It’s Maple Syrup Time!

by Ann Londrigan

Tapping maple trees to make syrup from sap is a practice dating back hundreds of years to the earliest inhabitants of North America. A natural source of sweetener, it harkens back to a time before “slow food” became a movement and was just a way of life.

You can experience the tradition for yourself in the sugar maple groves of the Garden. Mark your calendar for Maple Syrup Time demonstrations held at 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. on weekends in mid-February and early March (Feb. 16-17 and 23-24, and March 2-3 and 9-10). Check the weather beforehand, and dress accordingly for trekking through the Garden to find the taps.

The demonstrations include seeing firsthand the "evaporation" process of boiling sap over a wood fire to produce syrup—and of course, tasting the sweet stuff.

It takes about 40 gallons of sap to make one gallon of maple syrup. That’s why we partner with family-owned Funks Grove of nearby Shirley, Illinois, for a local supply of pure maple syrup for the pancake breakfast.

That’s right: Maple Syrup Time means the Garden’s annual Pancake and Sausage Breakfast is not far behind. Make your reservations online at the Garden’s web site, www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org, for this popular breakfast and silent auction fundraiser set for 8 a.m. to noon on the weekends of March 23-24 and 30-31.
Happy New Year! At the end of December, we wrapped up another successful Holiday Market. Many thanks to the Springfield Civic Garden Club artisans for all of their hard work and efforts! Also, a special thank-you goes to Kelly and Karen Grant for donating the delicious donuts for our event.

As I write this, we have reached the $60,000 mark for our annual fund drive! Many thanks to everyone who donated. We still have $13,000 to go, and we need your help. If you haven’t had time to make a donation, we hope you will consider helping us reach our goal of $73,000.

Our annual Pancake Breakfast and Silent Auction is right around the corner. Soon we will be soliciting donations from businesses and individuals of items for our auction. If you have an item that you would like to donate, please contact me at the Nature Center (529-1111).

I am happy to announce that Lincoln Memorial Garden has been awarded a Snail of Approval from Slow Food Springfield! This prestigious local award was handed out at the 11th Annual Slow Food Film Festival on January 26. We are proud to be part of the Snail club!

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 creative 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 21 (12 p.m.–2:30 p.m.)

Do you enjoy learning new things? How about teaching others? Then our Maple Syrup Time volunteer training is the perfect opportunity for you. Come learn about the process of transforming sap into maple syrup so you can, in turn, lead area school children through the amazing process. Experienced volunteers are invited to come refresh their tree tapping skills as well. If you would like to attend this training session, please email audra@lincolnmemorialgarden.org or call the Nature Center at (217) 529-1111. A light lunch will be provided.

New Members

Sue and Steve Arnish
Beverly Herrin
Marcia Jendreas
Henry McCulley
Randy and Nancy Pickett

Lincoln Memorial Garden Mission

The mission of Lincoln Memorial Garden is to honor the memory of Abraham Lincoln through re-creation of the native landscape he would have known, and to serve as a place to find inspiration in the changing seasons, learn stewardship of the environment and explore the relationship among plants, wildlife, water, soil, and sunlight in an atmosphere of peace and beauty.
Managing the Garden’s Woodlands

by Kathy Andrews Wright

Early this spring, specially trained crews from Lincoln Memorial Garden will be conducting a prescribed woodland burn.

A prescribed burn is the intentional ignition of grass, shrub or woodland plants. Far different from the uncontrolled wildfires that occur in the west, prescribed woodland burns in the Midwest are controlled burns occurring in areas that lack the overabundance of flammable materials that cause western fires to burn at extremely high temperatures and spread uncontrollably from treetop to treetop.

Fire is an important, cost-effective land stewardship management tool to restore healthy native prairie, wetland and woodland habitats. Most Illinois prairie and woodland habitats have adapted to periodic fires, which often happened across the North American landscape prior to European settlement. Today’s prescribed burns are a way to safely reintroduce fire to the ecosystem and recreate what naturally occurred on these landscapes.

Prescribed burns help control invasive, exotic plants, such as bush honeysuckle and autumn olive, reinvigorate the soil and stimulate growth of native species that have thrived throughout history because of their deep root systems. Many species of oaks, one of the most valuable food sources for woodland wildlife, benefit from periodic fire.

Prescribed burns generally take place in the early spring, as soon as the weather is suitable, and before new vegetation emerges.

