

SPRING 2016 NEWSLETTER

10 **Towns** That Changed America

Riverside is one of the top 10 towns that changed America and will air nationally Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at 8:00p.m. on WTTW Channel 11. Riverside residents can watch it that night in a communal setting at one of three locations: The Chew Chew, Mollie's Public House or the 34 Lounge.

Come watch the Preview of:



Join Geoffrey Baer for a pre-screening of:

WTTW'S 10 **TOWNS** THAT CHANGED AMERICA

in the of Township Hall auditorium on Wednesday, April 6th at 7:00pm

Landscape Workdays on Saturdays:

April 23, 9am – 12pm Indian Gardens, Scout Cabin

May 7, 9am – 12pm Longcommon near Turtle Park

June 4, 9am – 12pm Longcommon near Turtle Park

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.

We asked our Board members the question: **Why did you join FLOS?**
and as you'll read below, we received some amazing answers.

Upcoming Events:

Reflections on Riverside Poetry Contest

Chairperson: Aberdeen Ozga

April 1 – 30, 2016

"Reflections on Riverside" Poetry Contest Now Accepting Entries.



The Olmsted Society encourages area students to reflect upon Riverside's landmark landscape and natural areas during National Poetry Month and create poetic "Reflections on Riverside" for its annual contest.

The Olmsted Society presents cash awards to first place poems as follows:

\$100 at the high school level

\$50 at the junior high level (grades 6-8)

\$25 to the 1st place winner at each grade level in grades 1-5.

The Society's partners in poetry, the Riverside Public Library and the Brookfield Zoo, will award special honors for the most nature-themed poem(s) at a special ceremony to be held at the Brookfield Zoo on June 25.

Contest entries will be accepted through April 30. Rules and entry forms are available at www.olmstedsociety.org

Aberdeen Ozga:

Riverside's amazing old trees, elegant curves and open green spaces are so welcoming and restorative it's easy to feel at home here. Knowing it was all intentionally and - so thoughtfully - designed to provide this sense of relief made me want to learn more about Olmsted. There is an incredible legacy here - I'm glad I can do something meaningful to help sustain it.

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Walking Tour:

North Division on Sunday May 29, 2-4pm meet at the Riverside Train Station

Rethinking Your Lawn

Wednesday May 11, 7:00 – 8:00pm Riverside Public Library

Co-founder of West Cook Wild Ones, Stephanie Walquist will present the science and art behind converting part of your property to native landscaping.

She will show how selecting hardy Illinois prairie plants instead of grass can add beauty and variety to a yard and attract birds and butterflies, while saving water and reducing the need for lawn mowing. Examples of successful native landscaping projects and initiatives from self-sustaining gardens to wildlife conservation corridors will be included.



President's Letter: Rob Dixon

Dear Olmsted Society members:

Spring will soon be upon us and the possibilities for Riverside abound. There is discussion of amending zoning to allow backyard hens and beekeeping in Riverside. This is fairly progressive exploration for our Village. In addition, news of bike path extensions to the west of Riverside bring hope that could benefit Riverside with better connectivity to the Salt Creek Trail.

Landscape workdays are scheduled and we hope you can join us to improve natural areas. Children are welcome, and bring some friends! Keep an eye out for upcoming programs in cooperation with the Library on topics such as beekeeping and conversion of yards from turf grass to native plants. Also, save the date of Saturday, September 24, 2016, for HopStop 2016. Olmsted Society members will get advance notice of ticket sales for this event which promises to sell out as it did last year. If you wish to volunteer (free tickets possible) contact me or Tom Guardì to get involved.

Your support allows for innovative lecture topics, protection and nurturing of green space, and implementation of Olmsted's vision in Riverside. Thanks for your continued support of the Olmsted Society.

Kind regards,

Rob Dixon

President, Frederick Law Olmsted Society of Riverside

Rob Dixon, President

I have enjoyed coordinating the HopStop fundraiser for the Olmsted Society and welcome anyone who wishes to assist with this craft beer and music festival. Olmsted Society lectures, landscape workdays, and other activities that invite learning about nature appeal to me. The Olmsted Society is a chance to learn about the unique aspects of Riverside, meet people who are inspired by Olmsted, and continue to make Riverside a place that lives up to Olmsted's vision.

