Holiday Market and Kids’ Holiday Craft Day

by Joel Horwedel

Each year in mid-November, Lincoln Memorial Garden kicks off the holiday season with a market featuring unique hand-crafted items perfect for Thanksgiving and Christmas gifts and decorations.

Holiday Market opens on Friday, November 22, with a special evening event from 4 to 7 p.m. This is an opportunity to be among the first shoppers. Volunteers will be serving light refreshments, wine and cider as an added bonus for early shopping. The event continues on Saturday, November 23, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday, November 24, from 1 to 4 p.m.

The special holiday sale offerings include centerpieces, swags, wreaths and one-of-a-kind Christmas tree ornaments. Talented area artisans from the Springfield Civic Garden Club gather during October and November to make each unique creation. All of their labor is donated, so the articles are affordable and exceptional.

The sale is held in the Lincoln Memorial Garden Nature Center, home to the Split Rail Shop, a year-round gift store offering everything from books, 

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Telling the Garden’s Story through Photography

3rd Annual “Images of Lincoln Memorial Garden” Photo Contest

by Kathy Andrews Wright and Ann Londrigan

Everyone has a favorite place to go in the Garden. A favorite bench or tree. A favorite season, such as spring with its bursts of colorful wildflowers, or fall as the maple groves turn rich hues of gold. The cypress grove, Lincoln Council Ring, meadows and the prairie. Ecology Camp, bird and leaf hikes, Indian Summer Festival.

There is so much to see and experience in the Garden’s 110 acres, which is evident in the winning images of our third annual photography contest, “Images of Lincoln Memorial Garden.” Thirty-one photographers submitted a total of 183 images. The judges identified eight winning entries in four categories (birds, wildflowers, landscapes and the catch-all other). The contest is designed to encourage Garden visitors to share a Garden story from their own perspective and experience.

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What a difference good weather makes!

Almost 3,000 people attended our annual Indian Summer Festival in October. We added several new activities this year, and a good time was had by all!

This event would not be possible without support from our sponsors, whose generous donations allow us to put on this event (see page 6). Also, my thanks go out to all of our wonderful volunteers who worked countless hours to make the festival possible.

Allow me to single out just a few of the many individuals and groups who made the Indian Summer Festival so special this year:

- Tom and Cyndee Wilkin for the many hours they spent on preparation, as well as decorations for the event
- Barbara Rogers and all of the fairy house collection crew for their weeks of work
- Fannie Patheal for coordinating and supervising our scarecrow building station; this new activity was extremely popular and will definitely be back next year!
- Springfield Civic Garden Club members for their donations to the Country Cupboard and all their members who worked the tent
- Wendy Weisenburn for her work securing vendors for the event
- Helen Adorjan, Nicky Stratton, Polly Danforth, Meggie Davlin and Ann Londrigan for all their work promoting the event
- Kathy Wright for her dedication and work with the photo contest
- The LMG Grounds Crew for setup and tear-down efforts

It takes a small army of volunteers to put on this event, and we have some truly amazing people in our army!

As the seasons change, I hope to see you in the Garden!

A Conversation with Neil Brumleve,
Massie Massie & Associates

Landscape designer for the new LMG accessible walkway

Interview by Ann Londrigan

LMG: Tell us about the design of the trail. Massie Massie & Associates (MMA) has been involved with the Garden for many years. How did you approach the design of this accessible addition?

NEIL: Tom Wilkin and Joel Horwedel came to MMA with a vision to create an accessible trail in order for everyone to enjoy the beauty of the Garden. The design elements we are hoping to have visitors experience include native tree groves, open prairie meadows, framed views along the trails and Jens Jensen’s signature stone council rings.

The trail loop selected follows an existing wood chip trail that includes all these design elements, and the proximity to the Nature Center made decisions such as the location and layout of this trail fairly simple.

LMG: What will those who experience the new trail learn about the Garden?

NEIL: I think those using the short trail loop will experience many of the key design elements that are incorporated throughout the Garden. Shady areas and filtered sun openings along the trail provide a unique experience, and the curved walkway will keep people wondering what is around the next turn.