"Planning for any prescribed burn is a long process, requiring months of preparation," explained Larry Miller, head gardener at the Garden and fire boss for this project. "A burn plan must be written, which includes a variety of details, including designation of nearby reliable water sources, identification of trained personnel and equipment, considerations for smoke dispersal and contingency plans for unexpected situations. A burn permit must be acquired from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. Usually burn team volunteers work prior to the burn to establish firebreaks, but the approximately 6-acre area designated to be burned is bordered by roads and open areas and no additional firebreaks will be necessary. And finally, a flyer will be hand-delivered to area residents in advance of the burn to alleviate concern when they smell or see smoke.”

As the time nears for the prescriptive fire, the fire boss—the person trained according to state law who leads the burn crew—will closely watch the temperature, humidity and wind speed (must be less than 10 mph) and direction to ensure the burn can be safely carried out. On the morning of the burn, the Springfield Fire Department and Pawnee Fire District will be notified to assist in handling phone calls from citizens witnessing the flames or smoke. The burn will take place only during daylight hours, with the trained crew remaining on site throughout the process.

A properly conducted burn requires attention long after the fire is extinguished.

"We will be closely monitoring the burn area to note changes in plant diversity and vigor," Miller said. "Most wildlife species are highly mobile and will temporarily relocate during the fire, and the burn will take place prior to the nesting season. Still, we also will note any changes to the wildlife community.”

"Management of the Garden takes time, thought and commitment on many levels,” Executive Director Joel Horwedel said. “Our overall objective always is to continue the standards established when Jens Jensen laid out our master plan in the 1930s. Whether the goal is to replace dead or diseased trees and shrubs or conduct a prescribed burn to help control invasive species, we are working to stay true to Jensen’s vision.”

Maintaining a healthy woodland habitat is a complicated process based on science and the best management tools available, but one that Miller and his crew of committed volunteers enthusiastically accept...

Photo courtesy of Paul Brewer, former IDNR biologist

Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better.

—Albert Einstein
**Winter Overnight**  
*Feb. 16 – 17 | 6 p.m. – 9 a.m.*

Senior Naturalists (9–13-year-olds) are invited to join us for our annual overnight at Lincoln Memorial Garden. This is an opportunity to come out and enjoy two favorite activities: playing Predator/Prey and eating pizza and s’mores.

We’ll play Predator/Prey under the stars, take a night hike, enjoy stories and s’mores around the camp fire, have a pizza party, play some favorite indoor games, perhaps make a nature craft, watch a late-night movie and even have time left to sleep. Please come join in the winter fun.

The cost is $50 for Garden members and $65 for nonmembers. This event is limited to 25 Naturalists, and it does fill up, so registration is required. Online registration is available at the Garden’s website www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org.

**Ecology Camp 2019**

Although there is still a chill in the air and snow in the forecast, it’s not too early to start planning summer activities for young nature lovers.

Every summer, hundreds of campers attend LMG’s Ecology Camp. Days are filled with Garden exploration, outdoor games, nature crafts and many other fun activities. And this summer is no exception. We offer programs for children ages 4–15.

Garden members can take advantage of early registration and discounted fees, so be sure your membership is current.

Online registration will be available at the Garden’s website: www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org. If you would like more information or have any questions, contact Audra at (217) 529-1111 or audra@lincolnmemorialgarden.org.

March 11-17: Members-only registration  
March 18: Registration opens for all

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Ages</th>
<th>Cost (Member / Nonmember)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I AM</td>
<td>June 10 – 14</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>4, 5, 6</td>
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<td>I PM</td>
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<td>II</td>
<td>June 17 – 21</td>
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<td>III</td>
<td>June 24 – 28</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>6, 7, 8</td>
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<td>IV</td>
<td>July 8 – 12</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>8, 9, 10</td>
<td>$155 / $195</td>
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<td>V</td>
<td>July 15 – 19</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>9, 10, 11</td>
<td>$155 / $195</td>
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<td>VI</td>
<td>July 22 – 26</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>10, 11, 12</td>
<td>$155 / $195</td>
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<td>VII</td>
<td>July 29 – Aug 2</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>13, 14, 15</td>
<td>$155 / $195</td>
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**Tiny Adventurers**

Our hands-on nature exploration program for children ages three to five is back again this spring. We invite young ones and their chaperones to join us for these programs as we learn about different nature topics.

