Get set for 2016’s 8K Trail Run

By Nicky Stratton

They’re off and running, or at least they soon will be, as the Fourth Annual Lincoln Memorial Garden 8K Trail Run fast approaches. Asked whether there will be any dramatic changes in the race this year, LMG board member and co-race chair Susan Helm said, “Based on the runners’ compliments and the success of the kids’ event, we have a winning formula. There’s no point in making any major changes.

However, our new award will be a hand-thrown mug made exclusively for the race.”

For the past three years, members of the Capital Area Amateur Radio Emergency Response Team have offered their services as volunteer race marshals. Because of their communication capabilities and the fact that the course is so spread out, their role is crucial. Lincoln Memorial Garden is lucky to have their help.

—continued on next page

Cooper Peterson won the top runner award last year at the age of 14. Cooper is currently a freshman at Chatham Glenwood High School.

Photo by Jason Johnson
One more dedicated team needs to be mentioned—the hard-working group of volunteers who come weekly to prepare the trails for the race. This is work that would be done annually, but it starts a little earlier so that everything will be ready by late May.

Date & Time
Saturday, May 21, 2016
8K Trail Race begins at 7:30 a.m. Kids Fun Run starts approximately 9 a.m.

Description
The 4.97-mile loop course starts and ends at the Lincoln Memorial Garden main parking lot. This is a Springfield Road Runner Club participation race.

Awards
An award will be given to the overall winner in each runner category and to the top one-third of finishers in all age categories. All participants and children will receive a participation “medal.”

Cost
The cost is $30 until April 17 at 11:59 p.m. and $35 after that until May 15 at 11:59 p.m. That includes a dri-release T-shirt, participation medal, post-race entertainment, and food. Children’s Fun Run for toddlers through age 12 is $5 and includes a T-shirt and participation medal.

Registration
To register for the 8K and the Kids Run go to www.getmeregistered.com or www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org.

Questions?
Contact Joel Horwedel 217-529-1111 or joel@lincolnmemorialgarden.org.

LMG Foundation annual meeting scheduled for April 13

By Steven Read

The annual meeting for the Abraham Lincoln Memorial Garden Foundation will be held Wednesday evening, April 13, at the Nature Center. Socializing will begin at 6:30 p.m. with the meeting immediately following at 7 p.m. It is a wonderful time to reacquaint and visit with old and new friends of the Garden.

This year’s slate of officers includes President Steve Read, President-Elect Tom Wilkin and Treasurer Tom Skelly. Board members serving a second three-year term are Dick Adorjan, Sharon Kweder and Tom Skelly. Carol Green will begin her second year on the board as president of the Springfield Civic Garden Club. Laurel DeBoer, Garden Clubs of Illinois president, will also begin her second year on the board. We were so pleased that Laurel and a friend made the long trip to join us for the 50th Anniversary celebration of the Nature Center.

Other board members continuing their terms are Brent Beeman, John Buherkempe, Max Comstock, Drew Davis, Deb Finney, Scott Germeraad, Mary Grundel, Susan Helm, Bill Hunt, Kathie Kojis, Richard McDaniel, Steve Read, Jim Reed, Tom Wilkin, and Kathy Wright. Please join us. All Lincoln Memorial Garden members are invited.

Woodland Wildflower & Tree Sale

Saturday
April 16
8:30 a.m.– 4 p.m.

Sunday
April 17
1 p.m.– 4 p.m.

Lincoln Memorial Garden Nature Center
Lunch in Bloom is a celebration of spring

By Nicky Stratton

One of the Garden’s most popular events, Lunch in Bloom, is back again this year. The luncheon is Sunday, April 24 from 11:30 to 1 p.m. at Island Bay Yacht Club. In keeping with tradition, Lunch in Bloom is a celebration of spring and a time for friends of the Garden to relax and enjoy each other’s company.

Jane Hartman will provide entertainment during the social hour where a cash bar is available for wine, beer, soda or the Yacht Club’s popular Bloody Mary.

The buffet offers two entrees—a 6 oz. Grilled Chicken Piccata and Grilled Tilapia with a Citrus Salsa; a mixed green salad with strawberries, Mandarin oranges and a poppy seed dressing; creamy Gouda cheese potatoes; asparagus; ice tea, coffee or lemonade. A dessert table finishes things off with “Hummingbird Cake” and “Orange Cream Lemon Cake Shooters.”

