Spring Tree and Wildflower Sales
Plant native and support declining pollinator species

By Kathy Andrews Wright

What better ways are there to amp up your garden color and attract pollinating insects than to pick up some native flowers and trees at the annual Lincoln Memorial Garden plant sale?

Pollinators—insects, birds, and bats—are declining at such an alarming rate that they are garnering national and international attention. The Pollinator Partnership (www.pollinator.org) has established National Pollinator Week (June 15-24, 2015) in an effort to raise awareness of the economic importance of pollinating species and what individuals may do to attract and maintain species. In December 2014, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced a review was under way to consider listing the monarch butterfly—an international insect ambassador and the Illinois state insect—as a federally threatened species.

While shopping for your container and bedding plant needs this year, look for species that attract pollinators. Lincoln Memorial Garden provides two great opportunities to go native with your landscape, and offers the assistance of experienced staff members—continued on next page
Make a difference for monarch butterflies

By Brenda Larison

For most adults who grew up in Illinois, the lazy wing beat and soaring flight of the iconic orange and black monarch butterfly is as reminiscent of Midwest summers as lawn sprinklers and barbecue grills. But this experience is threatened to become a distant memory.

Populations of this once-common butterfly have steadily decreased over the past 20 years, reaching their lowest levels a year ago. The area of central Mexican forest occupied by overwintering monarch butterflies, once as high as 50 acres, dwindled to 2.94 acres in the winter of December 2013. This past winter, the population of North American monarch butterflies arriving in nine different Mexican colonies increased a bit, but still was the second lowest since recording began in the winter of 1993-1994.

Two decades ago, the decline in the monarch population was attributed to deforestation in the mountains of central Mexico. Today, that threat seems to be in check, with illegal logging rates declining. Now, loss of habitat and lack of native milkweeds in North America pose the greatest threats. The rise of herbicide-resistant crops and the development of farmland have greatly reduced the availability of milkweed, the only plant monarch caterpillars eat. The shortage of milkweed is particularly significant in Midwest agricultural areas, including Central Illinois.

Two Spring ~ 2015

You can make a difference—and we aim to show you how. This spring, summer, and fall, Lincoln Memorial Garden will host programs on monarch conservation. These programs are possible thanks to a grant from the Sunrise Rotary Club of Springfield.

Designed for adults and families who want to know more about monarchs, the first program will take place Saturday, May 2, in the Garden’s Nature Center from 10 a.m. to noon. Experts will offer tips on what we can do in our yards and gardens to welcome the returning monarchs and other valuable pollinators. Participants will learn which native plant species grow best in Central Illinois gardens, providing nectar for adult monarch butterflies and food for caterpillars. There is no charge for this program. In addition, the Garden will give away milkweed seedlings and lists of sources for purchasing Midwestern milkweeds.

The second program for adults and families will be Saturday, Aug. 1, in the Nature Center from 10 a.m. to noon. We will take a closer look at the life cycle and annual migration of the monarch as they begin their journey south. Participants will learn where to find caterpillars and their chrysalises, and how to raise them at home as a way to increase their numbers. This program also is open to the public at no charge.

During the three Saturdays after Labor Day—the height of the monarch migration in our area—the Garden will host a special “Monarchs and Me!” program for children. This event will take place in the Nature Center and at the Garden’s Ostermeier Prairie Center. Registration and a $20 fee are required for this three-session monarch camp, which runs from 10 a.m. to noon, Sept. 12, 19, and 26.

These sessions will be adapted from last summer’s wildly successful six-week pilot program, which was supported by a grant from the University of Illinois Extension and help from our Native Wildflower Garden volunteers. The 3-year-old Native Wildflower Garden at the Ostermeier Prairie is a project of the University of Illinois Extension’s Logan, Menard, and Sangamon unit in partnership with Lincoln Memorial Garden.

We’re thrilled that this year the wildflower garden was certified as a monarch waystation by Monarch Watch, a nonprofit education, conservation, and research program based at the University of Kansas. It is a native plant display garden, including milkweeds and flowers that are necessary for monarchs to sustain their successive generations.

This year’s camp will enroll up to 15 eight- to 10-year-olds. Each two-hour session will include a show-and-tell of live monarch caterpillars and butterflies, fieldwork with nets, and exercises designed to hone observation skills. In addition, students enrolled in the camp will be invited to teach other children during a monarch migration game to be hosted at the Garden’s annual Indian Summer Festival, Oct. 10 and 11.

