

NEWS

The Frederick Law Olmsted Society of Riverside

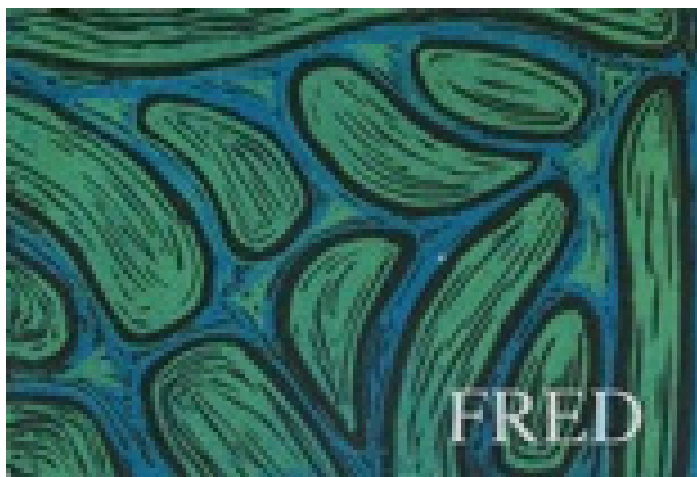
Summer 2012



The Frederick Law Olmsted Society of Riverside is dedicated to sustaining Olmsted's vision for Riverside for generations to come. Its 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.

Membership is open to all interested individuals for a \$25 tax-deductible contribution by check or online.

Olmsted Society
PO Box 65
Riverside, IL 60546
www.olmstedsociety.org



F_{rederick} R_{iverside} E_{ducation} D_{esign}

Frederick Law Olmsted in Riverside Education and Design

Registration is now open for the FRED (Frederick Law Olmsted in Riverside Education and Design)! This celebration of landscape design will include classes taught by some of the area's most recognized landscape design experts including Roy Diblik, Tony LoBello, Karla Lynch, and professional landscape architects from The Morton Arboretum and other centers of garden and landscape excellence. Topics include such areas as garden style for your home's architecture, trees & shrubs in design, design for low-maintenance, curb appeal and more.



FLOS members are getting an early notice of registration before publicity extends to the general public in mid-July. Sign up now for first choice of classes. \$10 flat fee entitles you to all the events on August 18, plus up to four classes. Class descriptions and registration form are available online at www.FredInRiverside.org.

NEWSLETTER, SUMMER 2012

THE FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED SOCIETY OF RIVERSIDE

If you have a question or comment about the newsletter, please direct them to newsletter@olmstedsociety.org.

OFFICERS

President: Tim Ozga
Vice President: Sander Kaplan
Treasurer: Fred Kitch
Secretary: Yvone Lucero

COMMITTEES

Architecture: Sander Kaplan
Housewalk: Rachael Franceschina, Kim Jacobs
Landscape: Cindy Kellogg, Holly Machina
Library: Constance Guardi
Long Range Planning: Jim Petrizilka, Jeff Miller,
Rachael and Luigi Franceschina
Lectures: Rob Dixon, Jeff Miller
Media: Sandie Petrizilka
Membership: Theresa Pelletier
Newsletter: Gintaras Lietuvninkas, Dorie Skiest
Tours/Education: Tony Pecelunas, Jim Petrizilka
Writing: Aberdeen Ozga
Village Liason: Gintaras Lietuvninkas
Honorary Directors: Karen Graham, John and Jane Kunka, Lonnie Sacchi, Dorothy Schroeder, Ted Smith, Geri Tauber

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PO Box 65
Riverside, Illinois 60546

from the PRESIDENT

Greetings.

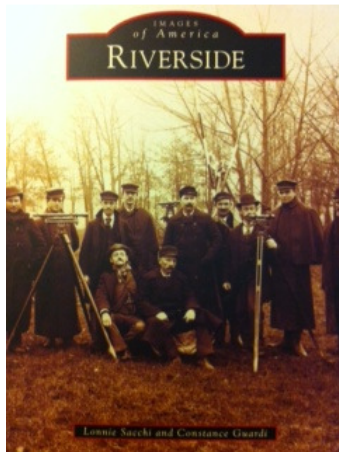
The first half of the year has been a great success for the Olmsted Society. Our memberships are up and participation in our events is at an all-time high. Our co-sponsored lectures at the Library have been well attended and our Poetry Contest reached our highest participation ever. The 2012 housewalk was an all out effort and successful collaboration with the Riverside Arts Weekend. Additionally, the FRED is now underway and should be a great event for Riverside this summer and for years to come.