There are both morning and afternoon sessions available: 10 a.m.–11 a.m. or 1 p.m.–2 p.m. The cost for the program is $3 per family for members and $5 per family for nonmembers. You can register online at the Garden’s website.

Spring topics:
- March 13 — Maple Syrup Time
- April 10 — Slugs & Snails
- May 8 — Bird Migration

**Junior/Senior Naturalists**

Registration is now open for the spring session of Lincoln Memorial Garden’s Junior and Senior Naturalists program. This program uses hands-on activities, games and interactive lessons to teach children about the exciting natural world. Dates and themes for the spring session are:

- **March 9**  
  *Maple Syrup Time*

- **April 6**  
  *Slugs and Snails*

- **May 4**  
  *Bird Migration*

Junior Naturalists (ages 5–8) meet from 9 a.m.–11 a.m., and Senior Naturalists (ages 8–12) from 1 p.m.–3 p.m. The cost for all three sessions is $30 for members and $35 for nonmembers. Naturalists can also register for individual sessions at a cost of $12 each for members and $15 each for nonmembers. Register online at www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org.
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 Edward J. Alewelt, memorial contributions were given by . . .
- Frank and Julie Kopecky
- Candice and Scott Long
- Fred O’Connor
- William and Kathleen Phillips
- Fred and Judy Prillaman

In memory of Carolyn Hartley, memorial contributions were given by . . .
- Harold and Karen Beckner
- Daniel and Charlotte Clark
- James Cunningham
- Linda Davis
- Susan and Doug Flanagan
- H.E. Justison
- Hilda Justison
- Lucille Martinek
- Darryl and Bonnie Parr
- Tina Pluester
- Virginia Snow
- Francie Staggs
- Thomas and Becky Woodruff

In memory of Mike Boer, a memorial contribution was given by Tom Skelly and Karen McNaught.

In memory of Glen Pittman, a memorial contribution was given by Dr. Richard B. and Karen Alexander.

In memory of Normadine Johnson, a memorial contribution was given by Susan and Doug Flanagan.

In memory of Johanna Leikvold, a memorial contribution was given by David and Barbara Peterson.

New Shrubs Featured at 2019 Spring Plant Sale

by Kathy Andrews Wright and Larry Miller

While spring seems far away, it is not too early to think about adding some native shrubs to your landscape this year. In the past, Lincoln Memorial Garden’s Spring Woodland Wildflower and Tree Sale featured bare root trees and shrubs. For the April 13–14 (woodland plants) and May 11–12 (prairie plants) sale, we have found a wonderful source for woody plants grown by a method which stimulates rapid root development, enabling the plants to grow faster and flower younger.

This sale will feature native shrubs that attract birds and butterflies and provide natural food for native wildlife.

Serviceberry (Amelanchier sp.) is an early bloomer with white clusters of blossoms producing edible, purplish-black fruits enjoyed by people and more than 40 species of birds. The silver-gray bark brightens the winter landscape. This shrub reaches a height of 10 to 25 feet, depending on the species, and hosts more than 120 species of butterflies and moths.

Shrub indigo (Amorpha fruiticosa) is a deer-resistant 3- to 10-foot shrub that produces fragrant, lavender upright flower spikes attractive to butterflies and moths. Shrub indigo also is of special value to pollinating bees.

American beautyberry (Callicarpa americana) is a loosely branched, 4- to 6-foot shrub typical of open habitats. Tiny clusters of lilac flowers attract a variety of bees and butterflies. The high-fat berries are enjoyed by wildlife, including more than 10 species of overwintering and migratory songbirds.

Sweet shrub, also known as Carolina allspice (Calycamphus floridus), is a dense, rounded shrub, excellent for naturalizing and erosion control. Rusty-red, fragrant spring flowers attract a variety of beetles and caterpillars that birds rely on to feed their young. Reaching heights of 6 to 9 feet, sweet shrub produces brown fruits.

Spring (vernal) witch hazel (Hamamelis vernalis) reaches heights from 6 to 10 feet and features fragrant yellow to dark red fringe-like flowers that bloom in late January into early April. These flowers provide a critical food source for pollinators venturing out on warm early-spring days.