Each raffle prize has an assigned number. When you purchase your raffle tickets, please circle the number on each ticket of the prize you would like to win. This way if you really, really want one particular prize, you can buy tons of tickets and circle that number on all of them. Or let destiny take charge and circle something different on each ticket.

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 designated section of the invitation with a check to Lincoln Memorial Garden by the April 24 reservation deadline. This is a popular event so make your reservations early.

Julie Dirksen and Nicky Stratton are luncheon chairs.

Raffle prizes for this year’s Lunch in Bloom include the following:

- A bottle and the Bard—Tickets of your choice for a performance of the Illinois Shakespeare Festival in Bloomington, a backstage tour and a pre-performance wine and cheese basket.
- From Homescapes, a fully-insulated wheeled cooler cart filled with appropriate celebratory beverages.

SCGC’s upcoming special events are as follows:

- May 14—SCGC Annual Plant Sale at the Illinois State Fairgrounds, Barn #26, features perennials, shrubs and houseplants, garden gift shop and silent auction and is in partnership with University of Illinois Master Gardeners annual herb sale.
- July 8 and 9—SCGC Standard Flower Show The Magic of Summer at Calvary Temple Christian Center. Friday noon to 4 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to noon.

April hath put a spirit of youth in everything.
—William Shakespeare
Meet Kevin Veara: Artist and bird hike leader

By Steven Read

Bird hikes led by Kevin Veara will be held on April 16, 23, 30, and May 7, 14, starting at 8 a.m. at the Nature Center.

Veara’s interest in birds dates back to the age of 6 when he played along the Sangamon River north of town and enjoyed camping, hiking and hunting. As a young child, he received a Peterson field guide as a birthday party attendee gift and his interest was sparked. Veara was not interested in sports, but he looked forward to watching Marlin Perkins Mutual of Omaha’s Wild Kingdom on television every Sunday afternoon. He helped with his first spring bird count at the age of 12 or 13. He soon realized the large number of bird species living in and migrating through the area. He estimates the general bird population has decreased by 50 percent since his early days, with some species population down by 90 percent.

Veara’s interest in art dates back to those same early years when he drew nothing but birds and animals. Veara received his master’s degree in painting from Southern Illinois University and has painted in all mediums. He is currently painting with acrylics coated with varnish. Many of you may remember his recent painting of the Greater Prairie Chicken. He now enjoys painting the woodcock. Veara displays his work at the Marta Hewett Gallery in Cincinnati, Ohio.

His interest in tattoos “just sort of happened” after he graduated from school—a young artist, recently out of school, out of work, needing a job. Veara operates Black Moon Tattoos in Springfield.

Veara owns seven acres on the South Fork of the Sangamon River. As LMG battles with invasives, Veara continues to fight and remove invasives from his own property. He has begun an organized burn program. While he has purchased a few species, his current plan is to keep the property as native as possible. With a healthy ecology, the native plants are thriving and returning after long being dormant. Veara is excited to imagine what his property might look like in five years.

Veara is a longtime friend of the Garden and has led bird hikes for over 20 years. His tips for beginning birders are to start at your own bird feeder and backyard and to watch and listen. He identifies 75-80 percent of his finds by their sounds first.

While Veara has little interest in traveling abroad for his birding experiences, he does enjoy traveling to Arizona in search of all the amazing hummingbird species. One of the most interesting birds he has identified is the elegant trogon. His most used bird book is The Sibley Guide to Birds.

We are all very grateful that Veara has donated so much of his time and talent to LMG for many years. Please join him for the bird hikes in April and May.

Be an ambassador for the Garden

By Joel Horwedel

Each year in April, we ask you to renew your Lincoln Memorial Garden Membership. Very soon you will be receiving a membership letter and a form that will make renewal easy and convenient. You can send us the form with your check or you can go to www.lincolnmemorialgarden.org and renew there.