Vice President: Abby Randall



Abby Randall is a residential architect living and working in Riverside with her husband and children. She enjoys the opportunity to share and preserve the rich history of her community with others. Riverside's quiet streets, charming homes, and beautiful landscapes inspired her to make this unique place her home.



Treasurer: Thomas Guardi

Tom joined FLOS with wife, Connie, as a team to support Frederick Law Olmsted's vision.

Secretary: Janice O'Flaherty



I joined FLOS, because I love Riverside. I want to make sure all the beautiful things that drew me to this community in the first place will stay intact and for future generations to enjoy.



At the January 22, 2016 meeting of the Olmsted Society our Guest Speaker: James Patchett Founder and President, of Conservation Design Forum provided a lecture on:

The Role of Green Infrastructure in Transforming Towns

The presentation focused on green infrastructure and how it benefits suburban towns like Riverside.

A longtime leader in the sustainability field, James Patchett of Conservation Design Forum walked us through innovative techniques that have been proven to improve flood control, enhance water quality and habitat, and beautify the landscape.

Using examples from across the country, Patchett showcased communities that have successfully implemented complete green streets, green roofs, porous pavement, and drought-tolerant planting.

More information on the Conservation Design Forum can be found at www.cdfinc.com.

Watch the video [here](#):



Walking Tours with Jim Petrizilka and Tony Pecelunas

Meet 2:00pm at the Train Stain

May 29 North Side
June 26 South Side
July 31 North Side
August 28 South Side
September 18 North Side
October 30 South Side

Purchase tickets here:

Discount Tour Ticket	\$10	Add to Cart
Discount Special Tour Ticket	\$20	Add to Cart
Regular Tour Ticket	\$15	Add to Cart
Special Walking Tour Ticket	\$25	Add to Cart



Olmsted 2016 Spirit Award

At the January 22, 2016 meeting of the Olmsted Society, Peter Boutsikakis, was honored with the Olmsted Spirit Award for his leadership in The Frederick Law Olmsted Society Education and Design Program's HopStop 2015, a collaborative program educating the community on local plants, foods and beverages including the HopStop craft beer festival in the landmark Riverside Train Station.



Peter Boutsikakis of Riverside foods was a driving force behind HopStop and his vision and contacts in the craft brewing community were essential to the success of the event.

Peter coordinated a home brewing demonstration during HopStop using Hops grown in Riverside by Joe Dvorak and Riverside Elderberry. The resulting brew was served at the Riverside Holiday Stroll and proved that Peter knows what he is doing and that Riverside has good soil.

The Olmsted Society raised funds via ticket sales combined with donated or reduced prices on goods and services. We have our sights on September 17, 2016, for the second HopStop and those interested in volunteering to assist with HopStop should contact Rob Dixon, Peter, or Tom Guardi.

Olmsted 2016 Restoration Award

At the January 22, 2016 meeting of the Olmsted Society, Alan Osheff, was honored with the Olmsted Restoration Award for the restoration of the original 1888 facade of the Hotchkiss residence, in its entirety, therefore preserving the Victorian Style and the livability the Victorian Style is preserved and the livability of the structure is enhanced. The Hotchkiss Residence is located at 45 Longcommon Road.

Mr. Osheff was traveling, and not present to receive the award. On his behalf, John Marchetti, the general contractor responsible for the restoration, accepted it, and treated the attendees to a brief overview of the rehabilitation. We are thankful for their beautiful restoration to this home.



Watch our recent lecture: [Backyard Beekeeping](#)



In the last few years urban beekeeping has been rising in popularity and popping up in the most unlikely of places, even in a field at O'Hare Airport. Marcin Matelski, Head Beekeeper at the Garfield Park Conservatory, gave a lecture on the “why” and “how” of beekeeping on March 17th. Just click on ***Backyard Beekeeping*** above to watch the recorded lecture.

Marcin Matelski has been an urban beekeeper for the past 7 years. He maintains 40+ hives in Chicago and the suburbs. He teaches beekeeping classes, leads workshops and has organized beekeeping seminars in the past.



