



www.springvalleynatureclub.org

springvalleynatureclub@gmail.com

Editor: Al Larson

May/June 2018

**Letter From The President
Donna Johnson**

Finally, Spring Has Sprung

This has been one of the frostiest springs that I can remember! The returning robins even seemed to be confused as to why they came back to this crazy weather. But, the nesting house wrens at Spring Valley are busy peppering visitors with their nesting material and are snuggling in over their egg clutches, and the magnolias are bursting with blooms, so it does appear that Spring sprung! Finally!

With the advent of springtime weather, our fancy is turning to gardening, so, be sure to review the Heirloom Vegetable & Herb Sale items at our website: www.springvalleynatureclub.org. There are a number of new additions including fruit bushes and strawberry plants. The pre-order deadline is soon approaching. When coming to pick up your order or simply coming on the sale date, be sure to look for the dozens of "Surprise Specials". There will be more unique tomato varieties, additional herbs and an array of seed packets to choose from! So, plan on wearing reading glasses and your shopping shoes!

Spring Valley Nature Club's Heirloom Vegetable & Herb Sale, Sunday May 20 10:00am – 2:00pm.

Spring Valley Volunteers and Nature Club Meeting Wednesday May 2, 2018

The Monarch and its Migration

The monarch is the best-known butterfly species in the world. Its life cycle is closely tied to its amazing migration. Join us for this special presentation by acclaimed Midwestern butterfly expert Doug Taron. He will explore the monarch's life cycle and migration as well as discussing the butterfly's behavior on its wintering grounds in Mexico. Doug will also detail efforts both in Mexico and Illinois to track population fluctuations and conservation issues surrounding the monarch. Learn what you can do from your own home to aid in conserving this iconic insect. A short meeting to review upcoming projects will begin at 7 p.m., with the program to follow at 7:30 p.m.

Spring Valley Nature Club Meeting June 6, 2018 7:00 pm

Meet the Farm Team! This very special program will be presented by Spring Valley's Farm Operations Coordinator, Jon Kuester who will give a presentation on the Volkening Heritage Farm, discussing its role as a living history museum at Spring Valley and how it differs from a commercial production farm in its goals and operation. He will also share information on the farm's livestock, explain how animals are used at the Farm, which historic breeds are selected, and how the livestock is cared for by volunteers and staff. Finally, for those who are interested, Jon and staff will provide a short horse-drawn wagon ride from the Nature Center out through our restored prairies. An informative and fun presentation for all!

Spring/Summer Happenings at Spring Valley - 2018

Late spring and summer features is a busy time at Spring Valley, with numerous events and programs offered! Note that some programs require pre-registration due to limited space. Visit www.parkfun.com for more information or call (847) 985-2100.

May Volunteer/Spring Valley Nature Club Meeting – Wednesday, May 2, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Program: The Monarch and its Migration

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Spring Beer Garden – Friday, May 18, 4 – 7 p.m.

This year, the Heritage Farm will be offering a traditional German 'biergarten' once each month. Bring the family out for a picnic dinner (bring your own), backyard games, pretzels, and of course – beer! Soft drinks will be available as well for the kids. Admission is \$5 and gets you a reusable glass and a pretzel. Beer and soda are available for purchase.

Native Plant & Heirloom Vegetable Sale – Sunday, May 20, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

This event features an heirloom herb and vegetable sale sponsored by Spring Valley Nature Club, and extensive native plant sale sponsored by the Schaumburg Community Garden Club, a Extension Service Master Gardener plant consultation table, information on home composting, proper tree care, and more. Admission is free! Folks who have pre-ordered plants will be able to pick them up at this event or on Saturday, May 19 from 1-3pm. Those who missed (or forgot) the pre-sale will find plenty of plants available for purchase at the event!

End of School Campfire – Friday, June 1, 7:30-9 p.m.

Start summer with a family campfire behind the Nature Center! Bring a camp/lawn chair or a blanket; we'll provide the blazing fire, marshmallows for roasting, and wagon rides. Supplies to make s'mores will be available for purchase. Admission is \$2/person; children 3 and under admitted free. Sponsored by the Spring Valley Nature Club.

