Maple Syrup Time

By Joel Horwedel

In the early 1970’s, Lincoln Memorial Garden Naturalist Bill Hammel was tasked with coming up with a free public education program during the waning weeks of winter. This was the origin of the free Maple Syrup demonstrations that the Garden continues to conduct more than 40 years later.

When we think of maple syrup, we usually think of the northeastern states. But any area that has a stand of sugar maple trees is capable of producing this sweet breakfast treat. Public demonstrations conducted by the Garden’s staff and volunteers will guide visitors through the process of making maple syrup. Everyone is invited to watch and participate in the process twice daily at 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. on the weekends of February 25 – 26, March 4 – 5, and March 11 – 12.

Participants meet at the LMG Nature Center to learn about the history of making maple syrup. This is followed by a hike through the Garden’s maple groves to watch a tree tapping. A guide then demonstrates how the sap is boiled down to create syrup. This is a great opportunity for families to get outside, spend some time together and enjoy the winter beauty of the Garden.

At the end of the maple-tapping season, the Garden celebrates by hosting a Pancake and Sausage Breakfast held over two weekends in March (March 18 – 19 and 25 – 26). Breakfast will be served each of those days from 8 a.m. to noon. The auction items will be on display throughout the two-weekend event. Reservations are strongly encouraged as seating is limited! To make a reservation, please visit the Garden’s website, www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org.

Pancake enthusiasts Greta and Justin Blandford. Photo by Dick Adorjan
Director’s message
by Joel Horwedel

If anyone has visited our website lately, they likely noticed some changes. We recently overhauled our website in an attempt to make it easier to navigate and find the information our visitors are looking for. Through a donation from our friends at King Technology, the Garden was able to overhaul the website at very little cost. Thanks King Tech! I encourage everyone to check it out and let us know what you think! Also, don’t forget that the Garden has a Facebook page. It contains program information and current happenings at the Garden.

As we approach the midpoint of winter, the Garden staff is busy preparing for our annual Maple Syrup Time and Pancake/Sausage Breakfast and Silent Auction (see Wanted Ad below). In the coming weeks we hope to see you at our demonstrations and breakfast!

www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org
www.facebook.com/lincolnmemorialgarden

WANTED:
Awesome Silent Auction items!

What makes the Silent Auction so popular is the wide variety of valuable, interesting, beautiful and even edible objects that are available for bidding each year. We are seeking donated items – large or small, gently used or brand new.

Suggestions to inspire you:
- Tickets to an athletic event or concert
- Vacation condo for a week
- Personal catered dinner party or baked treats
- Certificates: restaurant, salon, round of golf
- High end jewelry, antiques, or artwork
- Consulting services
- A nice lawn tractor or snow blower
- A themed gift basket (OR you provide items and we will put it together in a nice basket)

If you have an item you want to donate, please bring it to the Garden by March 15. If it is too big or heavy for you to transport, just give Joel a call (217) 529-1111 to arrange a pickup.

Maple Syrup Time
Volunteer Training

Thursday, February 23
12 p.m.–2:30 p.m.

by Audra Walters

If you have a thirst for learning and a desire to share this knowledge with others, our Maple Syrup Time Volunteer Training is the perfect opportunity for you. During our afternoon training session you will learn all about the maple tapping process from selecting the perfect tree to boiling the sap into syrup. Participants will also learn techniques to enable them to share this new information with the many school groups that head out for this Lincoln Memorial Garden winter tradition. Both new and experienced volunteers are invited to attend. Please dress for the weather, as much of this training will be outside. Lunch will be provided, so please RSVP at (217) 529-1111 or audra@lincolnmemorialgarden.org.

2017 Trail Run Facts

DATE: Saturday, May 20, 2017
START TIME: 8K race begins at 7:30 a.m.
Kids Fun Run begins at approximately 9 a.m.

The 4.97-mile loop course starts and ends at the Lincoln Memorial Garden main parking lot. This is a Springfield Road Runners Club participation race.

An award will be given to the overall winner in each category and to the top one-third of finishers in all age categories. All participants and children will receive a participation "medal."

The cost is $30 until 11:59 p.m. on April 17. Cost on April 18 until 11:59 p.m. May 15 is $35. That includes a dri-release T-shirt, participation medal, post race entertainment, and the best food offered at any race. Children’s Fun Run for toddlers through age 12 is $6 and includes a T-shirt and participation medal.

If you choose not to run, we encourage you to be an event sponsor and to enjoy all the benefits of sponsorship. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or if you have other race questions, please contact Joel Horwedel: 217-529-1111 or joel@lincolnmemorialgarden.org.

