
Sharon Blair-The Groove Store
Soreinity Rocks
Southwest Airline Charitable Giving
Stella Neptune
Susan Chalek
Susan Rothenberg and Ricki Ring
The Beverly Hills Hotel
The Broad Stage
The Shout Factory
The Treasured Accessory
Timeless Gems
Trader Joe’s
Votre Vu
Web Teck LA
Mr. and Mrs. Martin J. Wolff
Collecting for the Public: Ten Years of Paintings Acquisition
Scott Schaefer, Senior Curator of Painting at the J. Paul Getty Museum

Scott Schaefer, Senior Curator of Paintings, gave an informative presentation in which he discussed the overarching intent of the Getty Museum’s painting collection. Significantly, the direction that J. P. Getty left to guide the trust in creating this unequalled institution was the following 25 word statement: “Whereas the founder desires and proposes to found, maintain and perpetuate a museum, gallery of art, and library, for the diffusion of artistic and general knowledge.” Scott showed us how the Getty has implemented this assignment by presenting a number of paintings and explaining why they were significant in the history of art, why they were chosen by the Getty and finally, how they enrich the collection as a whole.

DINING WITH VIRGINIA
The lifestyle and menus of the First Lady of Beverly Hills
Maite Gomez-Rejon of ArtBites

Twelve lucky “students” enjoyed an al fresco luncheon in the loggia at the historic home of Mrs. Virginia Robinson on March 11, 2010. The menu featured recipes from Mrs. Robinson’s own cookbooks adapted for the occasion by museum educator, Maite Gomez-Rejon. Before the cooking session began, Maite took the group around the house to discuss various decorative objects, which were selected as a window onto Virginia, her formality and her love of romance. Style and service was very much a part of everyday life on Elden Way. Although the “guests” at the luncheon prepared the delectable dishes they all enjoyed à table, their appreciation for the day was all the greater. Everyone who participated agreed that Virginia’s life must have been quite wonderful.

Menu
Green salad with Parmesan Dressing
Salmon with olives, green onion, anchovies and tomato
Potatoes with fresh herbs
Chicken Fricassee
Warm Plum Cake with Crème Chantilly

Helping to Preserve America’s Exceptional Gardens
Suzanne Rheinstein – Garden Conservancy Board Member

Suzanne Rheinstein, renowned interior designer and owner of Hollyhock on La Cienega, spoke on the preservation projects of the Garden Conservancy. Her presentation included Steepletop located in Austerlitz, New York, (in the Taconic Ridge near the Berkshire Mountains), beloved home of Edna St. Vincent Millay; Pearl Fryer Topiary Garden in Bishopville, South Carolina; the Ruth Bancrof Cactus Garden in Walnut Creek, California; and Longue Vue House and Gardens in New Orleans, newly restored after hurricane Katrina.

The goal of the Garden Conservancy is to preserve exceptional private gardens across America in order to keep them open to the public – a mission shared by the Friends of Robinson Gardens. Suzanne, a native of New Orleans, inspired the southern style lunch, Veronique Chicken Salad with pecans, Southern Cornbread and Biscuits and Berry Bread Pudding – served after the lecture in the conservatory of the Pool Pavilion.

Educational Lectures and Tours

Suzanne Rheinstein
Anne Marie Evans February, 2010

Ms. Evans returned to Robinson Gardens to conduct two five-day sessions. The subject for the first session was a fuchsia that grows in Virginia Robinson’s garden. During the second session, a few of the students painted the Virginia Robinson camellia, a beautiful pink variety named by Mr. Nuccio of Nuccio’s Nursery in Pasadena. The Friends look forward to Anne Marie's next session in February 2011.

Anne Marie Evans upcoming 2011 Classes – Two separate 5-day sessions
February 21-24 & February 28-March 4

Margaret Best June, 2010

Watercolor Brush Technique for Botanical Art — The class considered the use of basic plant elements such as petals and fruit for understanding the application of washes, glazes, color blending and color layering. Using a cherry as their subject, the class learned how to build form and shadow, while avoiding making muddy colors and overworking the paper surface. Wet brush, dry brush and lifting techniques were also covered.

CONTINUING CLASSES

Three Day Classes – Robinson Garden Pool Pavilion
Fee: Members $275.00 – Non-members $295.00

Margaret Best – Three day class August 4 – 6, 2010

Botanical Art Composition – Students will be led though exercises to train the eye on how to plan and create visually appealing and natural compositions. Traditional compositions and contemporary works will be studied for technique and compositional effect.

Margaret Best – Three day class September 1-3, 2010

How and When To Add Details? – Building washes to get the right intensity and give value to the subject. When to add the details that give the final painting its personality and “punch.”

