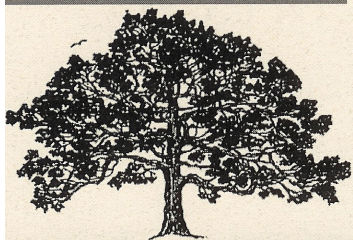


FALL 2008



FREDERICK LAW OL MSTED SOCIETY OF RIVERSIDE

# Newsletter

## Olmsted Society's Eco-Friendly 4th of July!

The Olmsted Society floated its way along the streets of Riverside in high fashion this Fourth of July, sporting an Eco-Friendly message. The environmentally friendly float was made with an electric pick-up truck as its base, and carried a giant recycled newspaper tree, as well as dozens of native plantings. Jim Reynolds, the president of the Olmsted Society, emphasized the green point by using a battery operated Segway to zip along the parade route.

The theme for this year's float was "40 years, 8,000 Trees", representing the many years of contributing trees to our Olmstedian landscape. Aberdeen Marsh-Ozga had the idea to make the giant tree float out of recycled newspapers. It was sculpted, painted and as large as the truck could hold. The tree was accented by a bird that flew above it. Aberdeen got plenty of help with its construction by the neighborhood children. They all did a great job, and the amazing tree float was

once again a huge success!

As in previous years, the Society gave away many native plantings to the people of Riverside. This year, they collected e-mail addresses of those who wanted plantings, and offered free newsletters and updates about workdays and lectures.

Many thanks to Sander Kaplan and Thomas Jacobs for heading up the 4th of July committee.

They worked hard to make sure that the green theme was thorough. Of course, the giant tree was recycled after the parade!



*Native Plants Given Away by FLOS on the 4th*



*Olmsted Society's 40th Eco-Friendly Float*

*"40 years, 8,000 Trees" was the theme for the Olmsted Society's float on the 4th of July!*

*Congratulations on 40 Years of Preserving our Landscape!*

## The Book Corner: Notes on the Olmsted Collection

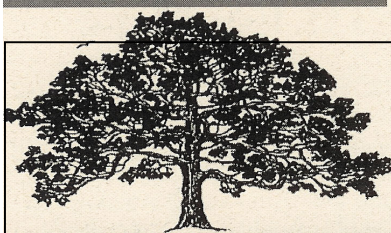
by Jane Kunka

Central Park in New York City, designed by Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux is commonly considered their greatest masterpiece. A book published in 1990 called "Central Park, The Birth, Decline and Renewal of a National Treasure", by Eugene Kinkead, describes the history of the design and the landscape artistry that created it.

It includes a comprehensive description of the history of the park and touches on its wildlife, botany and geology. It outlines the management of the maintenance of Central Park, and the political system that was involved, and traces its slow decline and the details of its later rehabilitation. The crucial role of the Central Park Conservancy is explained and provides a good insight of how such Conservancies work.

The complexity of caring for such a large Olmsted landscape in a heavily populated urban area is explained in easy to read and interesting prose. This book is highly recommended for anyone who would like to know more about Olmsted and Vaux's plan for Central Park, considered to be "one of the finest works of art in American history" by the American Institute of Architects. The book is in the collection in the Riverside Public Library Olmsted Collection.

*Note: Members of the Central Park Conservancy visited Riverside in the 1980's to observe the landscape restoration efforts being done here by the Olmsted Society, and the use of volunteers for weeding, mulching, etc. that they later emulated in New York.*



[www.olmstedociety.org](http://www.olmstedociety.org)

## The Frederick Law Olmsted Society

### Of Riverside

# NEWSLETTER

#### Fall 2008

Founded in 1968, the Frederick Law Olmsted Society of Riverside is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the original village plan, developed in 1868 by landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted and his partner Calvert Vaux. Membership is open to all interested individuals. Annual Membership is available for a \$25.00 (tax deductible) contribution.