To register for the 8K or the Kids Fun Run go to http://getmeregistered.com/lincolnmemorialgardenrun or www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org.

Red Fox
Ecology Camp

The sap is only beginning to flow, but summer will be here before we know it, which means another season of Ecology Camp at Lincoln Memorial Garden. Weeklong sessions give campers ages 4 to 15 a chance to explore the Garden’s trails while learning more about ecology, native plants, animals, insects and our environment. These topics are presented through nature hikes, games, stories and crafts. Be sure to include Ecology Camp into the summer plans for your young naturalist. The schedule for Ecology Camp 2017 can be found below. Registration opens on March 10th.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>June 5 – 9</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>13, 14, 15</td>
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<td>I</td>
<td>June 12 – 16</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>4, 5, 6</td>
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<td>II</td>
<td>June 19 – 23</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>6, 7, 8</td>
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<td>III</td>
<td>June 26 – 30</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>7, 8, 9</td>
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<td>IV</td>
<td>July 10 – 14</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>8, 9, 10</td>
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<td>V</td>
<td>July 17 – 21</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>9, 10, 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>VI</td>
<td>July 24 – 28</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>10, 11, 12</td>
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Winter Overnight

_Saturday, February 18 - Sunday, February 19_

Parents Note: It’s time to register Senior Naturalists (9 to 12 year olds) for our annual winter overnight at Lincoln Memorial Garden. Come out and enjoy two favorite activities: playing Predator/Prey and chowing down on pizza and s’mores.

Please join in the winter fun. Be sure to dress for the weather and wear camouflage gear for Predator/Prey. We will meet at the Nature Center at 6 p.m. _Saturday, February 18_. Every Senior Naturalist needs to bring a sleeping bag, pajamas, and a change of clothes. If you wish, bring along a flashlight, a board game, and a favorite movie we can vote on for late-night viewing. On Sunday morning, Naturalists will enjoy breakfast before parents arrive for _pick-up at 9 a.m._

The cost for this mini-vacation is $50 for Garden members and $65 for nonmembers. This overnight event is limited to 25 naturalists. It fills up quickly, so register early. Online registration is available at the Garden’s website www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org.

Questions? Please call (217) 529-1111 or email audra@lincolnmemorialgarden.org.

Great Geeks at LMG

As all of you know, it takes a village to keep Lincoln Memorial Garden running smoothly. Our plea in the last _Seasons_ newsletter for an electrical geek to fix the electrical problems with our Match Displays in the Discovery Room resulted in several offers of assistance. We want to thank _Mike Luepke_ for tracking down and fixing all the problems—lots of little wires! Thank you very much, Mike.

Memorials

To the following individuals who have chosen to honor the memory of a loved one with a gift to Lincoln Memorial Garden, we say thank you.

_In memory of Joan Muraro_, a memorial donation was received from . . .
  - Dick and Helen Adorjan

_In memory of John T. Bullington_, a memorial donation was received from . . .
  - Kathryn and David Dobrinic

_In memory of Elijah Ellis_, a memorial donation was received from . . .
  - Christopher Ellis

_In memory of JoAnn Wehrle_, a memorial donation was received from . . .
  - Dick and Helen Adorjan

_In memory of Raymond Wilke_, a memorial donation was received from . . .
  - Sharon and John Kwedar

_In memory of Rita Davis_, a memorial donation was received from . . .
  - Staff of IEPA Bureau of Water
Thanks for the Germeraad Family Fund

by Steven Read

As you runners, walkers, and hikers are aware, the Jesse Knotts Bridge and the bridge leading to the Prairie Path are in very poor condition. The bridges’ sagging support structures consist of two poles laid across the creek. Besides structural problems, they also have no handrails. None of our larger tractors are allowed to drive over them. In August 2016, LMG applied for a $7,500 grant from the Historic Preservation Fund of the Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln to replace the bridges. The $7,500 would cover the costs of the material while the LMG Building & Grounds Crew would provide the labor. Unfortunately, our grant application was not selected for an award. The good news is that the Germeraad Family Fund has awarded us their own grant of $7,500 to replace the two bridges.

While applying for the grant, we gleaned through articles, letters, and written history in our archives to try to learn more about Jesse Knotts. Surprisingly, we did not uncover much information. We have all seen her name on the bridge, but no one seemed to know much about her. What we did learn clearly indicated that she formed the third member of the Big Three—Harriet Knudson, Myrtle Walgreen, and Jesse Knotts. She raised money for the Garden in the Chicago area and provided publicity for the Garden in her publications throughout all of Illinois. Hopefully she would be pleased that we are reconstructing her namesake bridge.