Our hope is that Midwestern children today—and tomorrow—can experience the iconic orange and black monarch butterfly as a common sign of summer, as we do in our own childhood memories.

PLANTS FOR POLLINATORS — cont’d

at both sales who can advise you on the best choices for your landscape.

The popular Woodland Wildflower Sale will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 11, at the Garden Nature Center. The event resumes on Sunday, April 12 from 1 to 4 p.m.

You’ll find at least two dozen varieties of native trees, including blossoming species such as dogwood and redbud, offered as bare-root saplings at very reasonable prices. You’ll also find many of your favorite wildflowers for sale, including celandine poppy, jack-in-the-pulpit, Virginia bluebell, wild geranium, and bloodroot.

If your garden has sun as well as shade, you won’t want to miss the Prairie Wildflower Sale on Saturday, May 9, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, May 10, from 1 to 4 p.m. You can choose from cardinal flower, butterfly weed, purple coneflower, blazing star, and dozens more sun-loving varieties.

Mark your calendar for these popular events that offer many plant species typically not available at local nurseries. Your purchases support the Garden and contribute to the movement to bolster populations of insects critical to the production of many of our foods, beverages, fibers, spices, and medicines.
Enjoy the colors of spring at Lunch in Bloom

By Nicky Stratton

Spring means red buds, pink dogwoods, blue bells, and purple cornflowers.

But that’s not all … drum roll please … Spring also means Lunch in Bloom, the Garden’s annual celebration of the season. So, we think the phrase “Colors of Spring” is the perfect inspiration for this popular event. This year the luncheon will take place Sunday, April 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Island Bay Yacht Club.

The buffet proved to be so successful last year that organizers decided that there was no point in messing with a good thing. There will be two entrées, chicken breasts topped with an artichoke and button mushroom velouté sauce, and grilled tilapia with a citrus salsa. Hold on, there’s more: oven roasted potatoes; pineapple rice pilaf; asparagus; mixed greens with candied pecans, golden raisins and Vidalia onion vinaigrette; and assorted rolls. If you aren’t too full, dessert is a choice of lemon iced white cake topped with macerated strawberries or a tiramisu with a drizzle of chocolate. Sounds darn good, doesn’t it?

Jane Hartman will provide entertainment during the opening social hour and, a cash bar will be available for wine, beer, or soda. This is also your chance to take one more look at the raffle prizes, which four lucky people will win at the end of the luncheon. The prizes include:

- A 36” round battery-operated clock with a whimsical garden design—perfect for an outdoor setting like a patio.
- A beautifully packaged assortment of gifts from the Split Rail Shop.
- The perfect patio garden container plus an Ace Hardware $50 gift certificate so you can pick your own plants.
- Each prize has a number. When you purchase your raffle tickets (we know you are going to want more than one) please circle the number on each ticket of the prize you would like to win. If you have your heart set on that twilight tour, for example, you will want to buy many tickets and circle number one on every ticket. If you can’t make up your mind and you like everything, just circle a different number of on each ticket and let lady luck do the work.

Lunch in Bloom luncheon tickets are $45. Raffle tickets are $10 each or three for $20. These can be purchased online at www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org or by returning the appropriate section of your invitation with a check to LMG by the April 23 reservation deadline.

If you see the following people, please thank them for their generous support: Jo Alessandrini and Guerry Suggs; and Julie Dirksen and Dee Clump, luncheon chairs.

Please come and enjoy good food, good friends, and the Colors of Spring.

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.
In search of birds and blossoms?

Every spring as flowers begin to bloom and birds return to Lincoln Memorial Garden, visitors are invited to come out for bird and blossom hikes.

Bird and Blossom Time hikes are free and open to the public.

Kevin Veara, who has been leading bird hikes at the Garden for many years, returns to the trails in search of feathered visitors and residents. Hikes begin at the Nature Center at 8 a.m. on Saturdays: April 18, 25 and May 2 and 9.

April and May represent the best time of the year to view the woodland wildflowers here at the Garden. Come out to one of our Blossom Time hikes to learn about these splendid spring arrivals, from the earliest bloodroot to the end of the season Celandine poppies. Join one of our naturalists on Saturdays and Sundays: April 18, 19, 25, and 26, and May 2 and 3. All hikes start at 2 p.m.

Welcome to the newest members of Lincoln Memorial Garden:

Maria DelBeccaro
Keri Luly and Stan Black
Shelley Walter

Annual Meeting scheduled for April 8

The Annual Meeting of the Abraham Lincoln Memorial Garden Foundation will take place on the evening of Wednesday, April 8, at the Nature Center. A social hour will begin at 6:30; followed by the meeting at 7 p.m.

