## Autumn 2024

Vol. 60 No. 4

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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







Executive Director ......Joel Horwedel Environmental Educator ... Audra Walters Naturalist ......Marissa Jones Board President ......Megan Styles Newsletter Team .....

Dick and Helen Adorjan, Polly Danforth, Colleen Germeraad, Melissa Skinner-Liberman, Megan Styles, Cathy Slater, Audra Walters, and Kathy Andrews Wright



## What's New in the Garden? Come Experience the Children's Woodland Garden!

by Megan Styles

The new Children's Woodland Garden adjacent to the LMG Nature Center is open to the public under a temporary operation permit from the City of Springfield. The garden is a natural playscape that features a simulated stream with a water pump and play structures made from logs salvaged from the LMG property. Visitors can also enjoy a log tunnel, a turtle, and other play sculptures purchased for the garden. Sorting tables allow children to engage in sensory play with rocks, water, and whatever treasures they may find. A beautiful new covered deck on the Nature Center overlooking the children's area is the perfect spot for a morning coffee or an afternoon picnic. According to Executive Director, Joel Horwedel, this new playscape continues our mission of "connecting with the younger generation and building their



interest in nature and in LMG."

The Children's Woodland Garden and Nature Center deck were made possible by a generous donation



from Randy and Kathy Germeraad. The canopy over the deck was funded by a gift from the Shelby Collum Davis Charitable Fund. Many other donors also provided support, including the Garden Clubs of Illinois, Carol Corgan and Jill Grove (in memory of Candice Kane), Carol and Edgar Yee, Kathy Davison, Dick and Helen Adorjan, and the Hanson Family Fund. Thank you to everyone who contributed to create this beautiful space.

The idea for the Children's Woodland Garden emerged from a discussion with the Garden Clubs of Illinois, and it took many hands and several years of planning to make the dream of an educational playscape at LMG a reality. The landscape and deck were designed by Massie and Massie Associates. Dave Leonatti provided the architectural plans for the deck canopy. Crawford, Murphy, and Tilly provided engineering services for the deck, bridge, and other structural elements of the playscape. Our Grounds

-continued on page 4



## Director's Message

by Joel Horwedel

Happy fall! We had a wonderful summer at LMG! Our Summer Ecology Camp was another success. This year we hosted 270 kids over the course of seven weeks. A huge thank you to our educator, Audra Walters, as well as our camp counselors, Connor Dove, Mia Marcy, Adam Schnell and Alex Transue. These four individuals, as well as our many junior counselors, helped make

our summer program outstanding!

In late May and for most of June, the Garden experienced an amazing jump in attendance due to the emergence of the great southern brood of cicadas (see story on page 8). A huge thank you to our Split Rail Gift Shop manager, Susan Flanagan, for all of her efforts to supply the gift shop with cicada merchandise! The amount of cicada merchandise sold was amazing, and Susan did a great job keeping up with the high demand.

By the time you read this, our **Children's Woodland Garden** will be complete. A special thanks to Kathy and Randy Germeraad for their incredible generosity in helping make this project possible. Thanks also to the Cullom Davis family for their help in paying for the canopy on the deck. This project would not have been possible without the help from these two amazing families.

As we head into fall, it is time to start thinking about our annual Fall Harvest Festival! Please mark your calendars on October 12 and 13 for this fun family event. We will once again have our build-a-scarecrow booth for kids and families. We are collecting old children's blue jeans and flannel shirts for the scarecrow booth. If anyone has any of these items to donate, they can be dropped off at the Nature Center. We also need bark for fairy houses! Bark can be dropped off in the "bark wagon" located in the Walnut Grove parking area. This year's festival will include more food options than ever before, so we hope you will be able to come out and enjoy some great music, food, and crafts. I hope to see you out in the Garden!



## Lincoln Memorial Garden Mission

Lincoln Memorial Garden & Nature Center welcomes everyone to experience the native landscape known to Abraham Lincoln.

In an atmosphere of peace and beauty, LMG's landscape, designed by Jens Jensen, is a place to find inspiration in the changing seasons and learn stewardship of the environment through thoughtful nature education.