As we turn the corner on 2012, it is time to look to the future. On the Fourth of July, our focus shifted to the emerald ash borer and the impending threat posed to Riverside. Our float was filled with native plants and trees given back to the community along the parade route and at our booth in Guthrie Park. Hanging above the float, symbolic purple ash borer traps dangled in the breeze...the same traps you can now see hanging in some of the over 1,000 ash trees that adorn the public green spaces of Riverside.

It is anticipated that once the emerald ash borer, already present in Cook County, fully infests Riverside, many if not all of these trees will be lost. To combat this, the FLOS Board is currently developing an initiative that would allow us to "bank" trees for the future. Tree farms now offer contracts to grow trees from seed, which allows FLOS to grow up to 4 trees for the same cost of one sapling. Growing trees from seed will take time (5-7 years), but allows us to select species based on our needs rather than availability. A goal will be set to bank 100 trees a year for 10 years for a total of 1,000 trees to be given back to the community.

As president of the Olmsted Society, I believe we learn from the past as we look toward the future. I sincerely hope you will help us with this pro-active initiative that will help preserve Riverside's beauty for generations to come.

Tim Ozga
President, Frederick Law Olmsted Society



IMAGES OF AMERICA - RIVERSIDE

Arcadia Publishers "Images of America" series has just released a volume about Riverside. It was written by two long standing members of the Olmsted Society, Lonnie Sacchi and Constance Guardi. Both authors are past presidents of the Society.

The authors have chosen photographs that illustrate the wide range of human experience that has transpired upon Olmsted's palette. In pictures and text, this is Riverside---how it came to be, the men that built it, and how it slowly, yet inexorably, grew and persevered through boom and bust to achieve the vision for which it was intended and endures to be today.

The profits from the book will be donated to the Riverside Historical Museum. The book is available for purchase at the Riverside Public Library and the Museum.

RIVERSIDE WALKING TOURS 2012 SCHEDULE

Learn about the history of Riverside and discover the winding roads, delightful parks, beautiful landscapes, and varied architecture that make up this historic landmark village. The walking tours are an excellent way to share the unique attributes of Riverside with your family, out-of-town guests, friends and others unaware of Riverside's national significance.

AUGUST 26 (SOUTH)
SEPTEMBER 23 (NORTH)
JULY 29 (NORTH)
OCTOBER 28 (SOUTH)

The two-hour tours depart from the Riverside Railway Depot at 2 p.m. and are \$10 per person (\$3 discount for Olmsted Society members and seniors 62+). Group tours can be arranged upon request. Proceeds benefit the Olmsted Society and go toward landscape preservation, educational programs, and architectural restoration in Riverside.

For more information:
tours@olmstedociety.org

OLMSTED SOCIETY JOINS THE OAK PARK VISITOR'S BUREAU

In an effort to better share our activities with the surrounding communities we have joined the Visit Oak Park Visitor's Bureau. Our first benefit is an appearance in their recently published 2012 Visitor's Guide. The Guide is available at the Township Hall, the Riverside Public Library and the Riverside Historical Museum. We think our entry in the Guide, as follows, says it all:

Before his work on the White City, Frederick Law Olmsted created the storybook village of Riverside, a magical place of curving streets, gas lamps, and charming parks. It has since inspired architects such as Frank Lloyd Wright and Louis Sullivan to create some of their most beautiful works. Over 80 landmark structures representing 143 years of iconic American architecture dot the village. Come and experience this very special American place, a place with a hidden history that may surprise you.



OLMSTED LECTURE SERIES

UPCOMING LECTURE:

TOM BASSET DILLY, ARCHITECT

Green Residential Design

Wednesday, September 12, 2012, 7 pm

Riverside Public Library

LECTURE NOTES

By Rob Dixon, Lectures Co-Chairman

The Olmsted Society lecture series was held in partnership with the Riverside Public Library with lectures held in the upstairs Library Great Room. The historic space provided an intimate setting with ample seating. Many thanks to Dorothy Sikora and Janice Fisher for providing refreshments and assisting with publicity.