You can also be an LMG ambassador and suggest a membership to a friend who loves the Garden, but never thought of supporting us with a membership. Here’s the sales pitch:

◆ Garden members are entitled to reciprocal benefits at many of the 250 gardens around the country that are part American Horticultural Society, including the nearby Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis.
◆ Garden members also enjoy a discount at LMG’s Split Rail Gift Shop.
◆ Garden members are offered discounted rates for programs and receive invitations to special events.
◆ Garden members receive the award-winning Seasons newsletters five times a year to keep up with LMG news and educational opportunities. Here’s the best part. YOU will experience a warm and happy feeling knowing that you have helped us to expand our reach to new friends.

New Members

Carol and Tom Kerins
Georgine and William Stephens, Jr.
Lance Cull and Kristi Horn
Carol Sue Johnson
Kathryn Wrigley
Barbara Reuther
Sara J, Cox
Gina Fuhrmann
Lincoln Memorial Garden’s lifeline: dedicated volunteers

By Steven Read

As I browsed through the archives for the Nature Center’s 50th Anniversary Open House, I was impressed by the number of volunteers. I then realized the tremendous number of volunteers we are currently blessed to have at the Garden.

Besides the dedicated and long-time volunteers who volunteer their time for our fundraising events, we have many individuals (young and old) who volunteer on a very regular basis. They donate their talents which include operating a chainsaw, driving tractors, mulching trails, removing invasives, taking photos, organizing the newsletter, managing the Split Rail Shop and reception desk, helping with Ecology Camp, leading maple syrup walks, spring and fall hikes and herding busloads of energetic children on hikes through the Garden.

It “takes a village” and all of us at LMG are very grateful for all of the volunteer hours donated day after day, week after week, and year after year. The Garden could not function without you. Thank you very much.

This is just a start. Additional volunteers involved with the Garden will be highlighted in upcoming issues.

Reception Desk/Gift Shop
Maggie Carson
Susan Flanagan
Keith and Carolyn Hartley
Mary Ann McLean
Joyce Munie
Lori Reardon
Samantha Reif
Arlene Souther

Building & Grounds
Jack Anderson
Kathy Burda
Wayne Carlson
Susan Flanagan
Bill Hunt
Richard Johnson
Karen Kirk
Geoff Kucera
Robert Leach
Valerie Leonatti
Barb Mable
Steve Read
Lori Reardon
Samantha Reif
Tom Wilkin
Julie Wullner
Mark Yergler

Junior Counselors (Ecology Camp Volunteers)
Chloe Billingsley
Nic Birky
Luke Birch
Luke Boehler
Ethan Brownback
Jacob Coady
Rene Croteau
Ryan Croteau
Julia Curry
Christopher Daniels
Mackenzie Daniels
Erika Fuhrmann
Mary Gegen

Volunteer Naturalists (Hike Leaders)
Brenda Larison (Monarch Butterfly Program)
Nancy Chesley
Veronica Fesser
Jared Gorell
Mary Grundel
Donna Holinga
Mike Holinga
Wayne Huckabee
Nancy Hunter

Monarch makes it to Mexico!

One of the monarch butterflies tagged during Lincoln Memorial Garden’s Monarch Camp last fall has been found in Mexico.

The butterfly, tagged and released September 19, 2015 at the Garden traveled the approximately 1,812 miles to El Rosario, Mexico where it was recovered February 26, 2016 by Conservation Specialists for Monarch Watch and friends.

A tiny white dot with the identification number TNM415 had been affixed to its wing. The male Monarch was one of nine butterflies tagged in Springfield that day by Monarch campers under the guidance of Brenda Larison and Kaitlin Hollenbeck.

Volunteer Party

To thank our many volunteers for their dedication and service, the Garden is planning a party. The party is scheduled for 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, April 28. The evening will feature food and camaraderie—as well as many rounds of "thanks!"

Volunteers planning to attend are asked to RSVP by Friday, April 22 so plenty of party provisions will be available. Email audra@lincolnmemorialgarden.org or call the Garden at 529-1111.