## Welcome to New Board Member Mark Morten

by Megan Styles

Please help us extend a warm welcome to Mark Morten, who was appointed to the LMG Board of Directors in April. Mark has a background in business education and is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Educational Policy and Leadership from Northern Illinois University. He and his wife, Ethelene, have been enthusiastic LMG volunteers for four years. Mark calls LMG a "hidden gem in Springfield," and he is excited to contribute his diverse perspective as someone of Swedish and Filipino descent to the board.

Mark is originally from the Chicago area and enjoys Notre Dame football and Cubs baseball. His favorite LMG events are the Pancake and Sausage Breakfast and the Fall Harvest Festival. Welcome, Mark!



## **Nature Book Group**

- The Tuesday, November 5 choice is Around the World in 80 Trees, by Jonathan Drori. The group will meet at LMG at 10 a.m.
- The Tuesday, February 4, 2025 choice is Birds Through Indigenous Eyes: Native Perspectives on Birds of the Eastern Woodlands, by Dennis Gaffin. The group will meet at Adams Wildlife Sanctuary at 10 a.m.
- The Tuesday, May 6, 2025 choice is The Serviceberry, by Robin Wall Kimmerer. The group will meet at LMG at 10 a.m.

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Above: Artist rendering of the rejuvenated Ostermeier Demonstration Garden

## Now is the Time to Plan a Native Wildflower Garden! by Cathy Slater

Join University of Illinois Extension volunteers for a program on "Creating a Native Garden from Scratch," on Saturday, September 7 at 1 p.m. at the Ostermeier Demonstration Garden in the Prairie Center. This patch of land became a native plant demonstration garden 12 years ago and recently has been rejuvenated. Illinois Extension master gardeners and master naturalist volunteers want to share the ins and outs of creating a pollinator-friendly vibrant native plant garden with all who are interested! (Bring along a chair.)  $\sim$ 



## Ecology Camp 2024: Fun and Learning Come Together

by Audra Walters

This summer, Lincoln Memorial Garden welcomed more than 270 campers to its Ecology Camp, some experiencing it for the first time, while others were returning for the seventh or eighth. The days were filled with learning, creating, exploring and playing.

While our youngest adventurers were only here for a few hours, every minute was filled with activity. Campers went on hikes in search of insects and other garden inhabitants, and lessons showed everyone how to be good stewards of earth. On Friday, we closed out the week with water play and popsicles.

Older campers took part in activities revolving around the ecosystems found in the Garden: prairie, woodland, wetland and savanna. Campers worked to build a water filter to clean polluted water, learned to classify insects, identified birds and what they eat, and named parts of a tree and their functions. Some of the greatest memories the campers created were unplanned and happened organically, whether it was catching cicadas, inventing new games, digging in the mud for worms, or making yarn creations.

One of the most exciting additions to camp this summer was the opening of the Children's Woodland Garden. We received permitting from the city just in time for the first week of campers to get one or two days to run, climb, and enjoy lunch on the new covered patio. Throughout the remainder of the summer, campers worked together to create rock dams in the simulated stream and escaped to higher ground in many rounds of "the floor is lava."

The continued success of our Ecology Camp program would not be possible without an amazing group of people. This group includes the counselors, junior counselors, t-shirt washers, generous donors, Garden staff, as well as campers and their families.

Get a jump on Ecology Camp 2025 by saving the date: member-only registration will open March 11, 2025, and general registration will open on March 14, 2025. Look for details on the Garden's website starting in January.

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### CHILDREN'S WOODLAND GARDEN — cont'd from page 1

Crew volunteers sourced and prepared the logs used in the play structures and lovingly planted the area with natives. If you are wondering why there were no last chance discounts at the Native Plant Sale this year, the leftover plants went to the Children's Woodland Garden.

We are planning an official grand opening event for later this year, but the area is open now and everyone is invited to come and play. Remember that this is a play-at-your-own-risk facility. Please enjoy the Children's Woodland Garden safely and continue to respect the usual LMG rules and regulations. The upper area is ADA accessible, and LMG staff can help with access to the lower area by request during working hours. Share your photos and experiences in the Children's Woodland Garden by tagging us on social media and help spread the word about Springfield's hottest new spot for educational play!  $\sim$ 











Photos courtesy of Joel Horwedel and Kathy Andrews Wright

## Fall Fungi Workshop Coming to the Garden

by Kathy Andrews Wright

Mention foraging for mushrooms and many people think of walking through stands of spring woodland wildflowers in search of the highly prized and delectable morel mushroom. Others, including Michael and Kathy Egan, savor their fall fungi forays.

