Holiday Memories and a New Tradition at the Garden

by Ann Londrigan

Can there be more holiday nostalgia wrapped up in a sleigh drawn by draft horses gliding through the snowy woods along the Sangamon River banks?

Add some jingle bells to the harness and some hot cocoa. This picturesque scene happened with each good snow, recalls Mark Cochran, grandson of Harriet Knudson, founder of Lincoln Memorial Garden.

“When it snowed, my Uncle Sam would get the sleigh ready,” says Cochran, sharing a treasured black-and-white photo of his mother Berta and Uncle Sam on the sleigh from Christmas 1943. “The sleigh ride was always followed by a warm fire and cocoa. In the early 1950s I was about five years old and I remember all us four kids, we’d pile in the back covered with blankets. We all fit in that two-seater.”

Cochran recalls that when the Knudson family’s 600-acre homestead, Glad Acres, was sold in the late 1970s, no one had a place to keep the sleigh, so his mother donated it to the Garden. He estimates it dates back to the 1800s.

Cochran, an attorney with Bellatti, Barton, Cochran & White, LLC in Springfield, still lives on a parcel of Glad Acres, named for Harriet Knudson’s love and expertise with the Gladiolus flower, which she grew and showed in Garden Club competitions to national acclaim. He continues to share the love of the farm and Lincoln Memorial Garden with his four children and seven grandchildren.

Create a New Family Holiday Tradition!

You and your family can create a new tradition of your own with a treasured piece of Garden history, the Knudson family sleigh. On the Saturday and Sunday of the LMG Holiday Market, November 17 and 18, the festively adorned sleigh will be on display and ready for family photos! Times and additional details about this unique opportunity will soon be announced via the Garden’s Facebook page and web site. (Photo by Dick Adorjan)
Director’s Message
by Joel Horwedel

It takes a ton of work to put on our annual Indian Summer Festival. If you made it out this year, you know that the weather made it slightly challenging! That being said, I thought that this was our best festival yet. A huge thanks to Tom and Cyndee Wilkin for all of their hard work creating the colorful and decorative items scattered throughout the festival grounds. Thanks as well to all of our many sponsors who contributed this year (see page 6). Their vital financial support helps lessen the financial blow when we have bad weather.

Our longtime partner, Garden Clubs of Illinois, donated another $1,700 dollars to the Garden for continued planting of trees and native shrubs. We greatly appreciate GCI’s continued support in helping to care for and maintain the Garden.

Our annual Holiday Market is scheduled for November 16, 17 and 18. The Springfield Civic Garden Club crafters have been busy creating some wonderful holiday items for the sale. These items are handmade, one-of-a-kind decorations that can’t be found in stores! On Friday, November 16, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., is our special preview party. Please stop out for wine and cheese and holiday shopping! I hope you all have a wonderful holiday season, and I hope to see you in the Garden.

HOLIDAY MEMORIES — cont’d from page 1

We thank the Knudson family and Mark Cochran for sharing this story and the magnificent sleigh with the Garden.

Annual Fund Drive Sustains Memories, Traditions and Futures
by Joel Horwedel

Lincoln Memorial Garden brings happy memories to many and excited anticipation to many more. We are known for our exceptional environmental education programs that offer young and old alike a place to experience and learn about the natural world. Our Holiday Market, Pancake Breakfast and Silent Auction, Lunch in Bloom, Trail Race and Indian Summer Festival have become annual traditions for many families in Springfield and surrounding communities.

We are known for our exceptional environmental education programs that offer young and old alike a place to experience and learn about the natural world.

For more than six decades, the Abraham Lincoln Memorial Garden Foundation has overseen this living memorial to President Abraham Lincoln. The Garden is the fruition of a local matron/conservationist/socialite Mrs. Harriet Knudson and a world-renowned landscape architect Jens Jensen. In the coming weeks, we will solicit financial assistance in our effort to not only care for the Garden and its facilities, but to remain a leader in nature education and prairie and woodland stewardship. Annual Fund Drive dollars go directly to the operating budget to fund daily needs such as educational supplies, tools and equipment, and utilities. In the coming weeks, you will receive our Annual Fund Drive letter, and we hope you will consider taking time to make a pledge and support this wonderful local treasure.