#### Officers

**President:** James Reynolds

**Vice President:** Thomas Jacobs

**Treasurer:** Theresa Pelletier

**Secretary:** Yvonne Lucero

#### Committees

**Architecture:** Sander Kaplan, Thomas Jacobs

**Fourth of July:** Sander Kaplan

**Housewalk:** Constance Guardi, Kimberly Jacobs, Theresa Pelletier

**Landscape:** Cindy Kellogg, Holly Machina

**Library:** Jane Kunka

**Long Range Planning:** Lonnie Sacchi,

**Membership:** Joanna Beaumont,

Tim Ozga

**Newsletter:** Chandra Reynolds

**Tours/Education:** Tony Pecelunas, Lonnie Sacchi,

**Website:** Kevin Hicks

**Honorary Directors:** Ted Smith, Mike DeLise, Geri Tauber

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The Frederick Law Olmsted Society  
of Riverside  
PO Box 65, Riverside, Illinois  
60546

## Letter From The President

With the loss of many of our beautiful trees due to storm damage, the looming advance of the Emerald Ash Borer, and the state of our Village economy we are all concerned with the future of our piece of Eden. Your Olmsted Society, as for the last forty years, has been proactive in the conservation, care, and re-planting of our landscape. It is at such a critical time that we ask for your help and support to continue this important work. If you have lost a tree on your property, please re-plant with a non-ash native species or consider donating to our planting program, or if you can't contribute, please consider volunteering for our Landscape workdays.

Many of you may be aware of the Society's Green Practices Initiative that has been published in a recent issue of the Landmark Newspaper. Our proposal is a common sense approach to the conservation and maintenance of our Village landscape through green practices that are environmentally friendly and easily accessible. While much has been made about the need for increased taxes to accomplish certain initiatives, the Olmsted Society proposes using revenue neutral methods of going green until it becomes second nature. It does not take any extra effort to incorporate green methods into new construction and in most cases it can be a cost saving benefit to the owner and ultimately the environment of our Village. Of course the most cost effective green building is the one that is already built. Green enhancements can be instituted easily, and once again, benefit the entire community. The Olmsted Society has never been a political organization and never will advocate or lobby for a particular partisan position, nor should it. It is the job of our elected officials to prioritize spending, keeping in mind that the landscape is a very important part of the discussion. It is our job, however, to advocate for conservation, restoration, and on-going care for Frederick Law Olmsted's gift to Riverside.

To those ends, your Olmsted Society has been instrumental in the re-planting of the Longcommon beds in our Central Business District by paying for professional landscape design and through co-operative participation in the planning and planting process. We have been consistent with our support for the fight against Dutch Elm Disease by providing funds for the purchase of chemicals to halt the progress of this blight. Our landscape committee and many volunteers have been toiling in our common areas and woodlands to remove invasive species, thereby encouraging the native species to flourish. Scottswood Common among other areas is looking great due to their recent efforts.

We have participated in the past with other organizations in the Village to lend support and make our dollars go farther using the collective minds of the members in meeting our goals for improvement. Olmsted dollars have combined with those of the Garden Club to provide irrigation for the Library environs, as a recent example. One of the less publicized efforts is the constant acquisition of books and materials for the Olmsted Collection at our Public Library. Our collection has quite a depth and breadth of materials that are available to all. Every year we make new acquisitions as recent publications come to life and scholarly research is completed. I think you will be pleasantly surprised to learn about Olmsted's life and time here in Riverside as well as his exploits all over the globe. Now that the "Olmsted Collection" is on the main level of the library, it is easily accessed.

Once again the native plants the Olmsted Society provided to residents on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July were welcomed with open arms by residents. We are always delighted to see the interest that is created by our plant giveaway as it creates joy and allows us to interact with many residents that we have not met before. Riverside is truly a wonderful place with residents from every walk of life. I am always amazed at the depth of knowledge and expertise we have right here in Riverside.

As one of my neighbors said to me the other day when contemplating moving to a condo in the city...."but why would we do that and leave all of this?"....his voice trailed off as he indicated the beauty surrounding us as he spoke. Why indeed!

James D. Reynolds, President

**MISSION STATEMENT:** *The Frederick Law Olmsted Society is dedicated to sustaining Olmsted's vision for Riverside for generations to come. It's members are guided by his concern for humanity, nature, sense of community and the innovative and thoughtful essence of his work. The Olmsted Society invites residents and visitors to join us in learning, protecting the environment, and preserving our cultural and physical heritage.*



# The View From Olmsted Point at Yosemite National Park

By Aberdeen Marsh-Ozga

Have you ever experienced a place so breathtakingly beautiful that you felt it would be forever etched in your memory?