“We can reduce flooding by planting the native plants of Illinois, such as *Sorghastrum nutans* (Linnaeus) Nash (Poaceae) also known as ***Indian Grass***, shown here below:



Landscape Committee Report with Cindy Kellogg and Holly Machina

Our landscape workdays finished up a successful 2015 year in November weeding and mulching at Scottswood Common. In September we removed invasive species, sprayed invasive buckthorn, collected and spread seeds at the river along Riverside Road.

In 2016 we had our first work day of the year where Seven volunteers helped remove buckthorn & honeysuckle from the banks of the Des Plaines River in Swan Pond on Saturday, March 19th. The view of the river is amazing!”



Media Updates with Sandy Petrzilka and Abby Randall:



A new flyer for 2016 Walking Tours was created, and the flyer and press release was sent to local Riverside media contacts and to all publications that have long lead times.

National Association of Olmsted Parks (NAOP) - The NAOP requested submittals for their Spring Newsletter, and Cathy Maloney prepared an article on Riverside's designation as an Arboretum. The 2016 Walking Tour schedule was also sent.

Abby Randall is the Social Media guru for FLOS, and has gained quite a following. Follow us on Facebook - www.facebook.com/RiversideFLOS or Twitter - www.twitter.com/RiversideFLOS to stay up to date on FLOS events.

Subscribe to our Newsletter by emailing us at: newsletter@olmstedsociety.org

Renew Your Membership here:

* Reliable Redbud	\$35	Donate
* Hearty Hickory	\$50	Donate
* Sugar Maple	\$125	Donate
* Mighty Oak	\$250	Donate

F.R.E.D. Report with Cathy Maloney:

The next F.R.E.D. event is in the planning process and details will be posted here for the upcoming lectures...stay tuned.

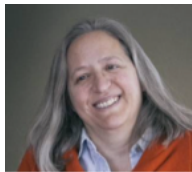


Cathy Maloney is a garden historian and former business consultant. "My husband and I were drawn to Riverside by its indefinable charm," she says. "We bought our first house here almost 30 years ago. Since then, we've learned much about Olmsted's vision for blending nature and community, and I launched a second career as a garden editor and author."

Committee Reports:

Membership - Theresa Pelletier & Kimber Coombes:

Membership renewal statements were sent electronically or by US mail to all members. Please renew your membership for 2016 if you have not already done so.



Theresa Pelletier:



Kimber Coombes:

Whether it's helping to keep Riverside beautiful through work days, promoting sustainability and education by hosting guest speakers or simply building relationships, FLOS allows me to give back to our community in ways that are close to my heart.

Lectures - Lois Kimmelman:



Join us as we preview the 10 **Towns** that Changed America with WTTW's Geoffrey Baer on April 6 at the Town Hall at 7:00pm

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Lois Kimmelman has spent the last 30 years dedicated to what is both her vocation and avocation: working to protect the environment, and has led many governmental and private sector projects. She currently manages a website www.historecycle.com, founded to promote green renovations of historic buildings.

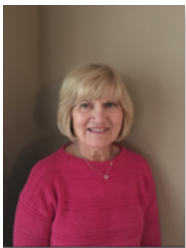
Newsletter - Maura Braun:



As part of the Newsletter changes, we are using a new template to give it a fresh look and are reaching out to members for who we may not have emails for in an effort to streamline the newsletter and other notifications sent via email. Send me your email address at newsletter@olmstedsociety.org

As an interior designer, living here in Riverside, I have a total appreciation for the design and planning that Olmsted created for the residents to enjoy everyday. During my masters program I studied Olmsted's plans, which included Riverside; the winding roads and vast green spaces make this town such a special place, that I feel it's vital to keep his spirit alive.

Library - Connie Guardi:



Olmsted Collection:

The Riverside Museum case in the Riverside Public Library is featuring books from the Olmsted Collection. The title of the display is "What's in a Name? It is based on the booklet, ORIGINS OF RIVERSIDE STREET NAMES, published by the Library in 1980.

Frederick Law Olmsted named twenty-two of the streets in our town in honor of men who influenced him. The Olmsted Collection includes books by and about these men. Bartram, Downing, Catesby (changed to Gatesby) Evelyn, Kent, Nuttall and Shenstone books are shown in the case, but the Collection includes works by and about all twenty-two. They all fit into one of three categories: naturalists, landscapers or writers. Visit the Collection and discover these treasures.

