

Winter 2014



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 \$35 tax-deductible contribution by check or online.

Olmsted Society
PO Box 65
Riverside, IL 60546

www.olmstedsociety.org



www.facebook.com/RiversideFLOS



www.twitter.com/RiversideFLOS

**Frederick Law Olmsted Society
Annual Meeting
Friday, January 16, 2015, 7:00 pm
Riverside Township Hall**

**JOIN US FOR A TALK WITH
TIMOTHY WITTMAN
ABOUT OLMSTED'S LEGACY IN RIVERSIDE**

Timothy Wittman, Professor of Art History, Theory, and Criticism at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago will speak to Olmsted's legacy in Riverside and Chicago at the Annual Meeting, Friday, January 16, 2015, at 7:00 pm in the Village Hall.

Mr. Wittman has served as a preservation specialist with the Commission on Chicago Landmarks and has publications in media such as View Camera Magazine, Michelin Guide to Chicago, and Guide to Chicago Architecture. He appeared in the recent PBS Olmsted documentary titled "Frederick Law Olmsted: Designing America." A segment focused on Riverside will be shared at the annual meeting that did not appear in the version presented on TV.

Of course, sumptuous snacks and lively discussion will follow the meeting. Please join us!



NEWSLETTER, WINTER 2014

**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: Mary Geroch
Secretary: Jennifer Pacourek

COMMITTEES

Architecture: Sander Kaplan
Housewalk 2014: Aberdeen Ozga, Mary Judy
Landscape: Cindy Kellogg, Holly Machina
Landscape Architecture (FRED): Cathy Maloney
Lectures: Rob Dixon, Jeff Miller
Library: Constance Guardi
Long Range Planning: Jim Petrzilka
Media: Sandie Petrzilka
Membership: Theresa Pelletier
Newsletter: Gintaras Lietuvninkas, Dorie Lidd Skiest, Maura Braun
Research: Jim Petrzilka
Tours/Education: Tony Pecelunas
Village Liaison: Lois Kimmelman, Theresa Pelletier
Website: Tim Ozga
Writing Contest: Aberdeen Marsh Ozga
Honorary Directors: Karen Graham, Alfred Kitch, John and Jane Kunka, Lonnie Sacchi, Dorothy Schroeder, Ted Smith, Geri Tauber

Copyright 2014
The Frederick Law Olmsted Society of
Riverside
PO Box 65
Riverside, Illinois 60546

Greetings.

As I sit to write my final president's letter I have a moment to reflect on what a great experience this has been. Over the past three years, I have met many new friends both on the FLOS Board and through the Membership of the Olmsted Society. Even more importantly, I have had the opportunity to experience firsthand the relentless dedication, thoughtful insights and continued accomplishments brought forth by the active members of our Society. The continued quality of our programs and the strong partnerships we have established within the Riverside community reflect the sincerity of our Board leaders and their commitment to our FLOS Mission. For this I would like to offer my grandest "Thank You!" to the FLOS Board and Membership for making my role as president an easy one.

For my final words as the president of the Olmsted Society, I would like to once again extend an invitation to you, our membership, to give the gift of FLOS to a friend or neighbor as a part of your annual renewal for 2015. Last year we welcomed many new members to the Olmsted Society and I would love to see those numbers continue to grow in 2015. As members you help support our many programs including our Work Days, Lectures, the FRED, our Poetry and Imagery Contest and our Architectural Tours. By inviting new members to join the Society you have an opportunity to share those wonderful experiences with others.

This year, in addition to all the wonderful benefits afforded to our regular membership, we will be offering free tickets to our Walking Tours for our higher level members. Please take a moment to peruse our new membership levels and then think of that one friend or neighbor who may enjoy receiving the gift of Olmsted this holiday season.

As always, Best Regards!