I was in no way prepared for the sense of wonder that buoyed me through my entire week-long stay in Yosemite National Park. Imagine the stark architectural drama of Ansel Adams' photographs in full and vibrant color; the breezes sweet and free from the congestion of urban life. A vast natural landscape, extending for miles in all directions—up down and beyond—as far as the eye can see.

The Sierra Mountains of California are geologically amazing—massive, granite peaks jutting skyward and erratic glacial deposits of oddly shaped boulders, lounging about in unexpected places. In June, melting snow from the highest elevations flows into tumbling mountain streams and waterfalls, supplying life to the arid mountains and to the rolling valleys below.

At Yosemite's Olmsted Point, while the 8,300 foot altitude may have contributed to my sense of exhilaration, it is fair to say that the view is nothing short of spectacular. Looking west, Clouds Rest (miles away) is so close you feel you could reach out and touch it. The infamous Half Dome lies just beyond, intriguing in an artistic, sculptural way. Looking east, you catch a glimpse of Tenaya Lake (a secluded, mirror-like gem) and the granite domes that envelop it.

How, I thought (under a sky so blue it almost hurt), could all of this possibly be random? Yosemite is sometimes referred to as "the Cathedral", and I understand why. You are surrounded by the awesomeness of nature—something man could never have created—and you feel at peace.

Thanks in large part to Frederick Law Olmsted, this amazing place remains today, protected and preserved, yet accessible. Olmsted's work in California is, I believe, under-recognized by those outside the conservation world.



Olmsted was enticed to manage a gold mining estate in the Western Sierra Mountains in 1863—following his design of Central Park with Calvert Vaux and a two year stint for Abraham Lincoln inspecting the conditions of Union troops in the field. From the moment of his arrival at the mining camps, Olmsted took an interest in every aspect of his surroundings—physical and human alike. The mining venture was rapidly hindered by lack of funds and an inadequate water supply. Fortunately, Olmsted's national reputation for quality work helped to land him an appointment to a Congressional Commission investigating a possible land grant of Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias to the State of California as parkland. (At this point in history, the National Park Service had not yet been established.)

As a Commissioner, Olmsted wrote a systematic exposition on the importance of contact with the wilderness for human well being, the effect of beautiful scenery on perception and the responsibility of government to preserve regions of extraordinary natural beauty for the benefit of the people. This work, entitled "Yosemite and the Mariposa Grove: A Preliminary Report 1865," also includes thoughtful suggestions for developing access to the park with minimal harm to the natural environment.

Olmsted projected that one day millions of visitors would be drawn to Yosemite's natural won-

ders. His Preliminary Report requests \$37,000 in state funds to establish sensitive trails, roads and campsites to enable access to the repose for which he so passionately advocates.

At the time, Olmsted's fellow commissioners feared his request was too ambitious and were inclined not to act upon it. However, the publication of Olmsted's Preliminary Report in several national newspapers brought increased attention to the importance of designating and protecting scenic areas for the enjoyment of the people and in 1872, the first National Park was established.

While Olmsted's influence was thereafter recognized in the naming of Olmsted Point, only in the twentieth century has his Preliminary Report become accepted as "one of the most profound and original philosophical statements to emerge from the American conservation movement." (1) Whether it is read for its historic significance, its observations about human nature, civilization and government, or for the sheer poetry of Olmsted's physical descriptions of Yosemite, the Preliminary Report is, in a word, fascinating.

Having experienced the view from Olmsted Point, I am deeply and profoundly impressed. I cannot help but refer back to the words of Olmsted, set forth in his Preliminary Report:

"No photograph or series of photographs, no paintings ever prepare a visitor so that he is not taken by surprise, for could the scenes be faithfully represented, the visitor is affected not only by that upon which his eye is at any moment fixed, but by all that with which on every side it is associated, and of which it is seen only as an inherent part."

That about sums it up. Yosemite is something to behold and experience. It will refresh your senses, release your tensions and restore your spirits. And you will not need a vacation from your vacation.

(1) From *Evolution of the Conservation Movement, 1850-1920*," American Memory, Library of Congress.