Both bridges will be constructed with concrete footings, concrete support columns, new treated bridge beams, 3 x 12 inch treated bridge deck, and 6 inch diameter treated handrails. The Jesse Knotts Bridge will be built to resemble the current bridge with the iconic “Jesse Knotts Bench” on one side. We hope to complete the work during the summer and early fall.

We want to extend a big thank you to the Germeraad families and the Germeraad Family Fund for their generous contribution to the Garden. We will be good stewards of their donation! 

Lincoln Memorial Garden and Springfield Civic Garden Club

by Kathy Andrews Wright

The Garden Clubs of Illinois and Lincoln Memorial Garden have an active partnership that dates to the 1930s.

Mrs. T.J. Knudson (Harriet), a Founder and Vice President of the Springfield Civic Garden Club, approached the Club’s Board of Directors with an idea to create a woodland garden on the banks of the lake under construction by the City of Springfield. The Garden Club of Illinois officially embraced her idea in 1933.

Conversion of the 60-acre open landscape to the woodland garden designed by Jens Jensen was left to the direction of Mrs. Knudson. Hundreds of gardeners and wildflower enthusiasts from dozens of clubs throughout Illinois—from Oak Park and Evanston west to Freeport and Rockford and south to Danville and Springfield, and beyond—donated plants and time to create a living garden memorializing Abraham Lincoln.

Dedicated on October 4, 1938 during the semi-annual meeting of the Garden Club of Illinois, Abraham Lincoln Memorial Garden was later formally presented to the people of Springfield, the state and the nation during the 1941 semi-annual meeting.

Support for the Garden grew even more when in 1939 the Garden Club of America selected Lincoln Memorial Garden to receive oak and hickory trees as one of its four annual projects.

But Garden Club involvement didn’t stop with plantings. The half-council ring was built as a tribute to Mary Dynes’ untiring work with the organization.

In 1953, Garden Clubs in other states were offered the opportunity to sponsor the cost of rustic benches engraved with a quotation by Abraham Lincoln. Scattered at convenient locations along 5 miles of walking trails, the 31 resulting benches provided a place to rest, absorb the view and enjoy the solitude.

In 1957 the Garden Department of the Illinois Federated Woman’s Clubs presented the shelter which stands near the entrance.

By May 1952 it became obvious that managing the Garden was beyond the ability of the Garden Club of Illinois and the Board of Directors voted to form the Abraham Lincoln Memorial Garden Foundation, Inc. This action kept the Garden Club involved, but relieved their financial burden, expanded the membership base for the Garden, stepped up development of the Garden, and, in 1963, allowed the first full-time Executive Director to be hired. It was at this point that the Springfield Civic Garden Club took a more active role in Lincoln Memorial Garden.

In the past 60 years, thanks to the foresight of Mrs. Knudson and the dedication and drive
Pollinators in Peril
by Kathy Andrews Wright

The decline of the showy, iconic monarch butterfly has been well documented and publicized, but many lesser-known pollinators face similar fates.

One such species, the rusty patched bumblebee (*Bombus affinis*), may soon gain fame as the first bee designated as a federally endangered species. The Xerces Society filed a petition in 2013, requesting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to initiate an endangered species review, and in September 2016 the USFWS proposed listing this species as endangered.

Until the 1980s, the rusty patched bumblebee was found in 28 states across the eastern United States and upper Midwest, and two provinces in Canada. Over the past two decades it has disappeared from nearly 90% of its range, and since 2000 only a few bees have been found in small, scattered colonies in about a dozen states, including Illinois. Population declines are attributed to disease, pesticides (neonicotinoids), climate change (including asynchronous flowering plant and bee spring emergence) and habitat loss.

Rusty patched worker bees have the name-sake rust-colored patch on the middle of their second abdominal segment (photos and additional identification tips available at xerces.org). This species usually nests underground and actively forages farmlands, marshes, woodlands and sand dunes between April and October, requiring a constant supply and diversity of flowers to support the colony. An important native pollinator of agricultural crops, the rusty patched bumblebee is a “buzz pollinator.” Larger and stronger than the honeybee, rusty patched bees have a higher vibration rate which enhances their effectiveness as a pollinator.

For an excellent overview on this bee, watch the online video “A Ghost In the Making—Searching for the Rusty-patched Bumblebee” (rustypatched.com). Natural history photographer Clay Bolt undertook a multi-year quest to tell the story of native bees, including the rusty patched bumblebee.

