Maple Syrup Time 2015
Vol. 51  No. 1

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Visit the Garden!
Hours of Operation:
NATURE CENTER
10 – 4 — Tuesday – Saturday
1 – 4 — Sunday
Closed Monday
GARDEN
Garden is open every day
sunrise to sunset.
P: 217-529-1111
E: joel@lincolnmemorialgarden.org
www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org

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Maple Syrup Time
A time-honored Lincoln Memorial Garden tradition

By Kathy Andrews Wright

More than 40 years ago, Lincoln Memorial Garden started celebrating a significant rite of spring and a North American tradition, the tapping of sugar maples and demonstrations of the syrup-making process. For the last 30 years, the addition of the popular Pancake & Sausage Breakfast has provided the opportunity for family and friends to gather, eat, visit and search the woodland trails for signs of spring. The first year, a couple dozen people contributed their own sausage and collected firewood along the woodland tour for their subsequent pancake breakfast. Popularity grew and the event expanded from one to two to four days. Last year, nearly 1,200 people enjoyed a weekend breakfast prepared by LMG volunteers.

To participate in the tapping and syrup-making process, visit the Garden Feb. 21-22, Feb. 28-March 1, March 7-8 and March 14-15. Programs will take place at 1 and 2:30 p.m. daily.

Trees on the Garden grounds will have been tapped so you can immerse yourself and your family into the centuries-old tradition of collecting sap. Then visit the evaporation station to see how the sap is boiled to produce syrup. In addition to learning the process—and tasting the product—you will also leave knowing how to identify barren maple trees in the winter woodland.

To make your visit truly a fun-filled outdoor family experience, dress accordingly for the weather and site conditions. Trails may be soft and slippery, so plan appropriate footwear.

The ultimate experience, the Garden’s traditional Pancake & Sausage Breakfast with a Silent Auction fundraiser, will take place between 8 a.m. and Noon at the Nature Center on the weekends of March 21-22 and 28-29. The cost of the breakfast is $8 for adults, $5 for youngsters under 12 and free for children under the age of 3.

—continued on next page
In addition to pancakes and sausage, juice and coffee will be served. A new, on-line reservation system (available at www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org) has been implemented this year, with reservations highly suggested to minimize wait time for this popular event.

Added nearly 15 years ago, the Silent Auction provides a fun and lively opportunity to do a little shopping and help underwrite a variety of LMG activities.

**Pancake & Sausage Breakfast volunteers needed!**

Volunteers are needed for the annual Pancake & Sausage Breakfast fundraiser. This is one of our largest fundraisers and we need your help! If you or someone you know is interested in helping with this fun event, please contact Joel at 529-1111 or by email at joel@lincolnmemorialgarden.org.

**Silent Auction brainstorming: What can you donate?**

*By Nicky Stratton*

The Annual Pancake & Sausage Breakfast is one of Lincoln Memorial Garden’s most popular events and the accompanying Silent Auction runs a very close second. 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.

This is where you come in. All of the items in the Auction are contributed by friends and supporters of the Garden. Items can be gently used or brand new. They can be services, antiques, fine art, gift certificates or tickets to local events. They could even be a 2015 Porsche 918 Spyder or a Mercedes-Benz E-Class convertible. Those would be good too, but just in case you don’t have a spare luxury car, here are some other ideas for contributions:

- Athletic event tickets, such as tickets for St. Louis Cardinal box seats or an Illini football game.
- Two dozen cookies each month for a year.
- Gift certificates for restaurants, florists, hair salons, car washes or fine wine.
- A vacation condominium in Chicago or Florida for a week.
- A round of golf with lunch to follow.
- A ride around town in a limousine.
- Use of a convertible for a weekend.
- A lawn tractor or an original copy of the Gettysburg Address.
- Consulting services such as gardening, landscaping or architecture
- A fishing trip on Lake Springfield.
- Concert tickets.
- An original painting (perhaps a Degas or Renoir?)
- A themed gift basket (if you provide the items, we’ll provide the basket and a talented designer to make it beautiful).
- A beautiful and valuable piece of jewelry, like the one someone donated last year.
- Hand-crafted pottery or jewelry.
- Two hours of instruction with a skilled photographer.
- You could pull together a group of friends and offer a catered dinner for eight or a lunch for six.

Our brainstorm should get you thinking. If you have an item you want to donate, please bring it to the Garden by March 10. If it is too big, too heavy or would need armed guards for security, just give Joel a call (217) 529-1111 and someone from the Garden will come and get it.