Margaret Best – Three day class October 6-8, 2010

Full Flower Painting – Students are asked to have prepared a detailed drawing for review by Margaret. This will be used for a full color and detailed water color study, utilizing all the technical elements learned in earlier classes. A special emphasis will be placed on innovative composition and accurate use of color.
**Ten Most Common Problems with Trees and How To Avoid Them**

Lisa Smith, Registered Consulting Arborist, Friends of Robinson Gardens Member

Lisa Smith gave a lecture on the “Ten Most Common Problems with Trees and How to Avoid Them.” In this talk, an extensive powerpoint presentation was provided which gave examples of the best ways to maintain our valuable trees and which practices can cause challenging conditions and shorten the lives of our trees. Topics such as pruning, mulching, fertilizing, staking, planting and proper watering were also discussed. Ms. Smithy is the owner of The Tree Resource, a Southern California tree consulting firm providing all aspects of tree management and preservation, with expert knowledge by certified arborists, experienced in the arboriculture industry. Over the past 209 years, her firm has participated in a wide range of commercial and public landscaping projects.

**Excursion to Huntington Botanical Gardens**

February 1, 2010

A group of fourteen Friends enjoyed a guided tour of the Huntington Botanical Gardens on a chilly morning in February. Just as Virginia and Harry Robinson saw potential on the westside of Los Angeles, Henry Huntington found paradise on a working ranch with citrus and fruit groves in San Marino. He and his superintendent, William Hetrich, created the botanical garden of exotic and rare plants that now covers more than 120 acres. Over 14,000 varieties of plants are grown in theme gardens throughout the estate. The Friends were not able to see every garden, leaving more to discover on another visit.

**Bountiful Beautiful Bromeliads**

March 16, 2010

Paul T. Isley, Rainforest Flora

Mr. Isley, owner of one the finest Tillandsia nurseries in the country, presented the history and culture of growing Tillandsia, a genus of air plant bromeliad found in the deserts, forests and mountains of Central and South America, Mexico and the southern United States in North America. The thinner-leafed varieties grow in rainy areas and the thick-leafed varieties in areas more subject to drought. Moisture and nutrients are gathered from the air through structures on the leaves. Airplants are not parasitic, depending on the host only for support. The genus Tillandsia was named by Carolus Linnaeus after the Swedish physician and botanist Dr. Elias Tillander (originally Tillander) (1640-1693) The roots are used as anchors only. Reproduction is by seeds or by offsets called “pups.” Although not normally cultivated for their flowers, some Tillandsia will bloom on a regular basis.
Upcoming Educational Events

Highlights of the Getty Museum Botanical Art Collection
David Brafman, J. Paul Getty Museum

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<tr>
<th>Wednesday, September 22, 2010</th>
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<td>Mr. Brafman, Rare Books Curator at the Getty Institute will give an illustrated lecture on the rare botanical prints and books in the Getty Library. Participants will be given the opportunity to visit the Getty at a later date to see the actual illustrations. The visit to the Getty will be limited to 20 reservations.</td>
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Fall Entertaining
Peggy Dark and Mark Held

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<th>Thursday, October 14, 2010</th>
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<td>Critically acclaimed caterer, Peggy Dark of Kitchen for Exploring Foods and floral giant, Mark Held of Mark's Garden in Sherman Oaks, join forces to present “tricks of the trade”. They will share imaginative table design and delicious dinners that you can manage and enjoy as well! Fabulous Parties, Peggy and Mark's current book on entertaining will be available for sale. Drawing on many years of experience as floral designers and caterers to Los Angeles's A-listers, Mark and Peggy have adapted the principles of putting together a large, lavish event to a more intimate scale suited to home or small venue entertaining. The harmonious relationship between food and flowers is clearly demonstrated in their collaboration.</td>
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Everything I Needed to Know I Learned from Jane Austen
Charles Lynn Batten, Professor of English Literature, UCLA

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<th>Tuesday, Nov 16, 2010</th>
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<td>Charles Lynn Batten is an American literary critic and Vice Chairman of the English Department at the UCLA. He has won numerous teaching awards throughout his career at UCLA, including the Distinguished Teaching Award in 1981. Austen's works critique the novels of sensibility of the second half of the eighteenth century and are part of the transition to nineteenth-century realism. Austen’s plots, though fundamentally comic, highlight the dependence of women on marriage to secure social standing and economic security. Like those of Samuel Johnson, one of the strongest influences on her writing, her works are concerned with moral issues. Professor Batten will speak on the cultural, political and social aspects of Jane Austin's writing.</td>
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The Reproduction of “Rare” Books
Jim Heiman of Taschen Books

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<th>January 6, 2011</th>
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<td>TASCHEN Editions have been described as “Pieces of art, pieces of life, pieces of joy! They are the balm for the eyes of the soul!” From comic books to fine art, the history of Taschen Books is a fascinating story.</td>
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DOCENT TRAINING SESSIONS

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<th>December 2010: January 27, 2011; March 31, 2011 and July 28, 2011</th>
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<td>The training sessions will be on the following Thursdays:</td>
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<td>For additional information on docent training, please contact</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jesse Harris at 310.550.2065 or <a href="mailto:JHarris@parks.lacounty.gov">JHarris@parks.lacounty.gov</a></td>
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On April 27, 2010, The Friends celebrated Tim Lindsay’s 50th Birthday with an elegant lunch and one glorious desert after another. What’s a man to do when surrounded by women? Eat cake and smile, which is exactly what he did. Even more, he wore a garland of flowers presented by Kerstin Royce. Tim Lindsay is not only a talented manager and steward of this remarkable garden, but also a creative, enthusiastic, generous partner in all that we do.

