



www.olmstedsociety.org

## 2004 Housewalk raises record funds

The Olmsted Society's 2004 Housewalk, "Maplewood Road: The Road, the River, the Rockefeller's" played to a sold-out crowd, in spite of questionable weather reports and a Des Plaines River that was dangerously close to flood stage.

Fortunately, the storms stayed away, the river stayed within its banks, and record crowds enjoyed a beautiful day. A total of 500 tickets were printed, yet nearly 600 people visited the seven featured structures on May 23.

"We quickly produced extra tickets for sale at the two ticket tables at either end of Maplewood Road," said housewalk co-chair and Olmsted Society president Constance Guardi. "Nobody was turned away!"

Added co-chair Jim Reynolds, "Because we were able to keep expenses to a minimum, most of the total \$18,491 we earned in ticket sales can go directly to



A volunteer docent describes the architecture of one of the homes on the housewalk. Turn to pages 3-4 for more photos and a list of volunteers.

Riverside landscape projects. This makes our 2004 housewalk one of the most profitable the society has ever held," he said.

## Member survey mailed in August

Watch your mailboxes. In August, the Olmsted Society's Long Range Goals and Planning Committee mailed a survey to all Society members.

"The survey is a part of the Society's periodic re-examination of both our role in the community and the views of our members," explained committee chair Mark Shevitz. "Your feedback will allow us to better plan for future initiatives."

The survey has two sections: one that asks your opinion about issues in the Village of Riverside, and another that seeks your views on the Society and the role it should play in the Village.

For example, the survey asks

members to identify the issues that are most important to them from a list that includes the public school system, property taxes, maintenance of parks and other public spaces, the Village government, the business districts, teardowns, and Riverside's landmark status.

It also asks members to describe the type of preservation society they prefer, such as a community group devoted to gardens, an educational organization, with lectures on local landscape and architectural styles, plus walking tours, housewalks, etc., a volunteer organization focused on projects

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

**The Frederick Law Olmsted  
Society of Riverside**

**NEWSLETTER**

*Summer 2004*

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 \$15.00 (tax-deductible) contribution.

**Officers**

*President*, Constance Guardi  
*Vice President*, Paula Gagliano  
*Treasurer*: Fred Kitch  
*Secretary*: Ralph Harast

**Committees**

*Architecture*, Yvonne Lucero, Joe Cablk  
*Fall Festival*, Chandra Reynolds  
*Hoffman Dam*, Dean Eastman  
*Housewalk*, Constance Guardi, Jim Reynolds, Lonnie Sacchi  
*Library*, Jane Kunka  
*Long-Range Planning*, Mark Shevitz  
*Membership*, Joanna Beaumont  
*Newsletter*, Geri Tauber  
*Tours/Education*, Tony Pecelunas, Lonnie Sacchi  
*Website*, Scott Weiland

**Honorary Directors**

Mike & Nancy DeLise

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## Letter From the President

Spring and summer have been kind to our society. The Housewalk was a huge success, thanks to the Homeowners, House Captains, volunteers and everyone who attended. I'd like to extend a special thank you to Lonnie Sacchi and Jim Reynolds for spearheading the planning and preparation for the Housewalk.

Joe Cablk ran a delightful trip to Milwaukee in June on behalf of the Architecture Committee. If you were unable to attend the trip, I would recommend that you make a visit on your own to see the new art museum and the Villa Terrace. The museum is a magnificent work of art and the Villa Terrace is the most beautiful Italian garden outside of Italy. Thanks, Joe, it was a great trip.

We are winners! The judges of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade bestowed the **Patriot Award** upon our parade entry. Thanks to Joe Cablk for his effort on this project. Our thanks also go to the Riverside Recreation Department for their excellent work in organizing and executing the 4<sup>th</sup> of July activities.

*Survey (Continued from page 1)* to improve the community, or an activist organization, with a focus on advocacy issues related to village preservation, zoning, landmark issues, and future planning.

"It is important that the Society board knows your opinions on both sets of issues," said Shevitz. "Without your input, we can't begin to address the things you'd like to see happen! So make your voice heard and help shape the future of the

The Riverside Brookfield High School Ecology Club completed their planting project outside of the school, and thanked us for contributing the plant materials for the work. Thanks to John Kolar for his efforts in guiding the students throughout the project. The Ecology Club has also done extensive work in the Zoo Woods under John's direction.

The only down side to report this summer has been the failure of the parties involved to reach closure on former Forester Casey Sullivan's case with the Village. A decision from the Arbitrator will not be forthcoming until the briefs by the opposing sides are presented September 3<sup>rd</sup>. One of the side effects of this situation has been uncertainty surrounding the Village's policy for donations from the Society. Confusion reigns; are we only allowed to donate money or can we donate plants and trees as we have in the past? Is there a written policy or procedure for donations? We haven't seen one.

**Constance Guardi**  
*President*  
[thomasg7@ameritech.net](mailto:thomasg7@ameritech.net)

Olmsted Society by completing and returning your survey."

Return your survey by August 20 to: Olmsted Survey, 340 Olmsted Road, Riverside, IL 60546.