UPCOMING LECTURE on "CREATING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS"

**"SOW, GROW, REAP"** by Gary Cuneen

Founder and Executive Director of Seven Generations Ahead, Oak Park, IL

Riverside Township Hall

Wednesday October 15th, 2008

7:30 PM

**Come to this FREE LECTURE and learn about going green in our community!**

# The Riverside Landscape: You Can Help!

This year our landscape workdays have concentrated on weeding, mulching and beautifying the Scottswood Common. It is our vision to work on one particular part of the common area until it is completely finished, with the hope that so much time and energy will not be required for maintenance in the future. After we complete the Scottswood Common, we plan to move to the triangle at Longcommon and Downey.

Come help maintain our landscape and learn the techniques for weed and invasive species control each Saturday morning workday from 9:00 AM until 12. Riverside forester, Mike Collins is on hand to point everyone in the right direction. Light refreshments are served and you're always guaranteed a big smile and great conversation!

Our next workdays are: Saturday, September 20

Saturday, October 4

Saturday, November 8

Contact **Holly Machina** at 447-0226 or **Cindy Kellogg** at 442-1040 for information on the activities of the Landscape Committee.

*Scottswood Common BEFORE the clean-up.*

*Scottswood Common AFTER the clean-up!*



## More Olmsted Society Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer to help restore and preserve the historic value of this village for your grandchildren. If you have just an hour, or time for a dedicated effort, the Olmsted Society offers numerous opportunities for making a positive contribution to Riverside, not to mention meeting and working together with friends and neighbors!

**Architectural Lecture Series:** Research and obtain speakers for our free lectures at the Township Hall on topics related to architecture and landscape architecture. If you have any contacts or ideas on topics of interest, Contact: Sander Kaplan at [sandertree@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sandertree@sbcglobal.net)

**Housewalk:** 3rd Sunday in May, every other year. The steering committee secures homes of architectural interest on a chosen theme, then publicizes and manages the event. House Captains and Docents present homes to the public. Many volunteers are needed!  
Contact: [housewalk@olmstedsociety.org](mailto:housewalk@olmstedsociety.org).

**Tours of Historic Riverside:** 3rd Sunday of the month 2-4 pm, May thru Oct. Docents lead visitors on informative walking tours, departing from Riverside's train station. (North and south sides tours on alternating months.) Bus, trolley, Segway, or private tours are available by special arrangement. Contact Lonnie Sacchi at [lsac111@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lsac111@sbcglobal.net)

**"Reflections on Riverside" Poetry Contest:** This contest invites contemplation of Riverside's natural areas to school children. Open to all grade levels, it is publicized in April, judged in May and awarded in June. Editing and typesetting for the publication of a "Reflections on Riverside" poetry book is ongoing. Contact Aberdeen Marsh-Ozga at [aberdeen1@comcast.net](mailto:aberdeen1@comcast.net)

**Website:** Ongoing-Update content and presentation on Olmsted Society Website. Investigate secure method of accepting membership payments and registration. Contact: Kevin Hicks at [Kevin@hicks.tv](mailto:Kevin@hicks.tv)

**4th of July Parade:** Art projects for parents and kids in late June. Float construction

is on July 3rd. Contact Sander Kaplan at [sandertree@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sandertree@sbcglobal.net)

**Library-** Research and obtain new publications for the Frederick Law Olmsted Room of the Riverside Library. Contact: Jane Kunka at [jjkunka@comcast.net](mailto:jjkunka@comcast.net)

**Membership:** Ongoing. Update membership database, coordinate mailings and initiate outreach to members. Contact: Joanna Beaumont at [Joanna\\_beaumont@yahoo.com](mailto:Joanna_beaumont@yahoo.com)

**Newsletter:** 2-3 times per year. Write articles on topics of historic, landscape, and environmental interest for the membership. Help is needed with printing, addressing and mailing newsletters. Contact: Chandra Reynolds at [fta@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fta@sbcglobal.net)

**Publicity:** Ongoing. Write press releases and coordinate printing of posters, flyers, outreach letters, etc. Distribute publicity materials. Contact Kim Jacobs at [filerjacobs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:filerjacobs@sbcglobal.net)



# “REFLECTIONS ON RIVERSIDE” POETRY CONTEST

## WINNERS ANNOUNCED

There is no place on earth quite like Riverside. But how to capture its essence in words? The “Reflections on Riverside” Poetry Contest posed this challenge to Riverside-area students in April, which is national poetry month. The Reflections on Riverside contest asks local elementary and junior high school students to consider their surroundings, reflect upon any of Riverside’s natural areas and convey their impressions in poetic form.