Another way you can help the Garden is to come out enjoy breakfast, take a brisk walk and bid on the Silent Auction items. All proceeds from this event go directly to the Garden’s operational fund, so we could really use your support.

**Maple Syrup Time volunteer training**

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. Training will take place Thursday, Feb. 19 from Noon-2:30 p.m. 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.
Roots of Nature Workshop offers inspiration for educators

By Tracy Zeman, IAS

Lincoln Memorial Garden is collaborating with the Illinois Audubon Society and the Environmental Education Association of Illinois to bring the Roots of Nature Workshop to Adams Wildlife Sanctuary on Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Participants will gain skills to introduce students to nature through books and storytelling. Spend the day with Brian “Fox” Ellis, renowned performer and storyteller, and Sarah Livesay, environmental education consultant. In Learning Stories from the Land, Brian “Fox” Ellis will inspire you to help a younger generation develop their knowledge of scientific facts, concepts and process skills through storytelling and creative writing. In Bridging Books, Butterflies and Benchmarks, Sarah Livesay will help participants learn to identify quality environmental education literature for an early childhood audience and discover tips for selecting environmental education materials. Participants will have the opportunity to view an early childhood library assembled just for Roots of Nature.

The workshop fee is $30 and includes Brian’s CD Adventures in Nature, Sarah’s booklist and resource guide, and lunch. Contact Audra, audra@lincolnmemorialgarden.org or (217) 529-1111 for more details. To register, go to www.illinoisaudubon.org/rootsofnature.

On your mark, get set . . . GO!

By Nicky Stratton

The Lincoln Memorial Garden 8K Trail Run and Children’s Fun Run is set for Saturday, May 16. This is will be the third year for this very successful and popular event. Last year the race was at capacity with more than 250 runners and almost 100 children registered.

The trail run starts at 7:30 a.m. Registration is only $30 through April 19 and $35 after that date. So register early. Participants will receive a dri-release event T-shirt. There will also be post-race entertainment and food.

The Children’s Fun Run begins at 9 a.m. in the Cawley Meadow across from the Garden. Children from toddlers to age 12 can participate. The fee is $6 and includes a children’s T-shirt and a participation medal.

Go to www.getmergistered.com to register for both events. All the proceeds go to support Lincoln Memorial Garden.

Welcome to the newest members of Lincoln Memorial Garden:

Emma Danielson
Margaret Goodwin
Kate and Ed Hein
Norma and Doug McFarlan

Memorials

- Sherry Gregory, in memory of Mary Ann Benya
- Stefan and Natalia Kozak, in memory of Rose Moore
- The Estate of Dolores Thrawl for the bequest to the Garden

Our Wish List

Thank you to everyone who has donated funds for specific items on our wish list. Our current wish list includes:

- Little Giant 22-ft Ladder—$335
- Art Supplies for Education Program—$125
- Silent Auction Items

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.
Register now for spring Junior/Senior Naturalist programs

By Audra Walters

This spring program series will give young naturalists an opportunity to explore the ever-changing landscape the Garden offers. Through hands-on activities, games and outdoor investigation we will discover the beauty of spring.

**Saturday, March 7 — Maple Syrup Time at LMG**

We will spend time hiking into the sugar bush to discover the treasure hiding inside each maple tree, sap. We will complete the process of tapping, collecting and cooking the sap until it turns into delicious maple syrup. After all of our hard work, we will snack on some maple treats. Another surprise or two may be in store.

**Saturday, April 18 — Happy Earth Day!**

While we should celebrate the earth every day, this fun-filled Saturday will offer a party for the earth. We will play games, explore the beauty of the Garden in spring and even give back to the earth by spending some time on a service project.

**Saturday, May 23 — Invasion!**

Not all plants and insects in the Garden were part of the original plan. We will learn about how they got here and the impact they have on the Garden.

Junior Naturalists (5-8 years old) meet from 9 a.m. to Noon and Senior Naturalists (9-12 years old) meet from 1 to 4 p.m. The cost for the three-session spring series is $40 for members and $45 for nonmembers. If you are unable to attend the entire 3 session series, individual session registration is also available at a cost of $15 each for members and $18 for nonmembers. Online registration is available at the Garden’s website at www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org. A printable registration form is located on the website as well.