Timothy Ozga
President, Frederick Law Olmsted Society of Riverside

2015 FLOS Board Nominations

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following nominations for 2015 Olmsted Society Board:

2015 Officers for 1 year term:

President: ▪Robert Dixon

Vice President: ▪Abigail Randall

Treasurer: ▪Mary Geroch

Secretary: ▪Jennifer Pacourek

New Board nominee: ▪Amy and Mark Hill

*Three year
renewals ending
in 2017:*

▪Sander Kaplan and

Theresa Pelletier

▪Cindy Kellogg

▪Jim and Sandi

Petrizilka

The Nominating Committee was made up of Chairperson Kim Dixon, Board members Abigail Randall and Cindy Kellogg and members at large Jennifer Pacourek and Molly Carl. These nominations will be voted upon by the membership at the upcoming FLOS Annual Meeting on January 16, 2015 at 7pm , Riverside Township Hall. All active members who attend the Annual Meeting are eligible to vote. Biographies for nominees are provided below.

President: Robert Dixon

Robert Dixon is the Registrar at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He has been a FLOS Board Member for the last 3 years. Rob has partnered with the Riverside Library to host speakers on environmental issues and matters related to Olmsted's legacy. He enjoys gardening and spending time with his wife and son outdoors.

Vice President: Abigail Randall

Abigail Randall is a licensed architect who both resides and runs a business with her husband, Greg, in Riverside. Frederick Law Olmsted is a talent she honors professionally, but also in her personal life. She believes that Riverside is an amazing place to experience, not only to its residents but also to urban planners, designers, dreamers, and learners. By demonstrating to her children the value in good design and one's community, she intends Riverside to be maintained and preserved for generations to come.

Treasurer: Mary Geroch

Mary Elizabeth Geroch, MBA, CPA, is retired and has lived almost 30 years in Riverside. She has 3 stepchildren living in the area.

Secretary: Jennifer Pacourek

Jennifer Pacourek is a ten-year riverside resident. She is a Change and Project Manager at the Northern Trust Bank. Jennifer, her husband Chris, and her children, Grayson and Bryce, enjoy outdoor activities. Jennifer strives to continue to keep Riverside a beautiful clean and enjoyable place to live.

New Board Member: Amy and Mark Hill

Amy and Mark Hill have lived in Riverside for five years. Amy is a Program Manager at Lurie Children's Hospital and Mark is a General Foreman for an electrical contractor. They are parents to two children-- Eleanor (9) and Nathan (5). Amy and Mark are both active community, church and school volunteers.

RENEW NOW

NEW MEMBERSHIP LEVEL REWARDS!



Please remember to renew your annual membership to the Frederick Law Olmsted Society of Riverside. Membership covers one calendar year so it is time to renew!

Our primary source of revenue is membership donations, which enable us to fulfill our mission of preservation and education. FLOS contributes funding to plant and protect trees, native plants and shrubs; we organize landscape workdays to beautify and maintain the Village's public parks; we maintain a special library collection dedicated to the history of Frederick Law Olmsted; we donate to the ecology club at RBHS; we conduct walking tours of Riverside; we inspire children to write poetry; we organize and host the public with landscaping workshops and classes; we host lectures pertaining the history of Riverside, sustainability and ecology; and we host housewalks that bring visitors near and far to enjoy all that our unique Village has to offer. Most importantly, we are Riverside's only resource dedicated to preserving and promoting our most valuable asset: our relationship with America's forefather of landscape architecture, Frederick Law Olmsted.

Membership is open to all interested individuals for as little as a \$35 tax-deductible contribution.

Three easy ways to join:

- IN PERSON At our Annual Meeting January 16, 2015, 7:00 PM;
- ON LINE www.olmstedssociety.org; or
- BY MAIL Please use the form at the end of this Newsletter.

New this year, members who join at the Sugar Maple or Mighty Oak levels receive complementary historic walking tour tickets.