"Oyster, chicken-of-the-woods and henof-the woods mushrooms are easy to identify, tasty additions to the diets of those looking to increase plant-based foods, and all can be found for free foraging the woodland," explained Michael, who first foraged for mushrooms in Washington Park in the 1970s but now harvests wild fungi found on their 51-acre property northwest of Athens. "With a little studying, people can learn to identify 10 to 15 types of edible mushrooms that can easily be found in Illinois."

Another common wild fungus the Egans harvest is the turkey tail (*Trametes versicolor*), aptly named for its colorful growth rings that resemble the tail of a wild turkey.

Turkey tail is commonly used by indigenous and East Asian people for its immune boosting properties The Egans have joined this practice, making it into a tea that they consume daily.

Among its other properties are its ability to help balance blood sugar levels, fight viral and bacterial infections, and reduce fatigue.

After breaking dried turkey tail into pieces, the Egans simmer it on low for 15 minutes to make a tea, producing enough to last a week when refrigerated. The Egans drink 6 to 8 ounces a day.

"Often we mix the turkey tail tea with stinging nettle to create a nice, earthy and herbal beverage," they noted. "We also produce a turkey tail tincture which contains different beneficial natural components than the tea."

During a September 21, 2024, workshop at Lincoln Memorial Garden, the Egans will provide a primer on edible fall fungi and will guide participants on an identification trail walk. Key among the fungi that will be noted is the turkey tail and three of its cousins, which initially appear similar but have key differences when one learns what to look for. While the cousins are not toxic to humans, they do not have the same health-supporting compounds.

The Egans forage on their own property, which previously had been owned by Michael's

parents, so they know the land management practices in use. Their key take-away for others is to know without a doubt the identification of the species before consuming any fungi, always obtain permission from the landowner before foraging, and to know if any chemicals have been used on the property or adjacent lands.

The Egans' interest in achieving an enhanced plant-based diet isn't restricted to foraging their woodland. After cutting limbs from live oak trees on their property they inoculate the logs with shitake mushroom spores. The logs will produce mushrooms for 3 to 5 years, and a few years ago they harvested 90 pounds of mushrooms from their logs. They also grow reishi mushrooms on feeding blocks purchased from a supplier.

If fall fungi foraging is of interest, mark your calendar to attend the 1 p.m. September 21, 2024, workshop at Lincoln Memorial Garden for an information-packed session and trail walk with the Egans. And if you are curious about how to grow your own supply of shitakes or reishi, the Egans will have information about the workshops they host late each winter.



Oyster mushrooms (Pleurotus ostreatus) — Getty Images



Chicken-in-the-woods mushrooms (Laetiporus sulphureus) — Getty Images



Turkey tail (Trametes versicolor) — Getty Images

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### LMG Trail Race 2024

by Tom Skelly, Race Director

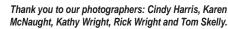
The threat of heavy rain scared away a few of the 214 registrants for the ninth Lincoln Memorial Garden 8K Trail race on June 1, but those many unfazed souls who endured actually enjoyed the light drizzle as it cooled them during the race. Notwithstanding the light precipitation, the Garden was beautiful as usual, although barely a cicada could be heard singing to the runners that morning given the overcast conditions. Under clearing skies, nearly 50 youth enjoyed their Fun Runs in the Cawley Meadow, and all participants enjoyed the food and drink afterward provided by Elena and Tom Hornshaw and their clan.

Keith Virden and Megan Clark led the packs, winning the men's and women's divisions. Bill Owens and Crystal Vinson took the Masters crowns. Awards also went to the top three finishers in each of seven age groups. Full results and all the event photos can be viewed on the race website: https:// runsignup.com/Race/IL/Springfield/ LincolnMemorialGarden.

We are grateful for our sponsors for this event: Andrews Engineering, Steve and Robin Read, Springfield Running Center (including gift cards for the winners), Bill and Barbara Rogers, and other Friends of the Garden. Their financial contributions help make this race possible. We have generous vendors and friends including ID Signs for trail markers, Sam's Club for water, Walmart for Gatorade, Papa Murphy's Pizza for coupons, and Paul Marconi and the Chatham Soccer Association for their lining machine and paint. Thank you to the Springfield Road Runners Club for their donation of left-over medals which our Fun Runners dearly love.