If you've misplaced your copy and would like another, please call Geri Tauber at 708-447-0726

The Long Range Goals and Planning Committee includes members Ralph Harast, Jason Kinnan, Lonnie Sacchi, Ted Smith, and Geri Tauber.

# MAPLEWOOD

The Road. The River. The Rockefeller.



Booties were the name of the game—they kept the homeowners' floors spotless, and offered a brief opportunity to rest in between houses.



Top: Homeowners Gail Crossman and Jeff Baron share a laugh at the "crash and burn" party for volunteers, held after the housewalk at the Township Hall. Bottom: Irene Bakos with Lonnie Sacchi.



Top left: John D. Rockefeller (Ted Smith) delighted the crowds with tales of life with daughter Edith (Marguerite Durkin), shown on the right purchasing lemonade from a child's stand on Maplewood Road. Below: Mark Chaney accepts his homeowner's gift while housewalk co-chairs Lonnie Sacchi, Jim Reynolds, and Constance Guardi look on.

# Housewalk volunteers saluted

## **Co-Chairs**

Constance Guardi, Jim Reynolds, Lonnie Sacchi

## **Administration:**

Tom Guardi, Chandra Reynolds

## **Research:**

Jane & John Kunka

## **Crash and Burn Party:**

Karen Graham (Chair), Marcia & Vincent Capone, Alice & Bob Stake, Marguerite Durkin

## **Tickets:**

Joanna Beaumont, Fred Kitch, Patty Migliore, Margo Rodriguez, Jimmy & Maribeth Tacola

## **Graphics:**

Jenny Kolinski, Geri Tauber, Amy Jacksic

## **Traffic:**

Cyril Friend

## **Police Auxiliary:**

Chet Grenda

## **Refreshments:**

Dave Moreau

## **172 Maplewood**

*Homeowners:* Diane & Mark Cheney  
*House Captains:* Robin & Mark Benoy  
*Docents:*  
Michael Aieta  
Jane Derbyshire

Nancy & Joe Dvorak  
Lynn Flannery  
Colleen & Randy Kadlec  
Joanne McGovern  
Annette Palumbo  
Deb Pike  
Heather & Tim Poell  
Linda Saindon  
Ruth Julian  
Jim Schraidt  
Jean Sussman  
Scuff Gross  
Laurel Lambert Schmidt

## **230 Maplewood**

*Homeowners:* Caroline & Joe Tecson  
*House Captains:* Nancy & Mike DeLise  
*Docents:*  
Arlene Augustinas  
Nel Brennan  
Marilyn Cardelli  
Barbara Cowell  
Elise George  
Krista Harmes  
Martha Heine  
Judy Janczewski  
Kim & Frank Kelderman  
Helga & John Mendoza  
Rita Morrissey  
Dan Murphy  
Char Pankros  
Steve Patras  
Sylvia & Wayne Penn  
Frank Petrovec  
Sanlee Radigan  
Florence Swanson  
Donna & Jim Woodrow  
Candy Vazquez  
Robert Zymm

## **246 Maplewood**

*Homeowners:* Gail Crossman and Jeff Baron

*House Captains:* Valerie Cablk and Nancy Peters  
*Docents:*  
Judy Compton  
Laura Durkin  
Linda Flanagan  
Dennis & Martine Gary  
Sheila Gentile  
Sue Graham  
Jim Harrington  
Tanya Icent  
Linda & Larry Korbus  
Yvonne Lucero  
Eric Peters  
Cindi Robson  
Jim Sobosan

## **260 Maplewood**

*Homeowner:* John Mulhern  
*House Captain:* Joe Cablk  
*Docents:*  
Joe Bergmann  
Peg Blasage  
Dorothy & Bill Jansky  
Christine Jeffries  
Ann & Steve Kubiczy  
Walter Lukitsh  
Carolynn McNally  
Janet Meyers  
Jackie Paine  
Christine & Duane Stroud  
Marianne Twyman

## **280 Maplewood**

*Homeowners:* Janine & Jim Chesrown  
*House Captains:* Courtenay & Ed Erb  
*Docents:*  
Linda Bednar  
Dorothy Calek  
Cathy Foran  
Megan Foran

Maria Hawk  
Karen Iny  
Irene Kaval  
Julie Keehn  
Jacqui Lurie  
Cathy & Tony Nie  
Leslie Onesto  
Alyson Scanlon  
Maripat & Bill Scanlon  
Laura Sechen  
Brenda Smaller  
Allison Vollman

## **250 Maplewood**

*House Captain:* Rob Wilson-Black  
*Docents:*  
Vera Borysek  
Jan Hapgood  
Sandi Spilotro  
Ramona Suffern  
Mike Velko  
Carrie Watkiss

## **273 Maplewood**

*Homeowner:* Irene Bakos  
*House Captain:* Ralph Harast  
*Docents:*  
Kathy Billingham  
Ann Blaa  
James Brennan  
Howard Feldman  
Diane & Denny Harris  
Richard Julian  
Jason Kinnan  
Vicki Klimkiewicz  
Lorraine Kocanda  
Maryann Lanan  
Roseann & Steve Marshall  
Dorothy & Mark Sikora

# Board approves new award category

The Board of Directors of the Olmsted Society has approved a plan by the Architecture Committee to present restoration awards at the Society's annual meeting for outstanding works of restoration within the Village.

