



www.olmstedsociety.org

Zero Energy Homes and Green Roofs Focus of September Lecture

The Olmsted Society's Architecture committee will present a two-part lecture on "The Zero Energy Home and Residential Green Roofs" at 7 p.m. on Thursday, September 27, at the Riverside Township Hall Auditorium.

Lecturers include Jerry Marconi and Trevor Wukasch. Marconi, a resident of Riverside, will discuss his sustainable vacation home near Savanna, Illinois. An attorney by trade, Marconi was published recently on this innovative home away from home in The Landmark's "Going Green" edition. He will go in depth about his current energy saving systems as well as other sustainable materials and methods. He will also review his future plans to expand the sustainability and expand on ideas for all of us at our full-time dwellings.

Wukasch is a landscape designer for Intrinsic Landscaping, Inc. and Green Roof Solutions, Inc., a notable green roof contractor in the United States. He studied Environmental Studies at Augustana College and Landscape Architecture at the University of Illinois and has been involved in large-scale native landscape restoration.

Wukasch has presented several lectures which discussed the specifics of installing green roofs both residentially and commercially. In this lecture he will focus on the residential green roof for the homeowner, presenting in detail about the benefits, materials, installation, impact, costs, and financial incentives of residential green roofs.

We hope you will join us for these informative and innovative lecture topic.

Reflections on Riverside

We are simply delighted by the enthusiasm demonstrated by all the Riverside students who participated in our first annual *Reflections on Riverside* Student Writing Contest. So many students took our contest theme to heart and created wonderful, original poems reflecting or encouraging reflection upon Riverside's natural spaces.

The following young Riversiders are the Olmsted Society's 2007 award winners in their respective schools:

- Marie Morgenthaler, *My Home Town Riverside*, Hauser Junior High (6). \$50 prize.
- Lia Gonzalez, *A Walk by the River*, St. Francis Xavier Ward Elementary (2). \$25 prize.

- Carrie Reilly, *By the River's Edge*, Central Elementary (4). \$25 prize.
- Jackie LaBelle, *Riverside*, Central Elementary (4). \$15 prize.
- Austeja Staneviciute, *Riverside*, Central Elementary (4). \$10 prize.

A bound volume containing all poems entered in the *Reflections on Riverside* contest is being created for the Olmsted Room of the Riverside Public Library. In the meantime, for your reading pleasure, the poems of the first place winners are presented on page 6.

(All poems reprinted with permission of the authors.)



www.olmstedociety.org

**The Frederick Law Olmsted
Society of Riverside**

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2007

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, Jim Reynolds
Vice President, Ralph Harast
Treasurer: Scott Weiland
Secretary: Yvonne Lucero

Committees

Architecture, Tom Jacobs, Sander Kaplan
Fourth of July, Sander Kaplan
Housewalk, Constance Guardi, Kim Jacobs, Theresa Pelletier
Landscape, Cindy Kellogg, Holly Machina
Library, Jane Kunka
Long-Range Planning, Lonnie Sacchi
Membership, Joanna Beaumont
Newsletter, Ralph Harast
Tours/Education, Tony Pecelunas, Lonnie Sacchi, Ted Smith
Website, Kevin Hicks

Honorary Directors

Mike & Nancy DeLise

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Letter From the President

As the summer heat intensifies and the cicada's call wanes, I am mindful of our environment and how precious it is to our way of life here in Riverside. My generation marvels at how aware and green-oriented we have become. We find ourselves engaging with more and more "green organizations" with whom we have, as a common goal, the continued stewardship of our lovely planet and, in particular, our "oasis of green" right here in Riverside.

Now that the specter of the TIF has, for the moment, been abated, we are alarmed anew by the sites being shifted to one of our park areas...namely Harrington Park. In the words of our Village officials this is one of our "assets." With the use of the term "asset" come many interpretations. Is this a commodity to be spent, squandered, built on, or usurped, or is it a valuable and natural green space that villagers can use in perpetuity for recreation and relaxation? One would hope that it is the latter and that common wisdom would dictate that our green spaces remain inviolate...especially here in the midst of Olmsted's masterwork.

Preservation has been a core value since our inception, but that does not mean that we are mired in the past. It is my firm belief that Olmsted, were he alive today, would be looking towards using modern technologies to preserve what we have while conserving our resources to continue along that path. There have been barbs directed at the Society which made the assumption that we "want nothing to change." Nothing could be further from the truth! We would like to be mindful of the lessons that history has taught us, while remaining flexible enough to adopt new ideas and methods of preserving our environment for future generations. It is to that end that we aspire.