We are so appreciative for the 50+ volunteers and staff that it takes to pull off this event: our grounds crews worked really hard this wet spring to make the course beautiful as always, everyone directing parking, water stop folks, trails and tents and equipment setup and tear-down, course monitors, staffing the Nature Center and registration, medical assistance, graphic artists, and photographers are all needed. We are so pleased again to have had the valuable participation of the Sangamon Valley Radio Club for their volunteers who provide valuable course monitoring and communication throughout the event.

Thank you to all the runners and volunteers for making this a wonderful event once again! ~















Bill & Barbara Rogers











































## Spotlight Focused on LMG as Cicada Central

by Kathy Andrews Wright

For five weeks, starting about May 9, 2024, when the first cicada emerged, Lincoln Memorial Garden became cicada central, a hub for viewing — and listening to the 100-decibel chorus — of the historic emergence of broods XIII and XIX. Not since 1803 had the two broods of periodic cicadas emerged simultaneously, and the media hype created a world-wide cicada fervor.

With the Springfield area at the dividing line between the two broods, people quickly recognized this central Illinois community as a place where you could see and hear both broods.

LMG Executive Director Joel Horwedel received his first media inquiry from WICS in May and the floodgates then opened. And went global. Over a few weeks, he was interviewed by the *Wall Street Journal*, a South German daily newspaper, NHK Japan, the *Denver Post*, NBC News Midwest, CBS National News, Associated Press, and the British Broadcast Company. Video footage was shot at the Garden by National Geographic and the Guggenheim Museum staff, as well as a host of TikTok creators.

cicada pesto pizza, cicada ice cream sundaes, and her favorite, tempera cicada bites with lime aioli.

The promotion of eating Guest of honor insects was the purpose of a call Horwedel received from Chef Joseph Yoon, an Edible Insect Ambassador and owner of Brooklyn Bugs. Yoon's call was related to his work toward food security as it relates to the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

Expecting to have an influx of visitors, a U.S. map was set up in the Nature Center and a supply of push pins nearby encouraged visitors to note their home base. Little was it known that the map would become a colorful display, and the map would not accurately capture the distance people traveled for cicadas.

As expected, there was a concentration of push pins around central Illinois, but the map eventually tallied visitors from 47 states, including Alaska and Hawaii. By the end of the cicada madness, hand-written notations on the map showed visitors from three Canadian provinces, Quebec, Manitoba, Ontario, as well as long-distance travelers from Japan (4 groups), Australia (3 groups), Belgium,



Guest of honor, Magicicada septendecim.

premiered in Lincoln Memorial Garden's Cawley Meadow.

Taking her seat in advance of the symphonic performance, past Board President Cathy Slater could not believe she was sitting in the LMG Fairy Woodlands, where strings of lights hung over the orchestra and cicada calls set the stage for the performance.

"Listening to the performance, I was struck by how clever the score was," she recalled. "The composers and the orchestra members were so professional, and it was interesting listening to how they musically expressed the life cycle of the periodic cicada."

The 45-minute symphony is available on Spotify, YouTube Music, Amazon, Pandora, and Apple Music. For additional information and to view videos on the making of Orkinstra, go to orkin.com/orkinstra.



Cicada swag was the fashion statement of the day, and Split Rail Gift Shop manager Susan Flanagan filled the gift shop with plenty of interesting cicada-related merchandise.

Photos courtesy of Cindy Harris and Kathy Andrews Wright

"It felt so good witnessing how many people made an effort to view the cicadas. It truly was an affirmation of how people like and appreciate natural events."

~ Joel Horwedel, I MG F xecutive Director

Anna Liberman, daughter of past LMG Board President Melissa Skinner-Liberman, was among those quoted in the June 11, 2024, *Wall Street Journal* article. Attending a taste-test of cicada-based dishes sponsored by the University of Illinois Extension Office, Anna noted that she was fine once she got past the thought that she was eating bugs. The dishes included

Lithuania, Germany, England, Turkey, France, Philippines, South Korea, and Thailand.

An unexpected cicada event took place in June when Orkin collaborated with Rodeo Show Productions and Emmy-nominated composer Bryan Rheude to present Orkinstra, a seven-act symphony entirely around the cicadas' chorus. XIII x XIX: Cycle of the Cicadas

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#### CICADAS—cont'd from page 8

After living underground as nymphs for 13 or 17 years, the grand emergence of trillions of periodic cicadas created quite the stir at Lincoln Memorial Garden.