Bargain Bulb & Plant Sale – Saturday, June 2, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

This annual Schaumburg Community Garden Club plant sale features not only left-over plants from the Native Plant Sale, but other garden perennials AND tulip bulbs recently dug from Park District garden beds at really great prices!

Spring Valley Country Fair – Saturday & Sunday, June 23 & 24, 12 – 4 p.m.

Experience the charm of a rural community fair during the late 19th century! Visitors can mingle with the historically-attired attendees, find out who has won a blue ribbon in the livestock tent, listen to a travelling medicine man hawk his wares, enjoy live music, or play historic games. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. FREE admission. This event is sponsored by the Spring Valley Nature Club!

Horse-drawn Wagon Rides at the Farm

Every Saturday and Sunday from April through October, AND on Wednesdays and Fridays during June-August, visitors can take a narrated tour of the Heritage Farm via horse-drawn wagon. Rides are offered between 12 and 2:30 p.m., with tickets being available on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets can be purchased at the Farm Visitor Center.

Nature

Youthful days of warmth and sun leave oceans of time to fill with adventures, and imagination is a fine companion for a boy alone. And my grandparents' farm was a perfect place for that.

The creek was down. The water still running, dimpled over small pebbles and collected in idle pools where water striders danced in patches of dark and light. A crayfish slow-motioned its way across the bottom, but that was yesterday's catch and bigger game was sure to challenge the skills of so experienced a hunter.

There were granite boulders under the black walnuts and groundhogs used them to fortress one side of their burrow. I approached them from behind, imagining them sunbathing at den entrance, too deaf to hear the not-so-quiet scuffling of a young boy. It was during one these fruitless stalks when I saw a blue bird fly into a hole in a dead tree.

The opening was perhaps five feet up and I waited and watched. The bird flew out and my plan was hatched. I was going to catch a bluebird. I circled the tree and when the bird returned, I stole up behind and placed my hand over the hole. Gotcha!

Now what? My mission was a success. The bird was caught. My hand over the hole saw to that. Hey, I caught a bluebird. There was no sound. Nothing bumped my hand. How long could I stay with my hand over a hole in a dead tree? Was there something inside? Had I really caught a bluebird?

Ah, the certainties and the uncertainties of youth. I removed my hand. Out flew the bird. I HAD caught a bluebird. Or had I?

Bluebirds have become rare and are not nearly as common as before. Members of the thrush family, they have suffered from severe winters, the clearing of old orchards where tree hollows are common, and nesting site competition from more aggressive English sparrows and starlings.

To help them repopulate their range, bluebird trails have been established where nesting boxes are put on fence posts. The 1 inch holes keep out starlings and placing them 4 feet from the ground discourages English sparrows. Since bluebirds are territorial, 4 nesting boxes per mile helps limit disputes. We have a bluebird trail in Spring Valley.

They are gentle birds, loved for their color and song. The world has too little of both.

Al Larson

Start Planning Your 2018 Heirloom Vegetable & Herb Garden!

Have you noted all your successes and/or failures? Now is the best time to plan for your “2018 Heirloom Vegetable & Herb Garden”! Daydream of the taste of summer tomatoes on your lips, it’s time to decide which varieties you’d like to add. Remember if you are short on garden space, large containers work great for growing tomatoes, veggies and herbs. You’ll spend less time weeding and save tilling and a lot of watering.

While the winter winds blow, and the last snow drifts melt, warm your spirits with a look at Baker Creek Seeds on line catalog! If you would, keep www.rareseeds.com in mind when planning your 2018 seed purchases.

We have a unique arrangement with Baker Creek Seeds of Mansfield Missouri whereupon our members and friends can submit their seed order and check made payable to Spring Valley Nature Club! Mail to Spring Valley Nature Center 1111 E Schaumburg Rd Schaumburg IL 60194 and mark the envelope “Seed Order Enclosed”. Nature Club will place a group order when we have a qualifying amount. Please note you do not need to be a member of Nature Club to place an order with us. You will be notified as to when you can come to pick-up your seeds. As a courtesy from Baker Seeds we do not pay a shipping charge and Nature Club gets a special rate allowing the club to derive a profit from all the seeds that we purchase.