The booklet explains the origins of all seventy-six street names. It can be purchased for \$4.00 at the circulation desk in the Library. You might be surprised by what's in the name of the street where you live.

Connie Guardi:

I was recruited for the FLOS Board by Joan Opila who was the chairperson of the FLOS Tour Committee. I had been giving the FLOS walking tours under her direction for awhile and she thought I would make a good addition to the Board. I am currently the Chairperson of the Riverside Historical Commission and co-author of RIVERSIDE, a book that is part of the Arcadia "Images of America" series.

Bike Path with Mike Johnson & Amy Hill:

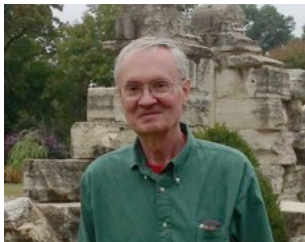
The purpose of the Bike Path Committee is to help improve cycling in our community with special emphasis on encouraging children to bike to school. We support the efforts of District 96 to improve the school grounds to accommodate more bicycles.



Mike Johnson:

I joined FLOS because Olmsted's parklike neighborhood design was a significant factor in us choosing to raise a family in Riverside, and I committed to the key parts of the FLOS Mission and Olmsted's vision: concern for humanity, nature, sense of community. Cycling is another passion of mine, and it is a great way to experience Olmsted's vision and be an active part of the community.

Long Range Planning Chairperson Jim Petrizilka:



The biggest obstacle ahead of us is the 50th anniversary of the society, but we need to start planning now. Connie is on the committee, but many volunteers are needed. We discussed what we should do to celebrate 50 years 1968 - 2018. Other dates to note, in 1868 Olmsted came to Riverside and in 2019 it will be 125 years since the plans of Riverside were created.

I joined FLOS Walking Tours because I love to stroll around Riverside, and what better way than with a group of like minded people who are also interested in learning more about our fabulous town.

I got involved with Long Range Planning because it seemed the best way, within FLOS, to assure that Olmsted's vision for the town is maintained.

Meet our new board members:

Michelle Roblee, Janice O'Flaherty and Dr. Michelangelo Sabatino



Michelle Roblee:

I am interested in all things beautiful and value high quality craftsmanship in architecture, interior design and landscapes. It's nice to have an opportunity to assist organizations like FLOS which promotes these endeavors along with educating and preserving the local community.



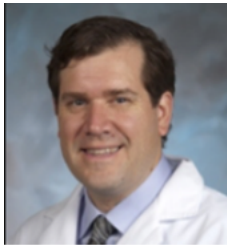
Janice O'Flaherty :

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Dr. Michelangelo Sabatino, PhD:

As a newcomer to Riverside and as a historian of architecture and the built environment I feel a special duty to help safeguard and reinvigorate Olmsted's legacy for future generations. As a FLOS board member I hope to promote educational and research initiatives. I am on the faculty at the College of Architecture of the Illinois Institute of Technology and currently serve as Director of the PhD Program in Architecture.



Webmaster (Dr.) Tim Ozga

For me, Riverside is much more than a historic landscape designed by Frederick Law Olmsted. It is a community of great friends and neighbors and the Olmsted Society has brought me closer to many of the wonderfully talented people of Riverside.

The Frederick Law Olmsted Society of Riverside is a registered 501c3 organization. The Society 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.

Join FLOS or Renew Your Membership here:

Just
print
and mail
this
form to:

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

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 <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Reliable Redbud</i> \$35-\$49 \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Hearty Hickory</i> \$50-\$124 \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Sugar Maple</i> \$125-\$249 (includes 2 historic walking tour tickets) \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Mighty Oak</i> \$250+(includes 4 historic walking tour tickets) \$ _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> Gift Membership Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____ Email _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 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! <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> Housewalk <input type="checkbox"/> Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Library <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter <input type="checkbox"/> F.R.E.D. <input type="checkbox"/> 4th of July <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape <input type="checkbox"/> Education and Tours <input type="checkbox"/> Website