American witch hazel (Hamamelis virginiana) is a multi-stemmed tall shrub or small tree (up to 30 feet) with spreading branches and fragrant yellow flowers that emerge in fall or early winter and are utilized by migrating hummingbirds. Often blooming occurs concurrent to the shrub’s revealing its outstanding golden fall leaves. American witch hazel hosts 63 —continued on next page
species of butterflies and moths, and the fruits are eaten by numerous birds, including cardinals, robins and tufted titmice.

**Oakleaf hydrangea** (*Hydrangea quercifolia*) is a dramatic, white-blooming shrub with a 6- to 8-foot spread that provides four-season interest to the landscape, including deeply lobed foliage that turns brilliant crimson in the fall. A variety of pollinators and insects are attracted to this hydrangea.

**Shrubby St. John’s wort** (*Hypericum prolificum*) is a dense, 2- to 3- foot shrub with erect stems, blue-green leaves and showy, yellow summer flowers. Sparrows and finches feed on the brown seed pods that remain on the plant throughout winter. The mature gray bark peels back to expose a pale orange interior.

**Virginia sweet spire** (*Itea virginica*) grows as an erect, rounded, deciduous shrub reaching 2 to 5 feet in height. The fragrant, drooping clusters of white flowers open in early to midsummer and attract a variety of pollinators. Sweet spire leaves turn red in fall.

**Spicebush** (*Lindera benzoin*) is a broad, rounded shrub reaching 6 to 12 feet in height. Covered with fragrant, yellow-green flowers, it is the preferred host for spicebush swallowtail butterflies as well as nearly a dozen other butterfly species. In the fall, the aromatic light green leaves turn a deep yellow-gold, and 17 species of birds and numerous mammals feed on the berries.

Also featured this year is a limited supply of oaks, redbuds and a few other species of trees, including **cucumber magnolia** (*Magnolia acuminata*). The largest magnolia—and only magnolia native to our area—it is rarely found in home landscapes but is an excellent shade tree, reaching 40 to 75 feet in height. It has coarse-textured leaves and tulip-like greenish-white fragrant flowers.

As you plan your landscape additions this year, consider what you can do to enhance your yard for pollinators and native wildlife. The plants offered during the Lincoln Memorial Garden plant sale are a great buy, with proceeds helping support Garden programs throughout the year. ☺

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**Dates to remember this spring**

- **April 13-14**  Spring Woodland Wildflower and Tree and Shrub Sale
- **April 20**  Geranium Pre-sale pick up, 8 a.m. to noon
- **May 11-12**  Prairie Plant Sale

*Fresh herbs and several species of milkweed will be available at all sales and afterward as supplies last. Milkweed seeds also are available and include orange- and yellow-flowered butterflyweed and swamp milkweed, tropical milkweed and common milkweed.*
Thank you, Annual Fund Donors

Charles and Jean Adams
Dick and Helen Adorjan
Diana Albach
Brenda and Mark Allan
John Allen and Patti Hodges
Jack and Jan Anderson
Judith Anderson
Jim and Cindy Appenbzeller
Arlington Heights Garden Club
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Mike and Vicki Armstrong
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Caroline Cavalier
Deborah Cavanaugh-Grant
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Dave and Linda Christensen
Tom Christensen
Keith and Barbara Clayton
Denny and Nancy Cocagne
Marilyn and Bob Cohen
Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln
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Michael Gillette
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Nancy Hahn
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Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Hammel
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Kent and Sue Massie
Barb and Mark Mathewson
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Wilma Van Scyoc and Mitch Roth
Janice Vanderveen
Lorine and Richard Wallin
Stanley and Mary Jo Wasser
John and Patricia Webber
Randy and Laura Welsh
Grace and Peter Wenz
Laverda Wenzel
Marcia Wherry
Doug and Joanne Whitley
JoAnne Willard
Julie Wullner
Cathy Yeaman
Carol and Edgar Yee
Mark and Cindy Yergler
Bruce Yurdin
Dr. and Mrs. E.G. Zook

Winter ~ 2019
Thanks to the Germeraad family, the Jesse Knotts and Prairie Path Bridges have now been replaced

Article and photo by Steven Read

Thanks to Kathy Germeraad and the Germeraad Family Fund at the Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln, the Prairie Path Bridge and the Jesse Knotts Bridge have both been replaced. The Germeraads’ gift of $7,500 provided all of the material needed to build the new bridges. The dedicated LMG Building and Grounds Crew, under Chuck Allen’s guidance, provided all of the labor. Jones-Blythe Construction Company provided the concrete forms and tools to complete the concrete work. The Prairie Path Bridge was completed in early February of 2018. The Jesse Knotts Bridge was completed early last December—during and in between the rain and snow storms.