One of our latest one-to-one "green" efforts was the free plant give-away at the 4th of July celebration. We were delighted upon receiving the "Liberty Award" for the originality of our float, due in no small part to our giant cicada makers Joseph & Owen Connelly, Joey and Nicky Jacobs, Olivia & Evan Gyssler, Audry Hicks, Skye & Zacary Ozga, and Alex Erickson. We gave away twice as many plants as we did last year. Walking, leafy, personal floats were seen departing from Guthrie Park to the four corners of the Village in

baby strollers, bicycles and by foot. Some of the lucky plant winners also scored one-of-a-kind, hand made giant cicadas as a memento of this year's emergence. It was quite a wonderful sight!

For those of you who can't get enough of those "green thumb" activities consider coming to one of our landscape workdays. Not only will you feel good about keeping our landscape up, but also there is great camaraderie to be had.

You may not have considered how many of your neighbors you will meet when you give your time to volunteer for one of our committees. Plans are afoot for our House Walk 2008 and there will be many docents needed to complete the task, so if architecture is your forte, let us know.

Our tours of the Village are in full tilt during the warm weather and if you haven't taken the tour do so! I think you will learn many interesting facts about why Riverside is so special and how it came to be.

Our lecture series has been fascinating and I want to encourage you to attend the next offering on September 27th at Town Hall, 7 p.m. The title is "The Zero Energy Home and Residential Green Roofs." Jerry Marconi, a resident of Riverside, will present his sustainable vacation home near Savanna Illinois along with Trevor Wukasz a landscape designer for Intrinsic Landscaping, Inc. and Green Roof Solutions, Inc.

For those of you who have never visited our world class collection of Olmsted related tomes in the Riverside Library, I'm delighted to tell you that the collection has been moved to a prominent location on the first floor. Next time you enter take a look for the "Olmsted Collection" demarcation and you will discover some very interesting material that can both inform and enlighten. You won't be sorry you did!

The Olmsted Society facilitates and encourages your participation in understanding this fabulous landmark that is our home. We know that the more you learn about the special place that Riverside is the more you will cherish its preservation.

James D. Reynolds
fta@sbcglobal.net

Summer Photo Highlights



Olmsted Society members hard at work building this year's Fourth of July parade float.



Kevin Hicks doing another float-building "drill."



What's this? A cicada in Riverside?



Constance Guardi helping with winners of the plant raffle.



....and more cicadas!



Cindy Kellogg chats with Phyllis Pecelunas during the July 4th festivities.

Patrons and Contributing Members Recognized

Most Riverside residents enjoy the benefits of living in a National Historic Landscape District, yet not all understand the extra work required to maintain and preserve Olmsted's vision.

Olmsted Society members do. They roll up their sleeves on Landscape Workdays and help weed riverbanks, plant native trees and flowers, and give Historic Walking Tours. Additionally, our mem-

bership dues, together with funds raised through our Housewalks and Walking Tours, enable the Olmsted Society to promote landscape preservation and beautification efforts in Riverside.

We are happy to recognize members who have gone the extra distance by becoming Contributing members and Patrons. Their generosity is appreciated!

Patron (\$50 and above)

Bahr, Mary & Bernard
 Bakalich, Ruth & Larry
 In Memory of Lorena Ballard
 Bartholomew, Wayne & Suzanne
 Bell, Lawrence
 Breski, Kate
 Brown, Michele & Don
 Burkhart, Rinold & Kathleen
 Carpenter, Charles
 Cegielski, Jan & Jerry
 Chmell, Sam & Nancy
 Chudada, Debra & Robert
 Cole, Mrs. Pearl
 Corwin, Jill & Bower
 De Rycke, Joan
 DeLise, Nancy & Mike
 Di Natale, Joe & Adele
 Disis, Leonard & Dolores
 Domeier, Mark
 Durkin, Marguerite
 Eastman, Dean & Ella Mae
 Enger, Christopher & Minyuen
 Escobedo, Susan Porto
 Feldman, Ted & Marie
 Flaherty, John & Kathy
 Freeark, Ruth & Robert
 Frost, Gilbert
 Gering, Rick & Cheryl
 Gong, Cynthia
 Guardi, Tom & Constance
 Hicks, Kevin
 Huson, Carolyn
 Isaacson, John & Sarah
 Isham, Mr. & Mrs. John
 Jacobs, Thomas & Kim
 Jansky, William & Dorothy
 Johnson, Dean & Ramona
 Kaplan, Sander & Theresa
 Pelletier
 Karlovsky, Maryann
 Kaye, Michael
 Keefe, John & Joanne
 Kelliber, John & Carla
 Kellog, Cynthia
 Kitch, Alfred
 Kotarba, Henry & Dorothy
 Kowalik, Dr. Michael & Linda
 Kucera, Paul & Susan
 Kuratko, Kenneth
 Labelle, Richard & Linda