To make a donation right now, visit www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org and click on the annual fund button!
by Kathy Andrews Wright

Jens Jensen: Landscape Architect for the Fords… & You, by Donn P. Werling and Rick Meader, published in 2018, focuses on the deep friendship Jens Jensen forged with Henry and Clara Ford when designing the landscape for their Dearborn, Michigan home, Fair Lane, between 1914 and 1922, and their continued relationship as he designed landscapes for properties owned by Edsel and Eleanor Ford. This richly detailed treatise includes short discussions on several other Jensen designs, including the project that was the culmination of his career, Lincoln Memorial Garden, as well as providing Jensen-inspired tips homeowners and public gardeners may consider when designing a landscape.

Jensen’s landscape designs were guided by several principles the authors explain in detail:

1. **Respect the heritage of the site.** Jensen believed in respectful manipulation of land and recognized that sometimes things were better left alone.

2. **Using native plant materials.** A legendary leader in the native plant movement, Jensen also believed in the judicious use of non-natives, such as lilacs and roses. (Note that Jens Jensen did not include lilacs or roses in Lincoln Memorial Garden.)

3. **Use of symbols.** Jensen’s designs are rich in symbols. The council rings present at LMG are representations of campfire rings used by Native Americans and the belief that only truths may be spoken around a fire. His use of lilacs and roses represents a bridge between the “old country” and America and was a homage to the beauty of springtime.

4. **Use of juxtaposition.** Jensen was interested in providing a gradation of shape between meadow and forest ecosystems, as occurs in nature.

5. **The edge effect.** Jensen recognized that edges are some of the richest ecosystems on Earth and he chose to incorporate them into his landscapes.

6. **Celestial seasoning.** Jensen was a fan of showcasing how the full moon played on the landscape, and he designed gardens to include paths of the setting sun.

7. **Use of circles and curved lines.** In addition to the use of council rings, Jensen installed curvaceous paths that allow...

—continued on page 6

“Nothing of beauty happens overnight, but there is joy in the planting of seeds, for like the setting sun they are indeed... the promise of tomorrow.”

—Jens Jensen
Photographing Lincoln Memorial Garden

by Kathy Andrews Wright

Lincoln Memorial Garden’s second annual “Images of Lincoln Memorial Garden” Photography Contest was a tremendous success, with an increase from the inaugural content in both the number of photographers and the number of images. Twenty-five photographers submitted a total of 144 images this year. The intent of the contest is to encourage Springfield-area residents to document the beauty and use of Lincoln Memorial Garden.

Professional photographer and LMG board member Dick Adorjan, speaking on behalf of himself and his co-judges, Springfield-area professional photographers Dannyl Dolder and John Muchow, said, “There were so many good photographs entered this year that it made our job as judges very difficult. We were excited to see the Garden through the eyes of these 25 photographers and found that they captured so many different and interesting aspects of the Garden.”

The seven first-place photographs were displayed during the 2018 Indian Summer Festival, with festival visitors voting for one additional recognition: People’s Choice. Competition was intense, but by the time the festival closed, Mason McCoy’s bald cypress image titled “Summer Ice” had garnered recognition as the People’s Choice.

Keep your camera at hand this year as you walk the Garden’s trails and enjoy sponsored programs and activities. Watch for information on the 2019 contest on the Garden’s Facebook page and at www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org.

Winning entries are as follows:

16 and Over

1  Birds: Travis Henke—“Green Heron”
2  Wildflowers: Jessica Grim—“Daylily”
3  Landscapes: Mason McCoy—“Summer Ice”
4  Other: JJ Gouin—“Nursery Web Spider”

15 and Under

5  Wildflowers: Jessica Hill—“Tiny Steps”
6  Landscapes: Jackie Tucka—“Ostermeier Prairie and Greenhouse”
7  Jessica Hill—“Can’t See Me”
Honorable Mentions

8 16 and Over, Birds: Rick Wright—“Juvenile Great Blue Heron”
9 16 and Over, Wildflowers: Broc Hunter—“Mactrast”
10 16 and Over, Landscapes: Ann Londrigan—“Fun with Shadows in Ostermeier Prairie”
11 16 and Over, Landscapes: Broc Hunter—“Lake Springfield Lightning”
12 16 and Over, Other: Travis Henke—“Leucistic Fox Squirrel”
13 16 and Over, Other: Timothy Palmer—“Blue Spider”
14 15 and Under, Other: Jackie Tucka—“Rabbit”
visitors to enjoy their immediate surroundings, yet hold surprises of the vista awaiting them around the curve.