We will place orders continuously throughout January through May to accommodate any request for seeds you may have. Additionally we will take orders for seeds on the 2018 Heirloom Vegetable & Herb Sale Order Form.

Please continue your loyalty to our cause, it is with support from our members and friends of Spring Valley, that we can assist the Spring Valley Nature Center in its educational and environmental efforts to provide programs for the community. Thank you.



View images and descriptions of all plants at www.springvalleynatureclub.org

Spring Valley Nature Center 1111 E Schaumburg Road (847) 985-2100

Sunday, May 20, 2018 - 10:00AM – 2:00PM -- Order Form 2018

Page 1

<u>Tomatoes</u>	Price	Qty	Total
1000- Aunt Ruby's German Green – Heirloom very sweet 1-2lb pale green 85 days	\$4.00	_____	_____
1001-Belgium Giant – Heirloom sweet mild 1-2lb fruits dark pink 85 days	4.00	_____	_____
1005-Big Rainbow – Heirloom very juicy 1-2lb gold bi-colored fruits 82 days	4.00	_____	_____
1010-Black Cherry – Heirloom sweet robust flavor 65 day burgundy colored 65 days	4.00	_____	_____
1012-Box Car Willie – Heirloom reddish-orange very prolific old fashioned flavor 80 days	4.00	_____	_____
1015-Brandywine Pink - Heirloom connoisseurs favorite 1lb fruit 85 days	4.00	_____	_____
1020-Brandywine Red – Heirloom rich deep flavored juicy fruits 1 ½ + lb 90 days	4.00	_____	_____
1022-Carnival – Hybrid impressive early ripening beefsteak type prolific 68 days	4.00	_____	_____
1025-Cherokee Purple - Heirloom dusky purple pink superb flavor very large fruit 80 days	4.00	_____	_____
1030-Great White - Heirloom white very large 1lb unique very sweet taste 83 days	4.00	_____	_____
1035-German Johnson–Heirloom large 1lb pinkish red very few seeds 76 days	4.00	_____	_____
1037-Indigo Rose-Hybrid deep purple highest in antioxidant of any tomato 55 days	4.00	_____	_____
1040-Kellogg's Breakfast - Heirloom very flavorful superbly sweet yellow low acid 80 days	4.00	_____	_____
1045-Mortgage Lifter-Heirloom sweet rich flavored pink large 1lb crack free 80 days	4.00	_____	_____
1050-Moskvich- Heirloom cold hardy Siberian early maturing 6 oz red fruit 60 days	4.00	_____	_____
1055-Orange Oxheart- Heirloom orange heart shaped delicious 1 lb low acid 90 days	4.00	_____	_____
1060-Patio–Hybrid dwarf 2' tall no staking 4oz fruit great in containers 70 days	4.00	_____	_____
1064-Pinapple-Heirloom yellow /red streaked flesh super sweet 2lb 78 days	4.00	_____	_____
1065-San Marzano-Heirloom Italy's famous best tomato for sauces & cooking 65 days	4.00	_____	_____
1070-Sun Sugar – New Introduction extra sweet yellow cherry good in containers 60 days	4.00	_____	_____
1072-Sugary-Hybrid super sweet grape large yields good for containers 60 days	4.00	_____	_____
1074-Sweet 100-Hybrid very productive bearing long trusses of small sweet cherries 60 days	4.00	_____	_____
1075-Tumbling Tom -Hybrid cherry great in containers & hanging baskets 55 days	4.00	_____	_____
<u>Vegetables & Fruits</u>			
2001-Asparagus – Heirloom Mary Washington tender green spears spring harvest Perennial	\$5.00	_____	_____
2002-Celeriac-Heirloom hardy large root has sweet crisps celery flavor good keeper 80 days	4.00	_____	_____
2003-Cucumber-Hybrid bush type short vines full sized cukes can grow in containers 57 days	4.00	_____	_____
2005-Eggplant – Fairy Tale Japanese type 5" x 1" Striped delicious pale lavender 50 days	4.00	_____	_____
2008-Fennel Heirloom – Florence bulbing type delicious raw or cooked 90 days	4.00	_____	_____
2015-Kale Lacinato – Heirloom Tuscan cold tolerant salads & cooked greens	4.00	_____	_____
2020-Kale Red Russian- Cold tolerant tender & refined attractive in containers	4.00	_____	_____
2025-Lettuce Heirloom – Drunken Women frieze red tinged butter head 75 days	4.00	_____	_____
2030-Leeks – Sweet & mild gourmet onion family for stew, soup, egg dishes 75 days	4.00	_____	_____
2034-Parsley Root-Heirloom tops used as parsley, roots used in soups & stews	4.00	_____	_____
2045-Pepper – Chocolate Beauty sweet bell great color & flavor 70 days	4.00	_____	_____
2055-Pepper- Lady Bell Red Sweet uniform shape very prolific 71 days	4.00	_____	_____
2060-Pepper Heirloom– Sweet Banana mild yellow turn red 6" 72 days	4.00	_____	_____
2065-Pepper – Thai Hot Very hot Asian pepper	4.00	_____	_____
2070-Pepper – Valencia Orange Sweet bright color intense full flavor 70 days	4.00	_____	_____
2080-Swiss Chard – Bright Lights multicolored stems delicious steamed	4.00	_____	_____
2500-Goji Berry – Orange/Red berries Vitamin & antioxidant rich Gal. Shrub	12.00	_____	_____
2505-Gooseberry – Sweet/Tart delicious fruit Gal. Shrub	12.00	_____	_____
2510-Honeyberry Indigo Gem – Super fruit high antioxidant & vitamin C Gal. Shrub	12.00	_____	_____
2515-Honeyberry Indigo Treat – Blue berries high antioxidant & vitamin C Gal.	12.00	_____	_____
2520-Lingonberry – Red tart fruit for Jam Pink flowers low growing Gal. Shrub	12.00	_____	_____
2525-Strawberry Rainbow Treasure – Ever bearing w/red flowers	6.00	_____	_____
TOTAL PAGE 1			_____