*Aberdeen Marsh-Ozga and FLOS President, Jim Reynolds with 1st place winner Stefanie Wolff at Hauser .*



*Aberdeen Marsh-Ozga with Principal Bob Chleboun of Blythe with 2nd place Kaitlin Gaynor and 1st place Molly Stamm*

“We are tremendously pleased with the number of area students who engaged in the process this year, and with the thought demonstrated in their work,” stated Program Chair, Aberdeen Marsh-Ozga. “Direct observation and sensory experience of Riverside’s landscape is key. It inspires.”

In conjunction with year-end awards ceremonies at five participating Riverside schools, Olmsted Society President Jim Reynolds and Program Chair Aberdeen Marsh-Ozga awarded prizes of cash, Aunt Diana’s homemade fudge and over fifty Certificates of Merit. “The kids were positively beaming!” recalls Reynolds. “I think the recognition, before all of their peers, meant a lot.”

Hopefully, recognition within the community will mean as much to these aspiring young poets and their families! If you have the opportunity to congratulate any of our 2008 winners personally, we encourage you to do so.

The first and second place winners from each participating school are:

Hauser Junior High: 1<sup>st</sup> place: Stephanie Wolff, 6<sup>th</sup> grade, *Sidealong River*,  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Rachel Sammons, 7<sup>th</sup> grade, *The Green Bridge*

Ames Elementary: 1<sup>st</sup> place: Bella McGuire, 4<sup>th</sup> grade, *Spring in the Sun*,  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Andrew Salij, 4<sup>th</sup> grade, *Island of Green*

Blythe Park Elementary School: :

1<sup>st</sup> place: Molly Stamm, 4<sup>th</sup> grade, *Butterfly Garden*,  
2nd place: Kaitlin Gaynor, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, *Beautiful Gardens*

Central Elementary School:

1<sup>st</sup> place: Peter Pribyl-Pierdinok, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, *The Woods*  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Stuart Marciniak, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, *The Days of Dawn*

St. Mary Elementary School:

1<sup>st</sup> place: Becky Warner, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, *Nature’s Home*  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Amelia Reggi, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, *Flowing Slowly*

The Reflections on Riverside Committee will be preparing all of the entries from 2008 and 2007 for publication in a bound volume to be maintained in the Olmsted Room of the Riverside Public Library. Collectively, the variety of perspective, creativity and poetic voice these young people put forth is fascinating reading !



*Central’s Poetry Writers:(back row) Principal Dr. Limperis, Yadi Navarro, Jack Lulich, Nina Dorenbos, Moira Dunn, Stuart Marciniak ( 2nd place winner), Sella Shaw, Jim Reynolds. (front row) Paul Sitkiewicz, Esperanza Suarez, Natalia Valensuela, Benjamin Lulich, Claire Hejna, Julia McCarthy, Josephine Jacobs and 1st place winner Peter Pribyl-Pierdinok.*

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## Another Successful Olmsted Housewalk for 2008

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A heartfelt thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers who helped make the "Influence of the Arts and Crafts on House and Garden" such a successful Housewalk! Thank you also to Constance Guardi and Kimberly Jacobs for all their hard work and dedication in Co-Chairing the event.

The houses featured were owned by Jim and Dian Gruber, The Aichenger estate, Yvonne Lucero and Jim Harrington, David Scheffer and Michelle Huhnke, Gretchen McCarthy, Sander Kaplan and Theresa Pelletier, and Dean & Ella Mae Eastman. We were truly thrilled to have such spectacular homes to present!

The flow of volunteers were managed perfectly by the house captains, making the day that much more enjoyable. Thanks to Aberdeen Marsh-Ozga, Eric Zuschlag, Susan Lisle, Robin Benoy, Joe & Valerie Cablk, Chandra Reynolds, Karen Graham, and Dorothy Schroeder for captaining. Also, Geri Tauber deserves special recognition for doing the graphic design for all the posters and literature, Aunt Dian's and the Library for their help in ticket sales, and to our own Shamrock Gardens Florist for all the

fantastic arrangements seen in the featured homes.