One or more awards may be made each year (or none, if there are no recipients deemed suitable). The recipients will be selected by a majority vote of the Architecture Committee. Most of the awards will be for architectural restoration, but awards may also be given for outstanding efforts by individuals, groups, or governmental organizations in the interest of preserving or restoring the landmark Village of Riverside.

Criteria for the awards are as follows:

Restoration work shall preserve and reinforce the integrity and original character of a Riverside structure, which represents one of the historic architectural styles of the village. Restoration work shall, in general, follow the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for

Rehabilitation. Particular attention should be paid to the use of materials, details, and stylistic features that match the original building. Replacement of missing architectural features should be based on historical evidence, not conjecture.

Awards will be given for restoration of original structures



only. There shall be no awards for new building or attic additions, regardless of their quality. The goal of the Society is to preserve the historic character of the Village, not to encourage the increase of building volume or mass. For the same reason, no awards shall be given for new garages, auxiliary buildings, or garden structure that all reduce the green space of Riverside property.

Awards may be given for partial restoration, such as an unusual roof, entryway or win-

dows. If work is in progress, award shall be deferred until completion.

The following architectural styles are represented in the Village of Riverside by many fine examples. All of these, if sensitively restored, would be acceptable for recognition:

Victorian, Swiss Gothic, Gothic Revival, Italianate, Stick, Shingle, Queen Anne, Beaux Arts, Tudor Revival, Green Revival, Prairie School, American Four Square, Bungalow, Colonial Revival, Arts and Crafts, Romanesque Revival, Georgian Revival, Art Deco, Art Moderne, and International.

Nominations for the Restoration Awards can be made by any member. To make a nomination, please send a letter describing the structure and the type of restoration completed, including timing of restoration, to the Olmsted Society Architecture Committee, PO Box 65, Riverside, Illinois 60546. To be considered for the 2005 Annual Meeting, nominations must be received by November 15, 2004.

## RB Ecology Club Thanks Olmsted Society

Following is a letter from RB High School Ecology Club executive director Kate Kenahan to Olmsted Society president Constance Guardi:

"On behalf of the Riverside-Brookfield High School Ecology Club, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Olmsted So-

ciety for recognizing our environmental activism. We all enjoyed the pizza party and were honored to receive the Olmsted Landscaping Restoration Award. Thank you for taking the time to come and present this award to us in person. We greatly appreciated your presence and presentation.

"On May 20, we employed the generous monetary portion of the Award towards landscaping the

front lawn of RB. We planted over 500 indigenous perennial plants in flower beds in front of the school. These plants not only represent a more eco-friendly environment than grass or exotic plant species, but in the words of a classmate, they also 'make our school more welcoming.'

"The day of the planting was sunny and brisk, and many other

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FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED SOCIETY  
OF RIVERSIDE

P.O. Box 65  
Riverside, IL 60546

### Calendar

#### Sunday Walking Tours

August 29 (South)  
September 26 (North)  
October 24 (South)  
2:00 p.m. @ Train Depot

#### Architecture Committee Lecture Coonley Estate Restoration

Thursday, October 21, 2004  
Township Hall

**Postal Customer**  
**Riverside, IL 60546**

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students joined the Ecoclub in the fun of planting all of the little perennials. With the expert guidance of Mr. John Kolar, we created a more diverse environment for our ecosystem and community. Thanks especially to Mr. Kolar for his time and effort over the years. His guided nature walks represent major highlights even among our other great Ecoclub activities.

"Again, the RB Ecology Club of 2004 thanks the Society for giving us the distinction of the Landscape Restoration Award, and for providing us with the expert guidance of Mr. Kolar."

### Docents needed for walking tours of Riverside

If you've always wanted to learn more about the Village, consider becoming an Olmsted Society tour

guide. Every summer, the Olmsted Society offers walking tours of the Village, guided by Society members. The two-hour tours, held on

#### Is your membership in the Olmsted Society up-to-date?

Take a look at the address label above. If a red line is visible, your membership has expired and this will be your last issue of the **News-Letter**.

We don't want to lose you! Your membership is important. Riverside needs your voice to help maintain our national landscape landmark status. To maintain your membership, simply send a check for \$15 with your label to the Olmsted Society, PO Box 65, Riverside, Illinois 60546.

the last Sunday of the month from May through October, begin at the Train Depot. Alternating tours fo-

cus on Riverside north and south of the train tracks.

If you would like more information on becoming a docent, contact Lonnie Sacchi at 708-442-0845. Or attend an upcoming tour and see for yourself! A list of upcoming tour dates is in the calendar, above.

### Lecture on Coonley Estate Restoration

On Thursday, October 21, the Architecture Committee will sponsor a public lecture on the restoration of the Coonley Estate. Current owner Ella Mae Eastman will discuss the ups and downs of the four-year project to restore the home, and will offer personal insights on what it's like to live in an original Frank Lloyd Wright masterpiece.

The lecture will be held in the Township Hall, and will begin at 7:30 p.m.