Layng, Patrick & Karen
 Legge Kemp, Diane
 Lindahl, Harold & Yvonne
 Litwiler, Thomas
 Lucero, Yvonne & Jim
 Harrington
 Magalotti, Marion
 Mantel, Ed & Bernadette
 Marik, Joseph & Lorraine
 McKernin, Gail & Mike
 McNally, Don & Carolyn
 Mottl, Rose
 Neumann, Sylvia
 Nie, Anthony & Katherine
 O'Brien, Susie & John
 Ozga, Aberdeen & Timothy
 Pecelunas, Tony & Phyllis
 Petrzilka, Jim & Sandie
 Phillip, Russell & Lorelei
 Pletcher, Douglas & Kathleen
 Berg
 Porter, Cathy & Ted Horst
 Purkey, David & Joanna
 Radigan, Sanlee
 Reynolds, Jim & Chandra
 Richards, James & Diane
 Robling, Christopher & Mary Jo
 Russell, Bruce & Marilyn
 Sacchi, Lonnie
 Schroeder, Dorothy
 Shields, Thomas & Noline
 Sikora, Dorothy & Mark
 Smith, Ted & Susan Shipper
 Snyder, Donald & Kathleen
 Steinberg, Jay & Christine
 Anderson
 Szatkowski, Barbara
 Ulrich, James & Donna
 Vahrenwald Moye, Marianne
 Vollmann, Alison & Thomas
 Vomacka, Frank & Sandra
 Weiland, Scott & Peggy
 Wilhelm, William & Deb
 Zanieski, John & Linda
 Zuschlag, Eric & Beth

Contributing (\$25-\$49)

Aieta, Michael & Beverly
 Alcantro, Fran & Carlos
 Babka, Bernie & Ellie
 Bandik, George
 Barker, David

Bednar, Linda & Chuck
 Benande, Theresa & Jim
 Blaa, Ann
 Bloch, Walter & Marguerite
 Blom, Donald & Jeneane
 Bolda, Ronald & Meredythe
 Borja, Geraldine & Ramiro
 Brabec, Norman
 Brownfield, Helen
 Bryniarski, James & Leona
 Hubatch
 Burda, Brian & Dawn
 Cablk, Joe & Valerie
 Cady, Henrietta
 Cardelli, Aldo & Marilyn
 Cook, Judith Lowell
 Cooney, Bill & Julie
 Cray, Mary & Philip Janicak
 De Torrice, Charlene
 DeLeon, John R. & Victoria
 DiMonte, Ernest & Jean
 Dolejs, Richard
 Dragisic, Donald & Patricia
 Dragutinovich, Gwen
 Dunne, William & Jean
 Dvorak, Joe & Nancy
 Engel, Nina
 Sts Peter and Paul Evangelical
 Lutheran Church
 Evans, John
 Gates, Roberta & Mike
 Gieseman, Wayne
 Gill, Patty & Richard
 Goeke, Paul & Cynthia
 Graham, Karen
 Greene, James
 Harford, Frank & Toni
 Hejna, Dr. & Mrs. William
 Herbst, Kristine
 Horn, Susan & Steven
 Humowiecki, Liz & Karl
 Iber, Anne & Frank
 Jacksic, Amy & Mark Shevitz
 Jeske, James & Joan
 Judy, Mary & Bill
 Julian, Ruth & Dick
 Kadlec, Randall & Coleen
 Kaplan, Ann
 Kenyon, Carole & James
 Kiwiet, Jaohn & Thea
 Kotchka, Cliff & Teena
 Kulbis, Tadas & Ruta