Spring Valley Nature Club's Heirloom & Herb Order Form 2018

Herbs	Price	Qty	Total
3000-Basil Genovese-Heirloom favorite "sweet basil" bold full flavor Annual	\$4.50	_____	_____
3001-Basil Red Rubin- Intense deep purple leaves holds its color all season Annual	4.50	_____	_____
3003-Basil Perpetuo – Intense basil aroma & flavor decorative variegated leaves Annual	4.50	_____	_____
3005-Basil Thai Siam Queen- Decorative and delicious anise flavor Annual	4.50	_____	_____
3015-Borage- Cucumber flavored leaves blue flowers used as edible garnish Annual	4.50	_____	_____
3020-Chives- Snip leaves for salads & garnish clump forming Perennial	4.50	_____	_____
3022-Chamomile-Soothing aromatic, for tea,potpoutti & spa use Perennial	4.50	_____	_____
3025-Chervil- Licorice flavor great on potatoes, fish & chicken Annual	4.50	_____	_____
3027-Cilantro flavor favorite for salsa & Asian cuisine Annual	4.50	_____	_____
3031-Dill Fern Leaf delightful pickle herb great on fish & cooked beets & potatoes Annuals	4.50	_____	_____
3035-Fennel – Bronze ornamental & delicious anise flavor on fish & vegetables Annual	4.50	_____	_____
3040-Horseradish – Heirloom zesty hot root for condiment young leaves for salad Per.	4.50	_____	_____
3045-Lavender Provence – Use in sachets & potpourri, ingredient in "herbs de Provence"	4.50	_____	_____
3050-Lemon Grass – Lemon flavoring essential in Thai cooking Tender Perennial	4.50	_____	_____
3051-Lemon Verbena-Intense lemon flavor for tea & drinks, fragrance for potpourri Annual	4.50	_____	_____
3055-Lovage- Celery & anise flavored leaves entire plant edible Perennial	4.50	_____	_____
3060-Marjoram Sweet – Delicate oregano like flavor great on fresh tomatoes Annual	4.50	_____	_____
3065-Mint Corsican- Low growing great fragrance flavoring of Crème de menthe Perennial	4.50	_____	_____
3070-Mint Mojito- Delightful warm mint flavor great for mulling in drinks Perennial	4.50	_____	_____
3074-Oregano Greek-The original flavor for Italian & Mediterranean fare Tender Perennial	4.50	_____	_____
3075-Oregano Hot & Spicy - Intense flavor for pizza & spaghetti sauce Perennial	4.50	_____	_____
3076-Oregano Variegated-Beautiful addition to herb garden lovely cream edge Perennial	4.50	_____	_____
3080-Parsley Italian flat leaf - Leaves for garnish & tempura frying Biennial	4.50	_____	_____
3082-Rosemary-Spicy woody herb great for chicken & Mediterranean fare Tender Perennial	4.50	_____	_____
3083-Sage-Savory herb used in stuffing soups & Mediterranean dishes Perennial	4.50	_____	_____
3084-Pineapple Sage- Fruity addition to teas, fruit garnish hummingbird magnet Annual	4.50	_____	_____
3085-Savory Winter- Ingredient in "herbs de Provence" for meat & bean dishes Perennial	4.50	_____	_____
3090-Sorrel- Red Veined tart flavor great accent in soups and salads very ornamental Per.	4.50	_____	_____
3093-Stevia – Sugar plant non caloric sweetener use fresh or dried Annual	4.50	_____	_____