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**Ecology Camp 2015**

By Audra Walters

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 Lincoln Memorial Garden Ecology Camp. Days are filled with Garden exploration, outdoor games, nature crafts, and many other fun activities. This summer is no exception. We offer programs for children ages 4-12. Contact Audra, audra@lincolnmemorialgarden.org or (217) 529-1111 with any questions.

Registration opens March 16. Half-day session for young campers runs from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at a cost of $65 per child for members ($85 for non-members). Older campers can enjoy full-day sessions that run from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at a cost of $130 per child for members ($170 for non-members).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Ages</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>June 15–19</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 22–26</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>6, 7, 8</td>
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<td>III</td>
<td>July 6–10</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 13–17</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 20–24</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>9, 10, 11</td>
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<td>VI</td>
<td>July 27–31</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>10, 11, 12</td>
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Special thanks to Virginia Scott for grant writing and editing assistance.

Thank you to Indian Summer Festival donors Julie and Mario Costa.

Thank you to Mrs. Walter F. Brissenden for her donation in honor of Susie Hammond at Christmas.

Thanks to Nick Halterman who completed his Eagle Scout project at the Garden. Nick installed a French drain at the Nature Center that alleviated a water problem in the basement.

We offer appreciation to everyone who helped make this year’s Holiday Market a success. This includes committee members Nicky Stratton, Deb Finney, Jane Treadwell, Becky Grummon, Steve Read, and Joyce Munie. Also thanks to crafters Carol Green, Sue Lohrenz, Ada Lynn Shrewsbury, Suzanne Wall, Jan Anderson, Cindy Wilkin, Kathy O’Bryen, Jan Sorenson, Eileen Straeter, Ann Otton, Karen Blankenship, Kathy Iler, Wend Weisenburn, Margie Greco, Mary Catherine O’Brien, Kathy Jump, Connie Munter and Janet Kutzlar. Thanks also to Kelly and Karen Grant for donating donuts for the event as well as Ralph and Karen Barr for their craft donations. Thank you to Honey Bear Tree Farm for supplying a Christmas tree.

Thank you to Nicholas and Maureen Derchak, William and Kathleen Farling and Terrence Moore for their 8K Trail Run Sponsorship.

Thank you to Candice Kane for her donation of a bench in memory of her mother.

Thanks to Bill and Barbara Rogers for their donation of a bench in memory of their mother.
Annual Fund still needs your help

As of January 1, our Annual Fund Campaign has raised approximately $41,000. This year’s goal is $70,000. The Annual Fund is Lincoln Memorial Garden’s biggest fundraiser and provides vital operating revenue for the Garden. We remind you to please send your annual donation if you have not done so and add a huge thanks to all the individuals, organizations and businesses that have donated to the campaign so far.

Annual Fund Donors

Thank you to the following supporters for their continuing contributions to the Lincoln Memorial Garden Annual Fund.

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Lincoln Memorial Garden
Lincoln Memorial Garden & Nature Center

A Project of the Garden Clubs of Illinois
2301 East Lake Shore Drive
Springfield, Illinois 62712-8908

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Calendar

February 19  Maple Syrup Volunteer Training — Noon-2 p.m.
February 21  LMG Senior Naturalists Overnight
February 21 and 22  Maple Syrup Demonstrations — 1 and 2:30 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday
February 28 and March 1  Maple Syrup Demonstrations — 1 and 2:30 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday
March 7  Junior/Senior Naturalists
March 7 and 8  Maple Syrup Demonstrations — 1 and 2:30 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday
March 14 and 15  Maple Syrup Demonstrations — 1 and 2:30 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday
March 16  Registration for Summer Ecology Camp begins
March 21 and 22  Pancake & Sausage Breakfast — 8 a.m. to Noon both Saturday and Sunday
March 28 and 29  Pancake & Sausage Breakfast — 8 a.m. to Noon both Saturday and Sunday
April 11 and 12  Spring Tree and Wildflower Sale — 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday
April 18  Junior/Senior Naturalists
April 18 and 19  Wildflower Hikes — 2 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday
April 25 and 26  Wildflower Hikes — 2 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday
April 25  Garden History Walk — 6:30 p.m.
April 26  Lunch in Bloom spring luncheon at Island Bay Yacht Club — 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
May 2 and 3  Wildflower Hikes — 2 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday
May 9 and 10  Prairie Wildflower Sale — 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday
May 16  3rd Annual 8K Trail Run
May 23  Junior/Senior Naturalists