Tim Lindsay was 35 when he came to Virginia Robinson Gardens. He quickly discovered that his new job was as much about people as it was plants. Tim has a Masters of Science in Forestry and a Bachelor of Science in Plant and Soil Science. He was an Assistant Professor of Horticultural Science in Florida before coming to California. He worked as Assistant Superintendent for the Los Angeles County Arboretum from 1990 to 1998, when he was appointed Regional Park Superintendent II at Virginia Robinson Gardens.

At the Robinson Gardens and Museum, his duties include fiduciary management and accountability for all contributions, income and agency assets. He serves as County representative on the Friends of Robinson Gardens Board jointly developing conservation and restoration projects and expanding collaborations and relationships with the City of Beverly Hills to maximize community access, while adhering to current Environmental Impact Regulations governing the facility.

We are so lucky to have Tim at the helm.

Happy Birthday, KID!
ORCHID HOUSE
RECONSTRUCTION COMPLETE

By Timothy L. Lindsay

One March morning, while perusing the personal files of the Robinson family, I stumbled across a file labeled “Plants.” Interested in identifying original plantings in the garden, I opened it anticipating the discovery of important archival information. Unfortunately, I found only two plant sales receipts, but to my surprise, it also contained the original blue prints for the orchid greenhouse. The plans, dated 1961, were from Rosemead Greenhouse Inc., a manufacturer that is no longer in business. As it happens, finding this file was a serendipitous event, because the Friends budget already included funds to reconstruct the orchid greenhouse.

Historically, the orchid greenhouse was used, as the name implies, to grow orchids. Orchids are not terribly exciting to look at until they bloom, when their intriguing beauty is revealed. Mrs. Robinson’s gardeners would coax her orchids back to bloom in the greenhouse, and then selectively place them around the estate, a tradition we continue today.

The first step in the reconstruction process was to prepare a photo essay of the structure. This was for our archives and for use by the carpenter during reconstruction. Next, it was time for demolition! It was easy to find help for this part. The gardening staff, along with volunteer David Barvossa, completed demolition in about a week. All the glass panels were numbered and carefully removed. Glass lost to breakage ran about 45%. With the exception of the doorknob, all original hardware was saved for reuse, preserving much of the historical fabric. The doorknob was replaced with a period piece, because the original was not made for exterior use and had deteriorated beyond repair.

The new greenhouse is built per plan out of redwood. Since the color of the original structure was not known, and had been painted for the Garden Tour by various exhibitors, we decided to leave the wood unfinished. Over time, redwood will naturally turn gray and harden to the elements.

Beginning this fall, children’s tours will use a portion of the new orchid greenhouse to stage educational activities related to plant growth and conservation. In addition, Robinson Gardens staff will begin to propagate heirloom plants for use in the gardens.

Virginia Robinson Gardens and Friends of Robinson Gardens wish to acknowledge the generous support of the Beverly Hills Rotary Club, the Barth Family and everyone who helped make this valuable reconstruction project possible.
Dearest Friends,

Serving as President of
of Friends of Robinson
Gardens for the last
two years has been a
wonderfully rewarding
experience. I want to
take this opportunity
to thank all of you who
have guided, aided,
served and counseled me
during my presidency.

It is my hope that we have paved an ongoing path of new
opportunity, developed programs to expand our base of
Friends, and significantly advanced the methods and direction
of preservation at Virginia Robinson Gardens.

It is only through the work and dedication of the Board of
Directors, its officers, committee chairs and committees,
docents and volunteers that we were able to accomplish so
much during the last two years. Additionally, I want to thank
the County of Los Angeles for its outstanding support of the
Friends. There are so many people responsible for helping to
preserve Virginia Robinson Gardens as an historical landmark,
that I cannot name them all. However, I wish to give special
thanks to Superintendent Tim Lindsay, Curator Jesse Harris,
Caretaker Dale Witt, and Friends Administrative Assistant and
Events Coordinator Bianca Costin, for their hard work each
and every day. They are priceless treasures of our beautiful
garden.

As I leave office and hand the gavel over to the capable
hands of Jeanne Anderson and her new Board of Directors,
I am confident that Virginia Robinson Gardens and Friends
of Robinson Gardens has a beautiful future. The Friends is a
remarkable group of women. I am proud to have been your
President.

Warmest regards,

Leslie Kavanaugh