3095-Sweet Annie- Fragrant and attractive used in wreaths, potpourri, and sachets. Annual	4.50	_____	_____
3101-Sweet Woodruff- Fragrant flowers for potpourri and room freshener Perennial	4.50	_____	_____
3102-Thyme English-Most familiar thyme used in soups stews & roasts Perennial	4.50	_____	_____
3105-Thyme Silver Edge- Ornamental use in "Bouquet Garni"& "herbs de Provence" Per.	4.50	_____	_____
3110-Thyme Spicy – Orange flavor great with chicken, fish, salads and tea. Perennial	4.50	_____	_____
3111-Thyme Variegated Lemon-Very decorative rich lemon flavor Perennial	4.50	_____	_____

Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds - Order Sheet www.rareseeds.com

After completing Baker seed order form "print it" and attached to this form

Do not mail to Baker seed, we place the order to save on shipping charges	TOTAL PAGE 2	\$ _____
	TOTAL PAGE 1	\$ _____
Use this line for your seed order total ----->	BAKER SEEDS	\$ _____
PAGE 1 + PAGE 2 + BAKER SEEDS ORDER =	GRAND TOTAL	\$ _____

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____
 STREET _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 CITY _____ E-MAIL _____

Mail to Spring Valley Nature Center 1111 E. Schaumburg Road Schaumburg, IL 60194
 Checks payable: Spring Valley Nature Club - Mark Envelope Nature Club Order Enclosed
 Preorder cutoff May 7, 2018 ---- Order Pick Up is Sunday May 20, 2018
 Quantities limited to avoid disappointment order early to assure availability.
 Questions? Contact Spring Valley Nature Club: springvalleynatureclub@gmail.com
Thank you for your support of the Spring Valley Nature Club

1974 And Beyond

Spring Valley began as a dream by one of the founders of the Village of Schaumburg, Ellsworth Meineke.

Early on he referred to it as “The Spring Valley Dream.” It was he who convinced the Schaumburg Park District and the Village of Schaumburg to work together to acquire and preserve land for Spring Valley. Ellsworth founded the Spring Valley Nature Club in 1974 as a not-for-profit service organization which provides volunteer and financial support for Spring Valley and promotes conservation, nature, and environmental education. The Club sponsors nature programs and teacher field trips, and members volunteer at festivals and fund raisers. We have been working hard since 1974. Won’t you join us?

These words reflect the dedication that the founders felt for the purpose of the Club and the love of the natural world around us. Since the Schaumburg Park District assumed the responsibility of recruiting volunteers, Nature Club’s purpose has evolved to share its love of Spring Valley by offering timely programs that reinforce a more wholesome lifestyle. We have initiated monthly educational programs that instill a comprehension of our ability to lessen our carbon footprint by reducing waste, recycling and reusing our valuable resources. Our monthly programs enlighten us to appreciate our environment and respect its fragile beauty.