Topics this year included the history of landscape architecture and its future as well as how to bring nature home with sustainable practices. The series kicked off in April with Barbara Geiger speaking to the history of European landholding and the resulting landscapes such as those at Highclere Castle, the setting of Downton Abbey. In May, Riverside architect Paul Sterner spoke of his award winning design for a planned community in China for 40,000 residents. Echoes of Riverside could be seen in the Longcommon like green spaces. Most recently, Jennifer Murtoff, urban chicken consultant, addressed a packed house in regard to why people are keeping backyard hens. She spoke to the health benefits of fresh food, gardening synergy of chickens and composting, and many other pluses. A surprise visit from a Rhode Island Red hen named Henrietta aided demonstrations and she was a crowd pleaser. Both Paul Sterner's and Jennifer Murtoff's presentations were recorded by local cable public access staff. You can catch the presentations there if you missed them live.

Be sure to mark your calendar for Wednesday, September 12, 2012, 7 pm, at the Riverside Library for the final 2012 lecture in the series by architect Tom Basset-Dilly. He is the current president of the Passive House Alliance in Chicago and his architecture firm specializes in green residential design and sensitive renovations of older and historic properties. Tom helps owners chart a course toward carbon neutrality. Carbon neutral energy practices include ground-source heat pump (geothermal) heating and cooling systems, passive and active solar design, structural insulated panels, straw bale walls, use of recycled and non-toxic materials, native landscaping, and other green strategies. We hope to see you there.



Arbor Day – Volunteers Planting a Tree

LANDSCAPE WORKDAYS

By Holly Machina, Landscape Co-Chairman

So far, 2012 has been quite busy & rewarding for the Landscape Committee. Our two workdays at the triangle at Longcommon & Downing in March & July were supplemented by hours of work outside the workdays by dynamo committee co-chair Cindy Kellogg. We had 20 volunteers at the first workday & 14 at the second. We have one more workday scheduled for this area & hope to complete the weeding & mulching there.

The two workdays at Scottswood Commons were also quite successful. The April workday included an Arbor Day celebration where 20 volunteers weeded, mulched & helped to plant a tree donated by the FLOS Landscape Committee. The June workday included 12 hardy volunteers who spread mulch on the various beds. One more workday is scheduled here so please consider joining us.



Riverside Road – Before

Ten volunteers met at the May workday along Riverside Road to remove weeds & 9 volunteers helped plant the hundreds of plugs on the riverbank in June. The view along this portion of the DesPlaines River is astonishing.



Riverside Road – After

The Great Garlic Mustard Pull near the Scout Cabin in May included 25 volunteers. Many, many bags of garlic mustard were collected & disposed of. Wow!

All together, so far in 2012 landscape workday volunteers have logged more than 330 hours making our green spaces more assessable & more pleasing to the senses. Volunteers make a difference. Join us!



Celebrating with 27 Bags of Garlic Mustard

FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED SOCIETY - 2012 LANDSCAPE WORKDAYS SCHEDULE

In 2012, we are teaming up with the Village of Riverside to help beautify our green spaces.

Scottswood Common & Longcommon Common serves as the backbone of Riverside's landscape architecture. Both were intended to be part of a green space stretching all the way to downtown Chicago. The parks on the riverbank follow the meandering Des Plaines River.

Frederick Law Olmsted designed these parks to provide changing vistas for both pedestrians & vehicles. His plan can be better realized by reducing shrub overgrowth & eliminating weeds. Join us as we tame, and then maintain your public parks of Riverside.

All workdays are scheduled for Saturday mornings. Look for the Riverside Public Works dump truck. Come for an hour or three, whatever your schedule allows. Supervised children are welcome. Service hour credits are available. Bring your favorite work gloves & a water bottle. All other supplies & snacks will be provided.

August 11	8am-11am	Longcommon & Downing triangle
September 8	9am-12pm	Riverside Road
September 22	9am-12pm	Scottswood Common
October 13	9am-12pm	Various locations (TBD)
November 10	9am-12pm	Longcommon (Big Ball Park)

For more information or to be added to our FLOS landscape committee e-list, please contact:

Holly Machina & Cindy Kellogg
Olmsted Society Landscape Committee Chairpersons
landscape@olmstedsociety.org



OUR LANDSCAPE HELPERS



“REFLECTIONS ON RIVERSIDE” 2012 POETRY WINNERS

The judges of this year’s “**Reflections on Riverside**” **Student Poetry Contest** had a difficult task, as over 200 students accepted the Society’s challenge to reflect upon Riverside’s natural areas and convey their impressions in poetic form. At year-end awards ceremonies throughout Riverside, each young poet was awarded a gold foil certificate and warm congratulations.