Council Ring #3 is tucked at the edge of a wooded area about midway along the length of the trail. From this location visitors have views of an open prairie meadow with Lake Springfield in the background. I am very excited about providing an accessible walkway to one of the Garden’s council rings as they are the signature design element to many of Jensen’s designs.

LMG: Who do you hope this trail will open the Garden up to, now that there is an accessible extension?

NEIL: This trail will be enjoyed by everyone from toddlers just beginning to take those first steps to the elderly who might not feel comfortable walking on anything other than a smooth, uniform surface. People using wheelchairs, walkers or canes will also be able to experience the Garden on a comfortable, easy to navigate surface.
LMG: Tell us about the new entrance to the Nature Center as part of the project.

NEIL: Replacing the entry sidewalk to the Nature Center provides an opportunity to create an outdoor gathering space. This plaza will be used by school groups, clubs, and other organizations that use the Garden for various activities and events. It will also be a nice area for individuals to sit and enjoy the natural environment.

A new stone seat wall (half council ring) and permeable unit pavers will define the plaza area just outside the Nature Center entrance. Stone similar to the existing council rings will be used, and the permeable unit pavers will help alleviate the drainage problem that has persisted in front of the Nature Center for years.

LMG: When will visitors begin to see the construction?

NEIL: Weather permitting, construction could begin as early as November and last for a couple of months. If weather becomes an issue, construction could be delayed until spring of 2020, as pouring exposed aggregate sidewalks in cold weather is not recommended.

LMG: Will construction affect visiting the Garden?

NEIL: The Garden will still be open during construction, although use of the area where the new trail will be constructed will be restricted. A temporary entrance walkway will allow access to the Nature Center from the parking area along East Lake Shore Drive for the duration of the project.

**Project:** Lincoln Memorial Garden Entry Plaza and Accessible Walkway

**Construction timeline:** Early November to late December (weather permitting). If the weather does not cooperate, work could be postponed until early spring 2020.

**Length of the trail:** 95 feet of replacement sidewalk and 370 feet of new sidewalk for a total of 465 feet of new accessible trail surface.

**Width of the trail:** 6 feet wide

**Landscape design:** Massie Massie & Associates

**Cost estimate:** $110,000

Neil Brumleve is a licensed landscape architect at Massie Massie & Associates (MMA). He began working at MMA in 2006 shortly after receiving his bachelor’s degree in Landscape Architecture from the University of Illinois. He works on a wide variety of projects, incorporating sustainable design approaches whenever possible. Neil rejoined the Abraham Lincoln Memorial Garden Foundation Board in April 2019 after previously serving on the board from 2009 to 2012.

Massie Massie & Associates (MMA) is a land planning and landscape architecture firm located in Springfield. In business since 1975, the firm offers the services of experienced planning and licensed landscape architects to individuals, corporations, foundations and public agencies. MMA has been involved in several projects at the Garden throughout the years, including the master plan for the Garden in 2001, development of the Ostermeier Prairie Center, design of the map shelter, the paver parking area along East Lake Shore Drive, front entry improvements and various other small projects.
Thank you to our 2019 judges, pictured below: Virginia Scott, former Lincoln Memorial Garden Foundation board member and creative force behind the Natural Impressions Notecards, Chris Young with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and Doug Bergeron of Doug Bergeron Photography.

“I love this place,” said Scott, who has been a longtime Garden volunteer and a member of the Acorn fundraising group. “You can find beautiful images not just on sunny days.”

About the photographs entered, Bergeron said: “I enjoyed seeing things I don’t normally see through others’ eyes, their choice of perspective and subject.”

Chris Young said photography can help people connect with a place and to learn about nature as it did for him in his early years of taking nature photos.

“I’d take photographs and go back home to look up the plants or bugs I captured,” he recalled. “I started to recognize the time of year. Nature can be a teacher if you want to learn.”

Following the judges’ review of the entries, visitors to the 2019 Indian Summer Festival selected a “People’s Choice” winner from among the first-place winners in the eight categories. Selected for this award was Elizabeth Sanford’s entry “Beyond Me,” which garnered the majority of the 853 votes over the two-day event.