Unfortunately, we do not know much about Mrs. Raymond (Jesse) Knotts. We had seen her name on the bridge, but no one seemed to know where she fit into the history of the Garden. She formed the third member of the “Big Three”—Harriet Knudson, Myrtle Walgreen, and Jesse Knotts. It was written that they formed a “trio who together accomplished whatever they set out to do.” She raised money for the Garden in the Chicago area and provided publicity for it in her publications throughout all of Illinois. The Jesse Knotts Bridge, located near Half Council Ring #7, is the only bridge with a bench where one can sit, meditate and enjoy the view of the creek, the Cypress Grove and Lake Springfield.

We want to extend a big thank you to the Germeraad Family for their generous contribution to the Garden. During 2019, the Garden hopes to replace the shingles on the shelter roof and the wood deck on the Ostermeier Pond Walkway. The LMG Building and Grounds Crew will provide the labor, but monetary donations are needed for supplies. If you think you might be interested in funding either of these projects, please contact Joel Horwedel for details.

Presale orders and payment must be received by NOON, Wednesday, April 3rd

Geranium pickup at LMG’s Greenhouse at the Prairie Center on Saturday, April 20th, 8:00AM – NOON

Order 4 flats of 15 and delivery is free!

Checks payable to:
Lincoln Memorial Garden
2301 East Lake Shore Drive
Springfield, Illinois 62712

Thank you to Indian Summer Festival sponsor AIG for matching gifts, and thank you to Craig Dickey for a 2018 Indian Summer Festival donation.

In honor of Faye Cornog, Elizabeth Crowley and Dottie Troop gave to the Garden. Thank you.

In honor of Susie Hammond at Christmas-time, Elizabeth Crowley gave a gift to the Garden.

Thank you to Megan DeFrain for a donation given on the occasion of a birthday.
Saturday/Sunday, February 16–17 ... Senior Naturalist Overnight – 6 p.m.–9 a.m. Sunday
Saturday, February 16 ... Maple Syrup Time Public Demonstrations — 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.
Sunday, February 17 ... Maple Syrup Time Public Demonstrations — 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.
Thursday, February 21 ... Maple Syrup Time Volunteer Training 12 p.m.–2:30 p.m.
Saturday, February 23 ... Maple Syrup Time Public Demonstrations — 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.
Sunday, February 24 ... Maple Syrup Time Public Demonstrations — 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 2 ... Maple Syrup Time Public Demonstrations — 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.
Sunday, March 3 ... Maple Syrup Time Public Demonstrations — 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 9 ... Junior Naturalists — 9 a.m.–11 p.m., Senior Naturalists — 1 p.m.–3 p.m.
Saturday, March 9 ... Maple Syrup Time Public Demonstrations — 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.
Sunday, March 10 ... Maple Syrup Time Public Demonstrations — 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.
Monday, March 11–17 ... Ecology Camp registration opens (MEMBERS ONLY)
Tuesday, March 12 ... Babes in the Woods — 11 a.m.
Tuesday, March 12 ... Jim Herkert (Illinois Audubon) — Bird Migration Program — 7 p.m.
Wednesday, March 13 ... Tiny Adventurers — 10 a.m.–11 a.m. or 1 p.m.–2 p.m.
Monday, March 18 ... Ecology Camp Registration opens (ALL)
Saturday, March 23 ... Pancake and Sausage Breakfast — 8 a.m.–12 p.m.
Sunday, March 24 ... Pancake and Sausage Breakfast — 8 a.m.–12 p.m.
Saturday, March 30 ... Pancake and Sausage Breakfast — 8 a.m.–12 p.m.
Sunday, March 31 ... Pancake and Sausage Breakfast — 8 a.m.–12 p.m.
Wednesday, April 3 ... Geranium orders due
Saturday, April 6 ... Junior Naturalists — 9 a.m.–11 p.m., Senior Naturalists — 1 p.m.–3 p.m.
Saturday/Sunday, April 13–14 ... Woodland wildflower sale
Saturday, April 20 ... Geranium pick-up (Ostermeier Prairie Center)