The overall winners at each participating school for 2012 are:

Ames	1 st place:	Emily K.	<i>Where Nature’s Always Found</i>
	2 nd place:	Kevin M.	<i>What I Can See</i>
Blythe Park	1 st place:	Ryan G.	<i>The Wish</i>
	2 nd place:	Grace D.	<i>Riverside</i>
Central	1 st place:	Angela M.	<i>The Gentle Des Plaines</i>
	2 nd place:	Trevor C.	<i>Riverside</i>
	2 nd place:	Ella J.	<i>Riverside’s Spring</i>
Hollywood	1 st place:	Maddie M.	<i>Riverside</i>
	2 nd place:	Dylan M.	<i>Riverside is the Place to Be</i>
St. Mary	1 st place:	Kane L.	<i>Seasons in Riverside</i>
Jr. High	1 st place:	Olivia L.	<i>Good Morning River</i>
	2 nd place:	Ivy M.	<i>Blythe Park</i>



Blythe Park Winners

These students were treated to framed certificates and sizable chocolate bars iced with the Society’s trademark oak tree. First place winners also received a cash prize.

You may enjoy hearing some of this year’s entries at the **Reflections on Riverside Poetry Reading and Reception** at the Riverside Public Library on **Thursday, July 26th at 7 p.m.** Everyone who entered is invited to share their poem at this special community event. Please RSVP to Youth Services at 442-6366 to ensure that a copy of your poem is available that evening.

In the meantime, the Olmsted Society will be preparing *Reflections on Riverside Volume II*, which will include all entries from 2010-12, for publication this fall. Volunteer help is welcome. Please contact poetrycontest@olmstedsociety.org



The Wish

The fish made a wish to change the dam from ham to
spam
The people decided to change the dam from ham to
spam
But when the fish took a bite it was phony
It was not spam, it was bologna!

Ryan G.
Blythe Park Elementary
4th grade

OLMSTED SOCIETY IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD



Cruise Night



4th of July



Farmer's Market



House Walk



Riverside

Come to the place that's green
Riverside
Where the roads are winding and people are friendly
Riverside
Come to the place where the roads are like a tree
Riverside
Going off in different directions like branches
Riverside
Plenty of greenery
Riverside
Come to the place that has great scenery
Riverside
Come to the place that I LOVE
Come to the place that inspires me

*Madeleine M.
Hollywood Elementary
5th grade*



HOUSE WALK THANK YOU

The Olmsted Society wishes to thank the homeowners, Tony & Cathy Nie, Matt & Colleen Grusecki, Jeff Levin & Anne Cleary Levin, Luigi & Rachael Franceschina, Brian and Amy Scott, Michael & Mary Richards, and the Arcade Building owner, Giuseppe Zappani. We also thank the many volunteers who have contributed so generously to the success of HOMEwork, especially co-chairs Rachael Franceschina and Kimberly Jacobs; house captains Robin Benoy, Maura Braun, Kim Dixon, Constance Guardi, Sander Kaplan, Cathy Maloney, and Aberdeen Marsh Ozga; homeowner event host and graphic designer Sally Faust; publicity coordinator Sandie Petrzilka; and research coordinator Jim Petrzilka. A very special thank you to Shamrock Garden Florist of Riverside for the lovely floral arrangements. The Frederick Law Olmsted Society thanks you for your donation which benefits restoration and maintenance of the Village of Riverside, a National Historic Landscape District.



The Frederick Law Olmsted Society
of Riverside

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED SOCIETY OF RIVERSIDE

Your support will help promote the progress of Riverside, educate residents about the history and significance of the Village, and support active involvement in the Village's needs. Membership covers a calendar year and entitles you to participate in the Society's functions free-of-charge or at discounted prices, reimbursements in Riverside's co-op tree planting program, and the quarterly newsletters. Please return this form with your check payable to the Frederick Law Olmsted Society, PO Box 65, Riverside, Illinois 60546. Please contact membership@olmstedsociety.org with questions or see our website at www.olmstedsociety.org.

MEMBERSHIP

- ☐ Reliable Redbud (\$25-\$49) \$ _____
- ☐ Hearty Hickory (\$50-\$99) \$ _____
- ☐ Sugar Maple (\$100-\$249) \$ _____
- ☐ Mighty Oak (\$250+) \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

- ☐ New Member ☐ Renewal ☐ Gift Membership

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

COMMITTEES

Put your talent to work and your energy to good use by joining a committee!

- ☐ Architecture
- ☐ Landscape
- ☐ Housewalk
- ☐ Membership
- ☐ Library
- ☐ Public Relations
- ☐ Newsletter
- ☐ Website
- ☐ Tours/Education
- ☐ Other Talents

Please provide your email address so we save paper and trees!