Protection of our pollinators is important because of their contribution to our foods and their role in a healthy, functioning ecosystem.

What can you do to support pollinators?

- Bolster pollinator habitat by adding native flowers, shrubs and trees.
- Minimize herbicide use.
- Mow your lawn less often. A U.S. Forest Service study shows that less frequent mowing, and encouraging the presence of species such as dandelions, clovers and violets, can greatly improve bee habitat.
- If your property is large, create wind breaks or property dividers with native trees and shrubs, including elderberries, box elder, sumac and dogwood.
- Create homes for native wood-nesting bees by drilling holes (5/32nds of an inch in diameter) in a block of wood. The Internet is a great source of information for “Mason Bee Homes.”
- Learn more about conservation measures underway to benefit monarchs and other pollinators at fws.gov/savethemonarch.

GARDEN CLUB — cont’d from page 4

of members of the Garden Club of Illinois, the member-driven Lincoln Memorial Garden has continued to grow, offering programs and events for Springfield-area residents.

Today the Garden Club doesn’t have the daily, and hands-on, involvement it once had, but both the Garden Clubs of Illinois and Springfield Civic Garden Club remain active, with representatives serving on the Lincoln Memorial Garden Board of Directors. Regardless, the relationship between the organizations remains valued, and is evident when strolling through the Garden or shopping during the annual Holiday Market. ♦️

Right: Harriet Knudson (second from left sitting in the golf cart) watches ladies from the Garden Club planting young oak trees that now stand tall at Lincoln Memorial Garden.
Annual Fund Drive

Thank you to all who have contributed so far to our Annual Fund Drive. This is our largest single fundraising effort of the year. All the money raised goes to the operating fund of Lincoln Memorial Garden.

While the drive starts in late November, it is not considered closed until the end of March, when our new fiscal year starts. So, there is still time to help if you can.

People who do not know much about the Garden assume that we are part of the Springfield Park District or the City of Springfield park system and that we receive public money from those sources. As you know, that’s not true. We are responsible for raising every dollar that goes to keep Lincoln Memorial Garden open and free to everyone.

Your support of the Garden’s Annual Fund drive goes a long way towards making that possible. Thank you, again and again.