To the many, many docents, WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU! We would like to recognize Bev Aieta, Jerome Balin, Diane Balin, John Belletini, Mark Benoy, Anne Blaa, Marcia Blasinski, Jean Brancato, Maura Braun, Nellie Brennan, Sandy Briolat, Karen Brye, Sandra Buckley, Susan Casey, Ken Circo, Jan Cegielski, Diane Ceragioli, Jodi Connelly, Judy Compton, Jamie Cook, Jill Corwin, Joanne Day, Mike Delise, Jane Derbyshire, Nancy Dvorak, Joe Dvorak, Courtenay Erb, Nadine Espisito, Mike Flath, Mike Flight, Kathy Foran, Megan Foran, Cyril Friend, Alex Funake, Paula Gagliano, Frank Gagliano, Roberta Gates, Michael Gates, Dennis Gary, Marie Gary, Jeannine Glavas-Cowell, Thomas Guardi, Carolyn Guyton-Ringbloom, Ralph Harast, Kenny Harris, Diane, Harris, Tom Harrington, Martha Geine, Kristine Herbst, Kevin Hicks, Thomas Jacobs, Mary Judy, Dick Julian, Ruth Julian, Colleen Kadlec, Randy Kadlec, Joanne Keefe, Cindy Kellogg, Connie Kelly, Fred Kitch, Audry Korslund, Linda Kowalik, Ann Kkubiczky, Stephen Kubieczky, Jane Kunka,

John Kunka, Linda LaBelle, Dianna La Mantia, George Lambros, Sara Lundgren, Peggy Lyons, Holly Machina, Lisa Manganiello Melina Mann, Lisa Marciniak, thea Marhoul, Roseanne Marshall, Steve Marshall, Carolynn McNally, Joy Meek, Michelle Mendoza, Elizabeth Musick, Cathy Nie, Tony Nie, Joyce Ordenez, Carla Orland, Frank Orland, Janice Ozga, Timothy Ozga, Annette Palumbo, Steve patras, Phyllis Pecelunas, Tony Pecelunas, Eric Peters, Nancy Peters, Deb Pike, Sue Pipal, Katy Pizza, Heather Poell, Tom Poell, Anita Post, Olga Pribyl, Lois Raasch, Sanlee Radigan, Gretchen Reyes, Jim Reynolds, Preston Reynolds, Jim Ringbloom, Susan Rizzo, Michelle Roblee, Heather Roeder, Lonnie Sacchi, Alyson Scanlon, Maripat Scanlon, Bill Scanlon, Susan Schliep, Steph Schulte, Dorothy Sikora, Mark Sikora, Diane Silba, Bill Sleeth, Ted Smith, Don Spatney, Ann Stake, Robert Stake, Harold Stanke, Judi Stanke, Christine Stout, Duane Stout, Susan Synnestvedt, Betty Turner, Cindy Vitek, Joan Wiaduck, and George Zematis. You all made the 2008 Olmsted Housewalk another successful fundraiser. We can now continue to work hard at saving our Olmsted Legacy!

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## Olmsted Society Helps Plant the CBD

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The Frederick Law Olmsted Society contributed to the planting day of the Central Business District of Riverside. Using the planting designs of Landscape Architect-Mauro Cristani, dozens of volunteers came out to put the native plants into the prepared soil. FLOS provided the professional design of Mr. Cristani, and worked closely with the Landscape Advisory Committee as they finalized their recommendations. The color and scale of the plants flow down the street with a natural gracefulness. The Village has allotted monies for maintenance and care for the plantings in the future. We now all can look forward to a great looking downtown district!





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## 40 Years, 8,000 Trees (Threatened!)

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This year, the Frederick Law Olmsted Society will celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary working to preserve Olmsted's vision for Riverside. During that time span, three generations have come together to replenish and sustain a key element of the original Olmsted design, the reforestation of our green spaces. Whether by the work of dirty hands or the lightening of pocketbooks, the members of the Olmsted Society have planted the seedlings that will adorn our landscape for generations to come.