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 2020 contest on the Garden’s Facebook page and at lincolnmemorialgarden.org.
WINNING ENTRIES

Age 16 and Older

1 BIRDS: Dennis Danner, “Massive Flock of Snow Geese”
   Judges’ comments: Dynamic, artistic, continues to the top of the photo, leading us to imagine beyond. A view of nature and the human world colliding. Wildlife adapting to encroachment. A brave viewpoint.

2 WILDFLOWERS: Craig Paszek, “Dogwood Flowers and Lake”
   Judges’ comments: A layered image, yet not too busy, with the flower still and dominant. Very nice light. Photographer thought about time of day and composition. Good use of contrast and shadow.

3 LANDSCAPES: Elizabeth Sanford, “Beyond Me” (PEOPLE’S CHOICE WINNER!)
   Judges’ comments: Bench adds a feeling of rumination, and the reflections are artistic. Strong lines. It’s so hard to capture a snowfall; you have to go at the time or immediately after. One hour later it does not look the same.

4 OTHER: JJ Gouin, “Bumblebee on Coneflower”
   Judges’ comments: Shallow depth of field. Nice detail with the pollen on the antennae. With a bias toward conservation awareness and pollinators, this image is well-executed and timely.

Age 15 and Under

5 BIRDS: James Hugh Graham, “Where Are the Birds Now?”

6 WILDFLOWERS: Charlotte Graham, “Yellow Flowers”

7 LANDSCAPES: Charlotte Graham, “Trail”

8 OTHER: Charlotte Graham, “Larry the Leaf Bug”

Honorable Mentions

9 BIRDS: Dennis Danner, “Chipping Sparrow with Nesting Material”

10 WILDFLOWERS: Ian J. Wick, “Liatris”

11 WILDFLOWERS: Ian J. Wick, “Silhouette”

12 LANDSCAPES: Janet Pieper, “Foggy Path”

13 LANDSCAPES: Joshua Rhoades, “Icicles on Cypress”

14 OTHER: Dennis Danner, “Fawn Standing on Path”

15 OTHER: Janet Pieper, “Carp”

16 OTHER: Cyndi Gallo Callan, “Blowing Bubbles”
jewelry, toys and garden items to beautiful glass birdbaths and hand-crafted wind chimes. It is the perfect place to find unique items and stocking stuffers.

Admission is free, and all of the funds raised by the shop and the special holiday sale provide funds for educational programming.

On Sunday, December 8, children aged five through 12 will be able to attend a holiday ornament workshop. Children will have the opportunity to construct a nature-themed ornament. All craft items will be supplied for this event. The program will run from 1:30 to 3 p.m., and the cost is $15 for members and $20 for nonmembers. Please check the website for registration information.

New Members

James and Patricia Dunn
Lydia Feldmann
Laura Gundrum
Rebekah D. Johnson
Jim and Beth Kincaid
Edward J. Lorusso
Teresa Osburn
Carolyn Turasky
Anne Murphy Watson

Accessible Trail Project
For the past several months, we have been hard at work applying for grants and raising money for our Accessible Trail project (see page 2). I am happy to report that we have reached our goal! Many thanks to all of our wonderful donors for their generosity in helping make this vital improvement possible:

- AIG Matching Grants
- Community Foundation Access Recreation Grant
- The Germeraad Family Fund
- Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation
- Springfield Clinic Gives
- Springfield Electric
- Wild Birds Unlimited
- Dick and Helen Adorjan
- Jo Alessandrini
- Ashley Amin
- Bruce Becker, in memory of Molly Becker
- Brent and Erica Beeman, in memory of Richard Jaquish
- Stephen and Edith Benson
- Paul and Ruth Biggers
- Phyllis Brissenden
- Gerald and Rosemary Carlson
- Kent and Gwen Childs, in honor of Linda Hawker
- Max and Linda Comstock
- Dr. Roland and Susan Cull
- Megan DeFrain
- Carol Dunaway
- Dan and Carolyn Dungan
- Ronald L. and Judith N. Eshleman
- Judith Everson, in honor of Dick and Helen Adorjan
- Judith Everson, in honor of Cullom Davis
- George T. and Phyllis Fairchild
- Susan and Doug Flanagan
- Mary Cartung
- Jim and Mary Grundel
- Ron and Beth Horwedel
- Brenda Larison
- Colin and Melissa Liberman
- Ann M. Londrigan, in memory of Carol Londrigan
- Mike and Linda Luepke
- Greg and Kari Lutchka
- Jane Martinez
- Carol McCue and John Perkins
- Richard and Hannah McDaniel
- Diane Smyth McEvoy
- Joyce Munie
- Bob Naugle
- Caroline K. Nelson
- Greg and Kathy Park
- Randy and Nancy Pickett
- Margene Reif in honor of Sam Reif
- Bill and Barbara Rogers
- Chris Ryan and Hope Gooding
- Rob and Sue Sampson
- Karen C. Schwenk, in memory of Helene Charlotte Ostermeier-Fauth
- Marlene Seaborn
- Larry Shiner and Catherine Walters, in honor of Cullom Davis
- Dan Skinner
- Cathy and Doug Slater
- K. Sarah Spaulding
- Nicky Stratton
- Bill and Mona Taylor
- Dottie Troop
- Ron and Ann Tucker
- Joan Walters
- Tom and Cyndee Wilkin
- Karen and Randy Witter, in honor of Robin and Steven Read
- Dr. William Zimmer

2019 Annual Fund Donors
- Neil and Katie Brumleve
- Veronica and Dale Fesser
- Ron and Marie Havens
- Sue Lohrenz
- Sabrina Manci
- Zach Middleton
- Marion Richter
- Janice Vanderveen

2019 Indian Summer Festival Sponsors

Major Donors
- AIG Matching Gifts
- Davis Financial
- Hickory Point Bank
- King Tech
- Scott & Scott PC
Happy Birthday, Harriet!

by Ann Londrigan

Harriet Quigley Knudson, the driving force behind the creation of Lincoln Memorial Garden, was born December 9, 1883, in Helena, Montana. After graduating high school, she moved to Chicago, where she attended nursing school. It was there that she met and married Dr. T.J. Knudson. The couple moved to his hometown of Springfield, Illinois, in 1910. For her visionary work in founding Lincoln Memorial Garden at Lake Springfield, she was the first to receive a Copley First Citizen honor in 1936.

A civic leader, Harriet also started the Springfield Civic Garden Club and the Springfield PTA Council. She served on the board of the Garden Clubs of Illinois and secured renowned landscape architect Jens Jensen to design the Garden in 1936. Together, they created a one-of-a-kind living tribute to Abraham Lincoln with a focus on native plants from the three states where Lincoln lived: Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois.

Harriet died in 1969 at the age of 85 and is buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery.
Annual Fund Donations Needed to Maintain a Beloved Local Treasure

by Joel Horwedel

A mention of Lincoln Memorial Garden evokes happy memories in many and excited anticipation in many more. We are known for our exceptional environmental education programs that offer young and old 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 events for many families in Springfield and surrounding communities. When the Garden isn’t hosting special events, it’s still here for the walkers, joggers, bird watchers, nature lovers and wanderers of all ages who seek out its beauty and solitude in every season.

For more than six decades, the Abraham Lincoln Memorial Garden Foundation has overseen this living memorial to President Abraham Lincoln. The Garden is the result of a fruitful collaboration between a local matron/conservationist/socialite, Harriet Knudson, and a world-renowned landscape architect, Jens Jensen.

In the coming weeks, we will solicit financial assistance in our yearly 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. When you receive our Annual Fund Drive letter, we hope you will consider taking time to make a pledge and support this local treasure.

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

Calendar

November
22 Holiday Market | 4–7 p.m.
23 Holiday Market | 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
24 Holiday Market | 1–4 p.m.

Nov. 28 through Dec. 1 | Nature Center CLOSED

December
7 Jr./Sr. Naturalists—Native American traditions 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
8 Holiday Nature Craft (kids, ages 5–12) 1:30–3:30 p.m.
10 Babes in the Woods | 11 a.m.
11 Tiny Adventurers—Native American traditions 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Dec. 23 through Jan. 1 | Nature Center CLOSED

February 22, 23, 29 & March 1
Maple Syrup Time Demonstrations 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.