Charles and Jean Adams
Dick and Helen Adorjan
Tom Ala
John Allen and Patti Hodges
Donald and Judith Anderson
Jack and Jan Anderson
Frances Armstrong
Mike and Vicki Armstrong
James and Joan Bachman
Celeste Bailey
Patricia Ann Bally
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Barber
Ralph and Karen Barr
Carolyn and Gerald Barris
Caroline Becker
Edward and Judy Bedore
Brent and Erika Beeman
Stephen and Edith Benson
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Beveridge
Paul and Ruth Biggers
Mary Blumle
Michael and Ann Marie Boer
Ms. Martha Bradley
Myrtle F. Brady
Mrs. Walter F. Brissenden — In honor of Susie Hammond for Christmas
Charles and Patricia Broers
Robert Brouse
Liz Brown-Reeves and Michael Reeves
Neil and Katie Brumleve
Bill and Marilyn Budd
Lorraine Bujan
Jeanette Buragas
Casie Burk Jones
Larry Bussard
Stuart and Mary Byers
Karen Camp
Kathleen and Craig Campbell
Paul and Jackie Carey
Dianne Carney
Melanie and Don Caspary
Caroline Cavaller
Delinda Chapman
Dr. Richard and Dr. Phyllis Cheaney
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Chesley
Kent and Gwen Childs
Tom Christensen
Grady and Linda Chronister
Mary Lynne Cleverdon
Marilyn and Bob Cohen
Gregory and Tanya Collins
Max and Linda Comstock
Carol Corgan and Candice Kane
Cathy Cragoe
Anne Craig
Dr. Roland and Susan Cull
Barbara A. Darby
Mary Lou Davis
Steve Davis and Janet Hawes-Davis
Dan and Judy Dees
Susan Dees Hargrove
Shawn and Mary Ann Denney
Tom and Paula Denny
Craig Dickey
Mrs. Lori Dodwell
Susan and Rick Dunbar
James and Patricia Dunn
Don Eklund
Jeff and Jennifer Egizio
Mary Ann Egizio
Diane and Gary Elmer
Mary Anne Elson
Ronald L. and Judith N. Eshleman
Helen Evenson
Judith Everson
George T. and Phyllis Fairchild
Thomas Faller
Kathleen and Jim Faloon
Jane Fee
Veronica and Dale Fesser
Susan and Doug Flanagan
Carol Everly Floyd
Roland and Hazen Folse
F. Lucille Foster
Jeff Fouxt
Ms. Lee Gaeding
Edward J. Gardner
Joan Gardner
Mary Gartung
Jeri and Robert Gasaway
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Geekie
Jerry and Mary Kay Gifford
Michael Gillette
Victor Ginsberg and Jane Treadwell
Chris and Susan Gleason
Margaret Goodwin
Kevin and Naomi Greene
Larry and Marion Gregg
Sherry Gregory
David and Sue Griffen
Jim and Mary Grundel
Kay Gulley
Mr. Wendell Hahn
Nancy McGhugh Hahn
Nancy Haines
John and Betty Hamilton
John and Ruth Ann Hamilton
June and Tom Harmon
Mary Anne Harrison
Barbara Hartman and Jim Melville
George and Mary Jo Haven
Ron and Marie Havens
James and Susan Helm
Dr. Joe Henkle
Richard and Carol Herndon
Darcy Herrmann
Michael Hersh
James and Karen Hockenjos
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Hoffman
Kathy Hoffmann
Donna and Michael Holinga
Grady and Kathleen Holley
Barbara Holman
Ron and Beth Horwedel
Betsy Hough
Nancy Hunter
Loren Iglarsh and Suzanne Schriar
Jessica and Mitch Ingold
Margaret Izzo — In honor of Virginia Scott for Christmas
Jacqueline Jackson
Richard and Linda Johnson
Glenn and Jan Jones
J. Patrick and Janice M. Joyce
Jack Kanady
Frank and Dorothy Katalinich
Patrick Kelley and Tamme Klein
Julie and William Kellner
Michele and Jerry Keilrouney
Patricia and Sheppard Kelly
Rosemary King
Tom and Frances King
Evan Kirk
Karen and Scott Kirk
Elizabeth Kloppeenburg
John and Patricia Kloppeenburg
Timothy and Priscilla Kluge
Ethel Knippenberg Family
Steve Koch
Ms. Mary Koerner
Kathie Kojis and Carl Arentzen
David and Cathy Kolaz
Frank and Linda Kopecky
Ann Kramer
Fred and Judy Kramer
Sharon and John Kwedar
Melinda and Pete LaBarre
Pat and Sue Landgrebe
Jim and Billie Langfelder
Sue Lohrenz
Peggy Boyer and Ray Long
Scott and Rae Long
Mike and Linda Luepke
Barb and Mark Mathewson
Carol McCue and John Perkins
Tom and Bonnie McTaggart
David and Diane Merchant
Richard and Diane Miles
Dr. and Mrs. John G. Miller
Todd and Genevieve Missel
Mary Caroline Mitchell
Danny and Judith Morres
Marlene and Scott Mulford

Lincoln Memorial Garden
Spring Junior/Senior Naturalists

Lincoln Memorial Garden’s spring Junior and Senior Naturalists sessions will begin in March and include programs in both April and May. Children 5 to 8 years old meet from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 9 to 12 year olds meet from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The Naturalist programs are for kids who want to learn more about the outdoors and have fun at the same time all while exploring the Garden’s woods, wetlands and prairies. Games, nature activities and crafts are a part of each session. Each monthly session features a different nature theme. Dates and themes for the spring sessions are:

- **March 4** Maple Syrup Time
- **April 1** Fish Tales
- **May 5** Insect Investigation

The cost for the three session spring series is $40 for Garden members, $45 for nonmembers. Individual session registration is also available at a cost of $15 each for members, $18 for nonmembers. Online registration is available at the Garden’s website at [www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org](http://www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org), as well as a printable registration form.

New Members

Jan Janssen
John Kang
Michael and Sandra Kennedy
Marsha Long
Patricia Rushing
Lori Small
Calendar

February 16  Midwestern Milkweeds Program – 7 p.m. Nature Center.
February 18 – 19  Senior Naturalist Overnight – 6 p.m. Saturday to 9 a.m. Sunday.
February 23  Maple Syrup Time Volunteer Training
February 25 & 26  Maple Syrup Time Public Demonstrations – 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. each day. Meet at Nature Center.
March 4 & 5  Maple Syrup Time Public Demonstrations – 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. each day. Meet at Nature Center.
March 11 & 12  Maple Syrup Time Public Demonstrations – 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. each day. Meet at Nature Center.
March 18 & 19  Pancake and Sausage Breakfast – 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.  Nature Center.
March 25 & 26  Pancake and Sausage Breakfast – 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.  Nature Center.
April 1  Junior Naturalists – 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
April 1  Senior Naturalists – 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.