8. **Progressive realization.** Landscapes were designed with a sequence of features to tempt visitors to explore farther into the garden.

9. **Use of the fifth dimension—time.** Jensen recognized that nothing is static in nature and that ecological evolution, or succession, would play a role in the maturing landscape.

10. **Lanscaping is like music.** Nothing explains this principle better than Jensen’s own words: “To me the art of landscaping is more closely associated with music than any other art. Its rhythm and its tonal qualities are as a folk song or sonata.”

   For some time, Lincoln Memorial Garden was affectionately called “Harriet’s Weed Patch,” a tribute to Harriet Knudson, who led the campaign for the creation of the Garden, and who actively worked to recruit Jensen. Recognizing that those weeds were just the beginning of a process, Jensen remarked, “No thing of beauty happens overnight, but there is joy in the planting of seeds, for like the setting sun they are indeed…the promise of tomorrow.”

   Jensen’s design for Lincoln Memorial Garden celebrates the life of Abraham Lincoln. The two large boulders at the entrance represent Lincoln’s bedrock values and the strengths that helped him “forge a more perfect union.” Jensen specified that the trees planted at the Garden represent all the states where Lincoln lived. He designed the Garden not as a space on the shores of Lake Springfield, but around eight council rings, which symbolize unity and bringing people together on a level playing field. Jensen’s selection of long-lived white oaks symbolizes how Abraham Lincoln’s achievements will be remembered for hundreds of years.

   As intentional as his landscape designs were, Jensen recognized the limits of man. “I again repeat: Nature is not to be copied—man cannot copy God’s out-of-doors. He can interpret its message in a composition of living tones.”

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**Challenging Weather at the 2018 Indian Summer Festival**

*by Joel Horwedel*

The weather made for a challenging event this year. Thunderstorms cut short the event on Saturday, but the rain held off until the close of Festival on Sunday. Outdoor festivals are always at the mercy of weather, and we are so thankful to all the people who braved the conditions and came out anyway—as shown in the pictures on the following page.

We would like to thank all of our dedicated volunteers and the many area businesses and individuals that made Indian Summer Festival possible.

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**Major Sponsors**

- AIG
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- Springfield Civic Garden Club
- Springfield Mowers and Power Equipment
- University of Illinois Extension Office

**Volunteers**

- Auburn High School
- Girl Scouts of Central Illinois
- Henson Robinson Zoo
- Friday morning Fairy House collection crew
- Kidzeum
- Lanphier High School
- LMG Board of Directors
- LMG Grounds Crew and volunteers
- LMG Media and Marketing Team
- LMG Photo Contest coordinator and judges
- LLCC
- Rochester High School
- Southeast High School
- Springfield Civic Garden Club
- University of Illinois Extension Office’s Master Naturalist Program
- University of Illinois Extension Office’s Master Gardener Program
- Williamsville High School

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**Thank You**
New Members

Stefanie Bridge and Jacki Pace  
Michelle Carter  
Amy L. Coats  
Laura Hendrikson  
Jay and Christina Hoffman  
Geoffrey and Mary Kucera  
Sandra Longen  
Paul Nickel  
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Richard and Gloria Snodgrass  
Blake Strauch and Diana DeAnda  
David and Michelle Tebrugge  
Justin and Faith Valenti  
Rich and Connie Wagoner  
Julia Westerfield and Josh Kaiser

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 Alewelt, memorial contributions were given by . . .
  - Susan Haptonstahl
  - Martin Equipment

- In memory of Evelyn Brooks, memorial contributions were given by . . .
  - Roycelyn Isaacson
  - Bruce and Doris LaMontagne

- In memory of Pat Hibbert, a memorial contribution was given by Susan and Doug Flanagan.