...and after a hearty pat on the back, we find that our task has only just begun...

The real and impending presence of the emerald ash borer beetle and the gypsy moth threaten to invade a piece of history and undo the hard work accomplished by the Frederick Law Olmsted Society over the past 40 years. Local news reports that the Illinois Department of Agriculture confirmed the presence of the emerald ash borer beetle in River Forest last week, and two weeks prior, the pest had been found in Oak Park. Now, Riverside's village forester is preparing for its inevitable appearance here. Additionally, the gypsy moth, a pest in North American since the late 19th century has made a resurgence, particularly in our more heavily forested areas along the river. Only a year after our trees were stressed by the cicadas, these aggressive pests are ready to take Riverside by storm, doing damage that could truly take generations to repair. What can we do? Well, when something kicks at the Olmsted Society, we kick back...twice as hard.

First, **EDUCATE** yourselves. These pests pose separate threats and understanding where to look, what to find and how to deal with it is the key to staying ahead of the bugs.

Difficult to spot and highly mobile, emerald ash borers came to the U.S. from Asia. Just a half-inch long and one-eighths of an inch wide, the adult females lay eggs that hatch in one to two weeks.



Larvae bore through the tree bark and feed under the bark for several weeks, creating tunnels (right) that keep water and nutrients from reaching the rest of the tree.



Riverside has roughly 1,100 ash trees on public lands with an unknown number on private property. Identification is key! The characteristic ash leaf (left) should be recognizable and if you have ash trees on or near your property, they need to be frequently checked for signs of infestation.



In contrast to the ash borer, the gypsy moth attacks from the outside-in. The modus operandi of the gypsy moth is the defoliation of trees. Gypsy moth larvae generally prefer oaks, but may feed on several hundred different species of trees and shrubs, both hardwood and conifer. The effects of defoliation vary, but the end result can be devastating. If less than 50 percent of their crown is defoliated, most hardwoods will experience only a slight reduction (or loss) in radial growth. If more than 50 percent of their crown is defoliated, most hardwoods will re-leaf.



or produce a second flush of foliage by mid-summer. Healthy trees can usually withstand one or two consecutive defoliations of greater than 50 percent. Trees that have been weakened by previous defoliation or been subjected to other stresses such as droughts are frequently killed after a single defoliation of more than 50 percent.

Once the enemy has been identified, the next step is to be **PROACTIVE** to eliminate the scourge and replace what has been lost. Fortunately, the gypsy moth has responded to treatments such as spraying and the Olmsted Society supports our Village Forester, Mike Collins, in his conviction to take this pest head on.

The emerald ash borer presents a different challenge. The only way to address an infestation is early detection and the subsequent removal of affected trees. Given our current ash population, the loss of trees could be devastating. But, thanks to the Olmsted Society, the bugs may have finally met their match. Now is the time to act! Through the cooperative tree planting program, we can begin to replace the damage before it begins. Plant a tree through the cooperative planting program, and as an Olmsted Society member your cost is cut in half! A number of species that are not highly vulnerable to pests are available. A small price to pay for the legacy we will leave...

...forty years and eight thousand trees.

# 2008 Membership Renewal

Membership is for the calendar year. If you have not renewed your membership for 2008, please return this form with your check payable to: Frederick Law Olmsted Society, P.O. Box 65, Riverside, Illinois 60546

<input type="checkbox"/> General Member	\$25-\$49	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Contributing Member	\$50-\$99	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron Member	\$100 and above	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Gift Membership	\$ Add Amount	\$ _____
<b>Total Enclosed:</b>		\$ _____

The Olmsted Society welcomes your participation in our ongoing activities. Put your talent to work and your energy to good use by joining a committee! Check off the committees that interest you. The Chairman will contact you with more information.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture        | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housewalk           | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library             | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter          | <input type="checkbox"/> Website          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tours/Education     |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Talents _____ |   |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
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[www.olmstedociety.com](http://www.olmstedociety.com)

Please give us your email address, so we can save paper and trees!

Contact Joanna Beaumont at  
[Brutusanddaisy@yahoo.com](mailto:Brutusanddaisy@yahoo.com)