Business will include the yearly financial report, an overview of the past year, and the election of new board members and officers. All Garden members are invited to attend.

This year’s slate of officers and board members includes President, Steve Read; President-Elect, Tom Wilkin; and Treasurer, Sharon Kwedar.

Board members serving a second three-year term are Brent Beeman, Mary Grundel, and Jane Treadwell. New members serving their first three-year term include John Buhnerkempe, Max Comstock, Scott Germeraad, and Richard McDaniel.

Nicky Stratton will serve as this year’s past president and Kathie Kojis will continue her term as secretary. Carol Green will begin her first year on the board as President of the Springfield Civic Garden Club and Laurel DeBoer, Garden Clubs of Illinois president, will begin her first year on the board.

Other board members continuing their terms are Dick Adorjan, Jack Anderson, Drew Davis, Deb Finney, Susan Helm, Bill Hunt, Karen Nachtwey, Jim Reed, Tom Skelly, Bruce Strom, and Kathy Wright.

Let the battle against invasive species begin!

May is Invasive Species Awareness Month in Illinois. In order to further educate the community on removal and control of these unwanted threats, Lincoln Memorial Garden will host Chris Evans, Invasive Species Campaign coordinator for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. He will focus on identifying invasive plant species and ways in which homeowners can work to eliminate these species in their own back yards.

This event will take place in the Nature Center on May 19 at 7 p.m. The program is free and open to the public, with no registration necessary.

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Memorials

In memory of Jeanette Uebele, memorial donations were received from . . .

Mrs. Walter F. Brissenden
George and Phyllis Fairchild
William and Mary Forsyth
Fred and Judy Prillaman

In memory of Robert Cantrall, a memorial donation was received from . . .

Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Hammel

In memory of Russell Davis, memorial donations were received from . . .

Mary Lou Davis
Steve and Susan Grabara
Edward and Helen Hawes
Patrician Hughes
Duane Noland
Sam Reif

Our Wish List

▶ Lunch in Bloom Sponsorships or Donations — any amount
▶ Donations for Summer Ecology Camp — any amount
▶ Donations for trees or plants — any amount

If you can help, send a check for the cost of the item, or a portion of the cost, to the Nature Center at 2301 East Lake Shore Drive, Springfield, 62712. You can also place your donation in the Nature Center’s donation box.

Thank You!
Annual Fund Donors

The Annual Fund Campaign is the Garden’s single most important source of operating funds each year. It provides key support for education programs, supplies that help our crew maintain the Garden’s beauty, and other vital components of Garden operations. We extend gratitude to the following Annual Fund donors:

Ward Akers
B. Douglas Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Barber
Barbara Bartlett
Norma Bartoletti
Alva Beckemeyer
Sandy Bellatti
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Beveridge
Elaine Birtch
David and Zoe Braddock
Maurine and Mervin Brennan
Dr. and Mrs. Michael Brewer
Mrs. Walter F. Brissenden
Dale and Pam Brooks
Lorraine Bujan
Raymond and Alice Bulinski
Larry Bussard
Kathleen and Craig Campbell
Wayne and Mary Ellen Carlson
Deborah Cavanaugh-Grant
Dr. Richard and Dr. Phyllis Cheaney
Pamela Corey
Loren and Sue Cowdrey
Dan and Judy Dees
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Barbara Dickerman
Dr. and Mrs. Lori Dodwell
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Geraldine Ford
F. Lucille Foster
David Foust
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Randy & Kathy Germeraad
Victor Ginsberg and Jane Treadwell
Kathleen Glenn
Nancy Gorman
Kelly and Karen Grant
Judy and Robert Gray
Carol Gustafson
Nancy McHugh Hahn and Ralph Hahn
Nancy Hall
John and Betty Hamilton
Susan Hammond
George and Mary Jo Haven
Dr. Joe Henkle
John and Kay Henriksen
Vera Herst
Nora and David Hoover
Patrick and Diane Lopez Hughes
Ralph and Betty Hurwitz
Catherine and John Huther
Geoff Isringhausen
Mike and Amy Jackson
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Jaquish
Scott and Julie Kaiser
Robert and Berta Kay
Julie and William Keliner
Michele and Jerry Kellrooney
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Carol and Tom Kerins
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Caroline K. Nelson
Karen Nelson
M. G. and Donna Nelson
John Nolan
Sally Norris
Jerry and Mary Parsons
David and Barbara Peterson
Hiram and Gaile Phillips
Greg and Colleen Pinto
George and Lynda Preckwinkle
Dr. Mary Ann Rackauskas
Shirley Randolph
Steven and Robin Read
Lily and Phil Reynolds
Karen and Kent Richmond
John E. Roberts, Jr.
Kevin Rogers
Dr. Ronald and Therese Romanelli
Muriel Runyen
James and Donna Russell
Jeanette Ryan
JoAnn Satterfield
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Gary Schechter
Elonore Schewe
Cathy Schmidt
Leigh Schuh
Barbara and Charles Schweighauser
Dr. and Mrs. William Seaborn
Dr. and Mrs. James Singleton
Todd and Leanne Smith
Susan and Norman Soler
K. Sarah Spaulding
Nicky Stratton
Richard and Donna Strode
Randy and Joanne Tucker
William and Sharon Vala
Jeanne Wacker
Nancy Weichert
Robert and Karen Westbrook
Randy and Jennifer Western
Charles and Rebecca Wilkin
Tom and Cyndee Wilkin
Barbara Williams
Laurie and Barry Wright
Dr. and Mrs. Donald Yurdin
Dr. and Mrs. E.G. Zook