"I was pleasantly surprised to find so many people were interested in the double emergence," Horwedel said. "It felt so good witnessing how many people made an effort to view the cicadas. It truly was an affirmation of how people like and appreciate natural events." •





Above top: LMG Volunteers Brenda Larison, Kathy Andrews Wright, Karen Rogers, and Melissa Skinner-Liberman assisted Garden staff members, Audra Walters and Marissa Jones, with hosting Cicada Saturday on June 8, 2024.

Above bottom: Cicada enthusiasts came from all over the world to visit LMG and were proud to display their unique cicada attire on Cicada Saturday.

Top right: U of I entomologist Kacie Atrey was the featured speaker at Cicada Saturday and attracted a large crowd for her program on June 8.

Center left: Past Board President Melissa Skinner-Liberman and young visitors measured the volume of singing cicadas with a decible reader.

Center right: StoryWalk signs detailed the life cycle of the periodic cicada.

Bottom right: Cawley Meadows Fairy Woodlands provided a magical backdrop for Orkinstra, a seven-act symphony celebrating the cicada chorus. Photo courtesy Orkin.









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## CALENDAR

### **SEPTEMBER**

Monarch Program for Kids | 10 a.m. – noon
 "Create a Native Garden from Scratch" with Master Gardeners
 and Naturalists | 1 p.m.
 Bird Hike with Kevin Veara | 8 a.m.
 Fall Volunteer Naturalist Training | 12 – 2 p.m.
 Moonlight Meander | 7 – 9 p.m.
 Bird Hike with Kevin Veara | 8 a.m.
 Junior Naturalists (5 to 8 yrs) | 10 a.m. – noon
 Senior Naturalists (8 to 12 yrs) | 1 – 3 p.m.

Fungi Workshop | 1 – 3 p.m.

25......Tiny Adventurers (3 to 5 yrs) | 10 – 11 a.m.

Tiny Adventurers (3 to 5 yrs) | 1 – 2 p.m.

28......Bird Hike with Kevin Veara | 8 a.m.

### **OCTOBER**

5........Bird Hike with Kevin Veara | 8 a.m.
 12.......FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 13.......FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 26.......Junior Naturalists (5 to 8 yrs) | 10 a.m. - noon Senior Naturalists (8 to 12 yrs) | 1 - 3 p.m.
 30......Tiny Adventurers (3 to 5 yrs) | 10 - 11 a.m.
 Tiny Adventurers (3 to 5 yrs) | 1 - 2 p.m.

### **NOVEMBER**

7.......Nature Book Club "Around the World in 80 Trees" | 10 – 11 a.m.
13.......Tiny Adventurers (3 to 5 yrs) | 10 – 11 a.m.
Tiny Adventurers (3 to 5 yrs) | 1 – 2 p.m.
23......Junior Naturalists (5 to 8 yrs) | 10 a.m. – noon
Senior Naturalists (8 to 12 yrs) | 1 – 3 p.m.
28 – Dec 2.......Nature Center Closed

#### **DECEMBER**

17......Adult and Children's Holiday Craft Workshop  $\mid 1-3 \text{ p.m.}$ 

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Kathy Barrett Cheryl Bloink

Bruce and Kim Bradbury

Joe Garvey

Cynthia Gorrell

Leah Graves

Lynne Hill

Julie James

Bronwyn Jones-Leach

David E. Kremitzki

Ann K. Niehaus

Maria Fe Paredes-Power

Matt Price

Sue Sagel

Pamela M. Salela

Rebecca Spengler and

Jason Rickerd

**New Life Members** 

Clay and Janie Bahlow

Paula R. Shotwell



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## **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.

The following donors gave in memory of Joan Gardner:

Dick and Helen Adorjan

The following donors gave in memory of Carol Herndon:

- ❖ Jo Alessandrini
- \* Kathleen and Craig Campbell
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- ❖ Pamela Russell

The following donor gave in memory of Andy Raam:

❖ Samantha Reif

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Scott and Allison Knauer

The following donor gave in memory of **David Scott**:

❖ Judith Everson







## Lincoln Memorial Garden & Nature Center

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