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OREGON GARDEN BOTANICAL ATTRACTION BLOOMS WITH NEW MANAGEMENT ON APRIL 1

SILVERTON, OR— Just in time for spring blooms, Moonstone Hotel Properties announced today the finalization of its management agreement with The Oregon Garden, an 80-acre botanical showplace located 40 miles southeast of Portland in the historic hamlet of Silverton. Moonstone Hotel Properties will commence its management of the attraction on April 1, 2006, and plans to break ground on an adjacent garden-themed inn this summer.

“Our goal is to help The Oregon Garden flourish and to initiate a spirit of renewal,” said Lynda Gill, director of operations for Moonstone Hotel Properties. “We plan to implement a more robust calendar of events, and to broaden the Garden’s appeal to the average visitor. We want to promote the Garden and the town of Silverton, Oregon as a unified package, one that will make the community proud.”

Opened in 1999, The Oregon Garden features thousands of plants displayed throughout 20 specialty gardens. These include the Pet-Friendly Garden; the Lewis & Clark Garden; the Sensory Garden; a children’s garden as well as water features, garden art, wetlands, a Rediscovery Forest; and a 400-year-old Signature Oak. The Garden is also home to the Gordon House, the only house in Oregon designed by the legendary architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

Based in Cambria, California, Moonstone Hotel Properties is a family of 10 distinctive inns owned by Dirk and Lauren Winter. Launched in 1986, several of the company’s inns feature garden themes, including the Cambria Pines Lodge and Carmel River Inn on California’s Central Coast; the Apple Tree Inn at Yosemite; and Village Green Resort in Cottage Grove, Oregon. The Winters also own and operate Cambria Nursery & Florist, and Dirk Winter is himself an avid gardener, horticultural hobbyist and landscaper. Both Cambria Pines Lodge and Village Green Resort host the annual “Gathering of Gardeners” event each fall, as well as year-round garden demonstrations and workshops.

“In many ways, this is a labor of love for Dirk Winter and Moonstone Hotel Properties,” said Gill. “Our short-term goal is to restore community faith in The Oregon Garden as a viable attraction. Our long-term goal is to help revitalize The Oregon Garden and put it back on the map as one of the nation’s premier garden destinations.”

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