Kunka, Jane & John
 Leamy, George & Sharon
 Lidd, Bernadine & Francis
 Lofton, Richard & Amy
 Lupfer, Tom
 Machina, Holly & Jason Kinnan
 Marciniak, James & Lisa
 Marik, Dorothy
 McGovern, Roseanne
 McNeal, John & Sharon Rae
 Bender
 Memenas, Milda
 Metskas, Nanette
 Meyers, Janet & Walter Lukitsh
 Moore, Guy & Kathleen
 Mourek, Anthony
 Murphy, Patrick & Susan Sitter
 Nawara, Tom
 Nessinger, Katharine & Gregory
 Novak, George & Lavergne
 Novotny, Marie & John
 Peters, Nancy & Eric
 Plunkett, John & Mary
 Potokar, Richard & Patricia
 Pyne, Eileen
 Reily, John & Jane Wilhelm
 Rio, Bradley & Summer
 Sacharski, Gloria & Mike
 Scanlon, Maripat & Bill
 Sellers, Gail
 Shurtleff, Joan
 Smaller, Scott & Brenda
 Spatny, Don & Iris
 Spilotro, Peter & Sandra
 Sprunger, Robert & Carol
 Stake, Alice & Robert
 Stout, Diane & Christine
 Strubbe, Matt
 Tauber, Geri
 Taus, Elizabeth
 Topolski, Dolores
 Tortorella, Scott & Dawne
 Troiani, Joseph & Terrie
 Tryba, Mary & Richard
 Tuma, Judy & Frank
 Turner, Betty & Tim
 Turnmire, Jean
 Von Heimburg, Abby
 Vuolo, Theresa
 Wang, Daniel & Aldarcy Lewis

Reflections on Riverside

My Home Town Riverside

Marie Morgenthaler, Hauser Junior High School

Riverside Riverside what a wonderful place,
Riverside Riverside you have so much grace.
With curvy roads and winding streets,
From a small town you've quickly arose.
Riverside Riverside you have some wonderful parks,
All by themselves they make perfect landmarks.
With so many plants and so many trees,
People can come and leave with glee.
At Swinging Bridge you can see,
Ducks fly around happy and free.
At the Riverside Library you can see the view,
Of Swan Pond, a wonderful place too.
Riverside Riverside with buildings so old,
Their stories still need to be told.
There's so much to do and so much to see,
Riverside Riverside, you're the place to be!

A Walk by the River

Lia Paz Gonzalez, St. Francis

Xavier Ward Elementary

Oh it is so peaceful,
It is, It is.
It really is so beautiful when
the birds fly high,
And the ducks below.
Oh how lovely is that river.
So quiet, dark and deep.
And as you're walking down
that river you say,
Isn't Riverside neat?

By the River's Edge

Carrie Reilly, Central Elementary

The coolness of the wind
The chirping of the birds
As I stroll across the swinging bridge
I am one with nature.
The rushing of the water
The sweet smell of woodland wildflowers
A gentle river on the prairie
Meandering paths among the trees.
Lazy fishing on the riverbank
Smelling the fragrant grasses
The awesome clear blue sky
Life couldn't be any better.

Library Collection Moves

The Frederick Law Olmsted Collection of books has been moved from the basement room that once housed it to a larger space on the first floor of the Riverside Public Library.

The new, and much lighter and more cheerful area encourages browsing, and we are hopeful our members and all Riversiders will make greater use of this wonderful collection of books. We are very grateful to Library Director Janice Fisher and her Staff for all the hard work and effort the move entailed, and are pleased with the result.

Three books have been donated to the collection by Dr. and Mrs. Frank Iber:

- *Where the Sky Began, Land of the Tall Grass Prairie* by John Madson
- *Prairie Plants of Illinois* by John Voight and Robert Mohlenbrock
- *Roadside Plants and Flowers, A Travelers Guide to the Midwest and Great Lakes Area* by Marian Edsall have all been added

The Library Committee has purchased two volumes of the *Journals of John James Audubon*. These books tell us about the travels of Audubon during his many years searching for birds and mammals in this country and in Labrador. Audubon is a wonderful writer, and his descriptions of early nineteenth century America are fascinating.



FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED SOCIETY
OF RIVERSIDE

P.O. Box 65
Riverside, IL 60546

Calendar

Architecture Lecture

September 27, 7pm
Riverside Township Hall Auditorium

Landscape Workdays

September 15
Miller Woods on Riverside Road

October 13
Hoffman Dam with River Rats

November 3
Swinging Bridge

December 8
Scottswood & Millbridge

Workdays are from 9am until noon

Historic Walking Tours

September 30, north
October 28, south

Tours begin at 2:00pm at the train station

*****SAVE THE DATE*****

Housewalk

May 18, 2008

Volunteers needed to adopt triangles

Volunteers are needed to help weed and maintain our lovely triangle parks in the Village. If there is a triangle near you, please adopt it. You will work with Michael Collins, the Village Forrester, who will assist you in identifying the weeds. Three to four hours of your time, two to three times per year, is all that is needed to beautify and maintain one of our triangles.

Petition

If you haven't already, please sign the petition to support changing the designation of both Centennial Park and the eastern edge of Harrington Park along Harlem Avenue to Public Park. Without the Public Park designation, either park could be altered from its past and present use as green spaces. The petition and more information can be found at www.riversideinfo.org. Call Holly Machina at (708) 447-0226 or Cindy Kellogg at 708-442-1040.