- In memory of Johanna Leikvold, memorial contributions were given by . . .
  - Paul and Linda Brewster
  - L. Yvonne Cavanaugh
  - Susan Dees Hargrove
  - Chris and Lee Zelle

- In memory of Alex Marley, memorial contributions were given by . . .
  - Dick and Helen Adorjan
  - Barbara and John Bhnerkempe
  - Max and Linda Comstock
  - Susan and Doug Flanagan
  - James and Susan Helm
  - Bill and Barbara Rogers
  - Doug and Cathy Slater
  - Nicky Stratton
  - Tom and Cyndee Wilkin

- In memory of Mary Shaw, a memorial contribution was given by Susan and Doug Flanagan.

- In honor of Rob Salefski, a donation was made by Randy and Kathy Germeraad.

- Dr. and Mrs. Eric Lohse gave a Memorial Tree.

Thank You Annual Fund Donors:

- Anthony Abete
- Stuart and Mary Byers
- Barbara Holman
- Beverly Malooley
- Richard and Donna Strode

Thank you to the estate of Molly Becker for a donation to the Capital Improvement Fund.

Garden Family Adventures

**Sunday, Dec. 2 | 1 – 4 p.m.**

Families are invited to drop in on Sunday, December 2, from 1 to 4 p.m. to participate in hands-on nature activities related to the monthly topic. Join us for a topical exploration hike starting at 2 p.m. and leaving from the Nature Center. December’s topic is All About LMG and will feature a presentation on Jens Jensen for adults and older children. Younger children will hike through the Garden in search of Jensen’s famous council rings. Activities are geared to children aged three and up. There is no cost for these programs.

Parents’ Night Out

**Saturday, Feb. 9 | 6 – 9 p.m.**

Parents, could you use an evening without the kids? This February, you can get some time to yourselves while your kids ages 4 – 11 spend time playing games, making crafts, exploring the Garden after dark and making s’mores around the campfire. We will offer Parents’ Night out from 6 – 9 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 9. The cost for this event is $20/child for members and $25 for nonmembers. Space is limited, so registration is required.

Winter Overnight

**Feb. 16 – 17 | 6 p.m. – 9 a.m.**

Senior Naturalists (9 – 12-year-olds) are invited to join us for our annual overnight at Lincoln Memorial Garden. This is an opportunity to come out and enjoy favorite activities: play Predator/Prey under the stars; take a night hike; enjoy stories and s’mores around the campfire; have a pizza party; play some favorite indoor games and 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 does fill up quickly, so register early. Online registration is available at the Garden’s website, www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org.

Thank You Annual Fund Donors:

- Anthony Abete
- Stuart and Mary Byers
- Barbara Holman
- Beverly Malooley
- Richard and Donna Strode

Thank you to the estate of Molly Becker for a donation to the Capital Improvement Fund.
Saturday, November 10  
Holiday Nature Craft (youth) — 10 a.m. – noon
Saturday, November 10  
Holiday Nature Craft (adult) — 2 – 4 p.m.
Friday, November 16  
Holiday Market Preview Party — 4 – 7 p.m.
Saturday, November 17  
Holiday Market — 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Sunday, November 18  
Holiday Market — 1 – 4 p.m.
November 22 – 25  
Nature Center closed
Saturday, December 1  
Jr./Sr. Naturalists: Native American Games — 9 a.m./1 p.m.
Sunday, December 2  
Author Donn Werling presents program on new book: 
*Jens Jensen: Landscape Architect for the Fords & You* — 2 p.m.
Sunday, December 2  
Garden Family Adventures: All About LMG — 1 – 4 p.m.
Tuesday, December 4  
Babes in the Woods — 11 a.m.
Wednesday, December 5  
Tiny Adventurers: Native American Games — 10 a.m./1 p.m.
December 22 – January 1  
Nature Center closed
Saturday, February 9  
Parents’ Night Out — 6 – 9 p.m.
February 16 – 17  
Sr. Naturalist Winter Overnight — 6 p.m. – 9 a.m.
Saturday, February 16  
Maple Syrup Time Demonstrations — 1 p.m./2:30 p.m.
Sunday, February 17  
Maple Syrup Time Demonstrations — 1 p.m./2:30 p.m.
Saturday, February 23  
Maple Syrup Time Demonstrations — 1 p.m./2:30 p.m.
Sunday, February 24  
Maple Syrup Time Demonstrations — 1 p.m./2:30 p.m.