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:

- ♦Reliable Redbud \$35-\$49
- ♦Hearty Hickory \$50-\$124
- ♦Sugar Maple \$125-\$249 (includes 2 historic walking tour tickets)
- ♦Mighty Oak \$250+ (includes 4 historic walking tour tickets)

STEWARDSHIP

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE NOTES

By Cindy Kellogg, Co-Chair, Landscape Committee



Before and after pictures of the riverbank along Riverside Road

WE CAN SEE THE RIVER OF RIVERSIDE ROAD!

It all started in 2011 with the collaboration of FLOS, the Village of Riverside and the Chicago Wilderness Society. An expert roundtable was formed to discuss riverbank restoration as it pertains to Riverside. At this meeting, the FLOS Landscape Committee gained valuable information and confidently began restoration efforts along the riverbank of Riverside Road. Our FLOS Landscape Committee volunteers went to work by first clearing buckthorn and other invasive species. Village staff and our volunteers sprayed buckthorn stumps with herbicide to prevent re-sprouting, and the Village Forester and volunteers conducted prescribed burns to the cleared areas. Our volunteers then were able to plant native grasses and sedges. FLOS funded these activities by purchasing the grasses and sedges and the tools used by our volunteers.

This year, for the first time, the Village of Riverside paid their tree pruning contractor to clear buckthorn along Riverside Road. Currently, the Des Plaines River can be seen from the swinging bridge all the way to Miller Woods! However, our work is not done. In order to keep the buckthorn away and preserve the open view of the river, we need to be diligent in spraying buckthorn stumps with herbicide (five times next

year), planting native sedges and grasses in bare spots, collecting seeds, and most importantly, conducting annual prescribed burns to the area.

The Landscape Committee is thankful for our fun volunteers who are willing to work hard and the FLOS members that share our belief that the river view along Riverside Road is worth the time and money. Thank you, FLOS members!



FLOS volunteers planting along Riverside Road

[continued on page 6]

[continued from page 6]



Before and after pictures of the riverbank



**New native grasses and sedges
planted along the riverbank**



**Bald Eagles near the
Des Plaines River in
Riverside, Illinois**

Birds of Riverside

Bird, gliding through the sky
Perches on a tree,
“Chirp chirp chirp”
I try chasing it.
Bird is too fast.
It soars away,
into the sky
as it goes
I think
“How do you fly?”
It turns to me
“Chirp chirp chirp,”
then sails away.

Mac Catrambone, Ames Elementary



HELP US SAVE!

**ARE YOU RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER ON-LINE
AND IN THE MAIL?**

If you currently receive both the paper newsletter and the online newsletter, we would like to remove you from the paper newsletter to help reduce paper and printing costs and to reduce our carbon footprint. Please email: newsletter@olmstedociety.org if you would like us to remove your name from the paper newsletter mailer.

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED SOCIETY OF RIVERSIDE

Founded in 1968, the Frederick Law Olmsted Society of Riverside is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the original plan for Riverside, which was developed in 1868 by landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted and his partner Calvert Vaux. Membership is open to all interested individuals, is for the current calendar year (January 1 through December 31), and is tax deductible. It includes your immediate family members living in your household. Please return this form with your check payable to the Frederick Law Olmsted Society, PO Box 65, Riverside, Illinois 60546 or join online at www.olmstedsociety.org.

MEMBERSHIP

☐ **Reliable Redbud** \$35-\$49 \$ _____

☐ **Hearty Hickory** \$50-\$124 \$ _____

☐ **Sugar Maple** \$125-\$249 (includes 2 historic walking tour tickets) \$ _____

☐ **Mighty Oak** \$250+(includes 4 historic walking tour tickets) \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal ☐ Gift Membership

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

☐ **I wish to receive a receipt for my tax deductible donation.**

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

☐ Architecture

☐ Housewalk

☐ Membership

☐ Library

☐ Public Relations

☐ Newsletter

☐ F.R.E.D.

☐ 4th of July

☐ Landscape

☐ Education and Tours

☐ Website



The Frederick Law
Olmsted Society of
Riverside