We have lessened our impact on landfill waste by eliminating the mailing of our bimonthly News Leaf. We are encouraging members to attend educational programs which teach us the importance of the wildlife around us, the art of using our natural resources wisely and being more self-reliant by advising how to live a more wholesome lifestyle, grow and live more organically and become more self-sufficient.

With the kind donations and assistance from local merchants and organizations, we can exist more ecologically by shopping locally. Some of the wonderful supporters and contributors to the club have been, Roselle Ace Hardware for their support in offering a discount coupon for purchases at their location; Schaumburg Park District for the 1-day Fitness Pass; Platt Hill Nursery for their support and discount coupon at their garden centers; Holistic Art Studio for their discount coupon; Bon Ton Stores for their coupon book for discounts throughout the store. The Bon Ton coupon books are valid for their other stores that are located throughout the US. A listing of their stores is on the membership dues page.

Our wonderful supporters have given us a way to lessen our footsteps by offering valued products and services at discounted prices while saving our energy dollars by reducing the number of miles we travel. Please support our supporters. With their help, we have been successful in raising additional funds to sponsor educational programming for our Club members, Spring Valley Volunteers, and school children and teachers from our community. We have supplied funds for books for Spring Valley’s Library and have sponsored various free to the public programs and events that the Center has offered.

Thanks to you all, and especially our valued Members and Supporters of Spring Valley Nature Club!

Please take time to review all the wonderful benefits we are offering to our members with their Nature Club membership. Won’t you join us?

Spring Valley Nature Club is a 501(c3) organization and contributions may be tax deductible. Check with your tax advisor.

Spring Valley Nature Club 2018 Membership Rates

To show our appreciation for our members' loyalty, we have come up with special benefits for all members.

“Discount Coupon Packet” This packet will include certificates and coupons for various merchants, i.e. Holistic Health Studio (massage discount), Schaumburg Park District (1-day Fitness Pass), Roselle Ace Hardware (discount on purchase), Platt Hill Nursery (discount on purchase), Chick-Fil-A (Free Sandwich - Schaumburg Stores only), Back In Line Chiropractic (Discount on Services)

Special Benefit; An invitation to the Spring Valley Volunteer/Meineke Award Picnic on the first Friday in August. A postcard will be sent to current members in good standing by mid-July asking for an RSVP.

Free Entry to the Nature Club Programs: Allows you to attend any or all ten Spring Valley Nature Club monthly meetings and educational programs from February through November where you can enjoy some refreshments and camaraderie with fellow supporters of the Nature Club and the Spring Valley Volunteers.

Membership Card: Identifies you as a supporter of the Nature Club's efforts.

Life Membership: In addition to the above items, this membership includes a Nature Club Commemorative Fleece Throw (\$35.00 value); this fleece throw is for **New Life Memberships Only**.

****All current Life Members** are eligible to receive the **“Discount Coupon Packet”** for a \$10 yearly donation.

Family Fun Membership: In addition to all the standard items above, this membership category includes a Spring Valley Annual Family Pass (\$120.00 value) to be used for a 15% discount on most Spring Valley Programs; 10% Discount on Summer Camps and Birthday Parties; 15% discount on Honey & Gift Shop purchases at Spring Valley and free admission to all Spring Valley events including the Pancake Breakfast. (The discounts do not apply to the Solstice Hop & Vine or the Haunting in the Valley.)

Your Membership Packet needs to be picked up in person at the Spring Valley Nature Center 9:00 – 5:00 daily. Any member may have the membership package mailed for a handling charge of \$2.00

Yearly Memberships Begin February 1st through January 31st

Individual		\$15.00
Family		\$25.00
Supporting		\$35.00
Senior		\$10.00
Family Fun		\$120.00
Life	**	\$150.00
Sponsor		\$1000.00

Individual – Family – Supporting -- Senior -- Family Fun -- Life -- Sponsor

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Checks should be made payable and mailed to:
Spring Valley Nature Club - 1111 East Schaumburg Road, Schaumburg, IL 60194