Photo by Dick Adorjan

Helen Adorjan
Dick Adorjan
Polly Danforth
Theresa Gegen
Steve Read
Nicky Stratton
Tom Wilkin
Kathy Andrews Wright

Anna Gershberg
Kate Held
Auden Hinz
Sam Irwin
Taylor Justison
Jake Kaiser
Ellamarie Kurmann
Natalie Miller
Emma Mogren
Sean Mulcahy
Justin Myers
Sam Newman
Allison Scott
Jane Sorenson
Alexis Stephens
Ethan Summer
James Transue
Caleb Walker
Alex Zolnierek

Photo by Dick Adorjan

Spring 2016
Thank you, Selvaggio Steel

We want to extend a big thank you to Selvaggio Steel for fabricating and donating the new steel plate cook top at the shelter. Selvaggio Steel is very generous to the Springfield community, and we are grateful for their support. Thank you to Mark, Tony, and Selvaggio Steel for this donation.

Memorials

- Linda F. Roberts, in memory of Joey Ralph.
- Amber Barnhart and Stuart Frank, Helen Evenson, Randy and Kathy Germeraad, Agnes Levi, Jim and Susan Madison, Ernest and Alice Marks, Susan McCord O’Malley, Brad and Mary Niemann, Michael and Beth O’Shea, Mary and William Schnirring Jr., Barbara and Charles Schweighauser, Pat and Duane Slater, David and Cathy Steckel, Grace and Peter Wenz, Linda Wheeland, and Dr. and Mrs. E.G. Zook, in memory of R. Dean Collins.
- Elizabeth Lowther, Eugene and Anna Kiernan, Tom and Nancy Kelly, Mary Johns, George and Stephanie Graves, Claire Regan, Joan Ellen Regan, John and Be T. Regan, Michael Regan, and Karen Schwartz, in memory of Lynne Cochran Regan.
Meet the fungi

By Audra Walters

Come out on Tuesday, April 19 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. as “fun-gi” Dr. Andrew Miller discusses the fungus among us at Lincoln Memorial Garden. Dr. Andrew Miller is the mycologist at the Illinois Natural History Survey at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He specializes in the identification of fungi using morphology and molecular DNA sequencing methods. Having traveled throughout the world, Miller is especially interested in fungal biodiversity and the discovery of new species. He currently is studying fungi from the Great Lakes in search of new and interesting bioactive compounds to treat illness.

Miller will discuss the large variety of fungi that occur throughout Illinois. The major groups of macro-fungi will be presented including several edible and poisonous mushrooms. A short walk in the Garden to discuss the many species of fungi that grow there will follow his presentation.

This program is free and open to the public.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Ages</th>
<th>Cost (Member / Non-Mem)</th>
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<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>June 6 – 10</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>13 – 15 yrs</td>
<td>$130 / $170</td>
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<td>I</td>
<td>June 13 – 17</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>4, 5, 6</td>
<td>$65 / $85</td>
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<td>6, 7, 8</td>
<td>$130 / $170</td>
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<td>8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>7, 8, 9</td>
<td>$130 / $170</td>
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<td>IV</td>
<td>July 11 – 15</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>8, 9, 10</td>
<td>$130 / $170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>July 18 – 22</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>9, 10, 11</td>
<td>$130 / $170</td>
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<tr>
<td>VI</td>
<td>July 25 – 29</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>10, 11, 12</td>
<td>$130 / $170</td>
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Our Wish List

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

- **Battery Tender** 4-bank battery charger—$150
- **Metal storage shelf**—$100
- **4.5-inch angle grinder**—$100
- **Ecology Camp supplies or sponsorships**—any amount

If you can help, send a check 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.

Photograph by Virginia Scott
Calendar

April 13 6:30 p.m.  LMG Foundation Annual Meeting
April 16 8 a.m.    Bird Hike lead by Kevin Veara
April 19 1 p.m.    Mushroom Program
April 23 8 a.m.    Bird Hike lead by Kevin Veara
April 23 2 p.m.    Woodland Wildflower Hike
April 24 11:30 a.m. Lunch in Bloom
April 24 2 p.m.    Woodland Wildflower Hike
April 28 6 p.m.    Volunteer Appreciation Party
April 30 8 a.m.    Bird Hike lead by Kevin Veara
May 1 2 p.m.       Woodland Wildflower Hike
May 7 8 a.m.       Bird Hike lead by Kevin Veara
May 14 8 a.m.      Bird Hike lead by Kevin Veara
May 21 7:30 a.m.   8K Trail Run & Kids’ Fun Run