We would like to thank the following individuals for their gifts in support of special programs and events at Lincoln Memorial Garden.

Pancake and Sausage Breakfast donations
Laverda Wenzel
William and Julie Kellner
Donation in honor of Dottie Troop
Hiram and Gaile Phillips

Pancake and Sausage Breakfast sponsorship
Robin and Steve Read
Jo Alessandrini and Guerry Suggs

8K Trail Run sponsorship
Robin and Steve Read
Physiotherapy Professionals LLC

Lunch in Bloom sponsorship
Jo Alessandrini and Guerry Suggs

Wish List donations
Bill Vala
Leigh Seaborn
Evening History Tours explore Garden lore

As the sun begins to set, take a leisurely one-mile walk around Lincoln Memorial Garden while learning about the friendships that built and continue to sustain this national treasure. Through a series of stories told at selected stops along the way, walk in the footsteps of American landscape architect Jens Jensen, local visionary Harriet Knudson, and many others who came together to create this living monument to Abraham Lincoln.

Erica Smith will serve as the guide for the Evening History Tours. She is a Springfield native who has been involved in local theater and works as a Lincoln Ghost Walk Guide for Springfield Walks.

Evening History Tours will take place on April 25, May 16, and June 27 at 6:30 p.m. Each will last approximately one hour. The starting point is the main entrance to Lincoln Memorial Garden. The program is free to the public; donations are suggested.

Calendar of Events

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, April 8</td>
<td>Annual Meeting of the Abraham Lincoln Memorial Garden Foundation — Nature Center, 6:30 p.m. social hour, 7 p.m. meeting.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, April 18</td>
<td>Bird Hike — departs from the Nature Center at 8 a.m.</td>
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<td>Evening History Tour — departs from main entrance at 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Sunday, April 26</td>
<td>Blossom Time Hike — departs from the Nature Center at 2 p.m.</td>
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<td>Lunch in Bloom — Island Bay Yacht Club, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.</td>
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<td>Saturday, May 2</td>
<td>Bird Hike — departs from the Nature Center at 8 a.m.</td>
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<td>Blossom Time Hike — departs from the Nature Center at 2 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, May 3</td>
<td>Blossom Time Hike — departs from the Nature Center at 2 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, May 9</td>
<td>Bird Hike — departs from the Nature Center at 8 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, May 16</td>
<td>Third Annual Lincoln Memorial Garden 8K Trail Run and children’s Fun Run — 7:30 a.m. and 9 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, May 16</td>
<td>Evening History Tour — Departs from main entrance at 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, May 19</td>
<td>Invasive Species Awareness Program — Nature Center, 7 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, June 27</td>
<td>Evening History Tour — Departs from main entrance at 6:30 p.m.</td>
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Third annual 8K Trail Race and children’s Fun Run

By Nicky Stratton

Last year the Lincoln Memorial Garden 8K Trail Run registered over 250 runners and the children’s fun run attracted close to 100. This year’s run will take place on Saturday, May 16 and we are anticipating a full house.

There are many reasons why this run has caught on so quickly with area runners. Trail runs are a specialty event and there aren’t many in this area. The runners have told us over and over that they love the Garden. They compliment the condition of the trails. They give us points for a well-run event thanks to race coordinators Susan Helm and Lance Cull plus the great volunteers who keep everything running smoothly on that day.

But don’t just take our word for it. Here are a few comments straight from participants:

“Trail races are hard to find. Don’t miss this one because it is one of the best in central Illinois.”

“No detail was left out.”

“A fun yet challenging course overlooking Lake Springfield. It doesn’t get any better than that.”

“The kids are still talking about the fun run. They can’t wait to go back next year…”

But we haven’t mentioned one other very important player in the success of this race. Actually it’s not one player but many. So here’s to the dedication of an amazing group of men and women who come to the Garden every week as volunteers. Under the direction of Head Gardener Larry Miller, they work to make the Garden beautiful and the trails safe. It’s hard work. They cut brush, they mow fields, they take down trees, they chip trails and fix equipment.

They are wonderful. They are a big part of why this race is successful. Their hard work benefits the race, but even more importantly it benefits the Garden and all of our visitors year-round. When you are at the Garden be sure to say thank you.

Questions? Contact Joel Horwedel 217-529-1111 or joel@lincolnmemorialgarden.org
**Ecology Camp 2015**

Ecology Camp redefines ‘quality time’

By Audra Waters

Every spring, area families are faced with the task of coordinating busy summer schedules. For more than 200 campers, Ecology Camp at Lincoln Memorial Garden is one of those must-do summer activities.

As Environmental Educator, and Ecology Camp director, I could tout all of the reasons I think kids should attend our camp. I can assure parents that kids will learn a lot without realizing daily activities are “educational.” Kids spend time exploring outdoors without suffering “computer or phone withdrawal.” The campers will meet new friends while watching insects or wildlife, and the list goes on.

But most kids would rather get the opinions of campers their own age. So who better to hear from than two past ecology campers?

Zachary Haag, age 12, has attended Ecology Camp the last four summers. He started coming to camp because it was “the only camp he would agree to try.” He has even talked his younger brother and sister into attending this year. Zachary says his favorite camp activities are playing Predator-Prey (a game that teaches kids about food chains), hiking with kids his own age who also love nature, learning about “special spots” in the Garden, and making things using natural items with his friends. When asked what he would say to someone who has never been to Ecology Camp, Zach replied, “It is really fun, the counselors are super nice, and I guarantee you will love it! I’ve been going to Ecology Camp for a long time and every year it keeps getting better and better!”

Katie Missel, age 10, keeps coming to Ecology Camp because “it’s fun.” Katie enjoys playing the Predator-Prey and Capture the Flag. Her favorite project during craft time has been using natural materials to build fairy houses. In Katie’s own words, “My best memory of camp was the time I ran so fast that I tripped over a tree root on the way to win Capture the Flag.” She encourages other kids, “When you attend Ecology Camp, you will be so busy with fun activities and exploring the Garden, that you won’t even realize how many new friends you are making at the same time.”

Yes, there are many types of camp for young people to choose from in the summer. Those attending Ecology Camp at Lincoln Memorial Garden learn about the natural world in a fun way. While learning and playing games, meeting new kids of the same age, hiking, and crafting items from nature itself with qualified counselors as guides makes this camp the one to choose. As parents, you won’t need to use words like “educational, physical exercise, or spending quality time without TV or cell phones,” the kids will come home using words like “fun,” “special spots,” “fun,” “best memories,” “fun,” and “new friends!”

Registration is now open for this year’s session of Ecology Camp. Online registration is 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.
Springtime is Membership Renewal Time

By Joel Horwedel

Lincoln Memorial Garden members know it’s that time of year again! The Garden is in bloom and the prairie and woods are alive with the coming of spring. It is also time to renew your annual Lincoln Memorial Garden membership.

Thanks to the continued support of our members, Lincoln Memorial Garden has been a treasure in our community for over 75 years. During that time, members have donated countless hours of volunteer work and financial support and their efforts have created a natural garden that continues to grow and flourish every year.

We hope the Garden will continue to inspire its visitors for many years to come, but that can only happen with the contributions made by new and returning members. Together, we can realize the dream of Harriet Knudson and Jens Jensen by honoring the legacy of Abraham Lincoln and inspiring future generations to enjoy nature.

Remember, as a member you are entitled to reciprocal benefits at other American Horticultural Society (AHS) gardens, a 10 percent discount in the Garden’s Split-Rail gift shop, discounted rates for many programs and invitations to members-only events.

Thank you to all of our members for your continued support. Look for your renewal notice in the mail or email this month or visit the Garden’s website at www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org and renew online. We look forward to seeing your renewal soon!