



The Frederick Law Olmsted Society of Riverside

Stewards of the land and Olmsted's plan

Summer 2023 Newsletter

Our Mission

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 Olmsted's 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.

Upcoming Events

- 8/19: 9 AM to Noon – [Landscape Workday](#) at Akenside & Longcommon Triangle
- 8/27: 2 PM – [Walking Tour](#) (South) at Riverside Train Station
- 9/9: 9 AM to Noon – [Landscape Workday](#) at Patriots Park
- 9/24: 2 PM – [Walking Tour](#) (North) at Riverside Train Station
- 9/30: 9 AM to Noon – [Landscape Workday](#) at Indian Gardens
- 9/30: 3 PM to 6 PM – [HopStop Craft Beer Festival](#) at Riverside Train Station
- 10/7: 9 AM to Noon – [Landscape Workday](#) at Longcommon
- 10/14: 9 AM to 2 PM – [Field Trip](#) to Illinois Institute of Technology Campus
- 10/18: 7 AM – [Presentation](#): *Living in a Modern or Contemporary House in Riverside* at Riverside Public Library
- 10/29: 2 PM – [Walking Tour](#) (North) at Riverside Train Station
- 11/4: 9 AM to Noon – [Landscape Workday](#) at Riverside Road

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President's Letter



Yvonne Lucero

FLOS Board President

"When it rains...It pours", so says that little Morton Salt girl, which she's been telling us for over 100 years. The Midwest was parched, but now Mother Nature seems to have left the faucet running a bit too often. Lost a few items from your basement lately? Even the Farmers Market had to be cancelled on the 12th! Keep your umbrellas crossed that August is only normally rainy. Finding turtles in Turtle Park might be a bit much.

On the bright side, the 4th of July was a perfect day for a parade and picnic. Riverside looks very green, the parkways are decorated with a variety of mushrooms, the grass is coming back. Olmsted Society Landscape Workdays are humming along (see photos below) and can always use a few more folks to take out their frustrations on a weed or two.

The Olmsted Overlook now contains all the live trees originally intended, and they seem to be thriving. Pay a visit to the bench at the Overlook, the view is lovely, no tickets required!

Speaking of tickets, stay tuned for more on our September Hop-Stop; it's become a hot event for the whole area; hence, advanced purchase tickets are strongly suggested.

Meanwhile, use your sunscreen, and soak up these summer evenings. Fireflies yet remain among us, so share their presence before we begin to gather up fallen leaves!



This Spring, Olmsted Society workday volunteers got help from Village Forester Mike Collins and Riverside Brookfield High School students.





HopStop is Coming Saturday, September 30

Tickets Sales Begin Midnight, August 1st



Riverside Foods and the Olmsted Society are once again collaborating to bring you the HopStop craft beer festival. This year, HopStop makes a return to the historic [Riverside Train Station](#).

We will be sampling offerings from local craft brewers and food will be available for purchase. Live music will round out a wonderful outdoor family-friendly setting in the arboretum Village of Riverside.

Make use of the free bicycle valet, bring a designated driver, or take Metra (which drops you off right at the venue).

A commemorative tasting glass is provided with each ticket sold, and this will be a zero-waste event.

Sponsorship opportunities are available by contacting us at hopstop2023@olmstedsociety.org.

100% of the proceeds from HopStop go to the Olmsted Society to help foster a sustainable future in our community and celebrate the legacy of Frederick Law Olmsted.

Tickets go on sale midnight, August 1st at Brown Paper Tickets

Olmsted Society Field Trip

Guided Tour of the Illinois Institute of Technology Campus

The Architecture Committee is sponsoring a trip to the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) to tour the campus and buildings designed by world-renowned architect Mies van der Rohe, as well as the work of landscape architect Alfred Caldwell.

Michelangelo Sabatino, IIT professor of architecture and architectural historian, will lead the tour on Saturday, October 14 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.



Tickets are \$50.00 per person and will include bus transportation, the tour, and a box lunch. Only 42 tickets will be sold. Tickets may be purchased from the [Olmsted Society website](#) starting September 1st.

S. R. Crown Hall on IIT's campus is a national historic landmark designed by Mies van der Rohe. Photo by Joe Ravi, [CC BY-SA 3.0](#), via Wikimedia Commons



Reflections on Riverside Student Poetry Contest Results



Susan Worthington

Poetry Contest Chair

Here are the Winning Entries for 2023!

The Olmsted Society Student Poetry Contest was held in April in celebration of National Poetry month – this year's theme was "Born to Be Wild."

We wish to recognize and thank all the students who took the time to thoughtfully reflect on nature and express themselves creatively in poetry.

We are pleased to announce the winners of the 2023 Poetry Contest:

Level	Student	School	Poem Title
1st Grade	F. Bradshaw	Ames	<i>Rivers</i>
2nd Grade	R. Barrs	Central	<i>Riverside Has Many Creatures</i>
Honorable Mention 2nd Grade	V. Ivy	Ames	<i>Riverside is born to be wild</i>
4th Grade	L. Newsome	Ames	<i>Born to be Wild Like Nature</i>
5th Grade	D. Durojaye	Ames	<i>Born To Be Wild</i>
5th Grade	M. Abboud	Central	<i>Deep in the Wild</i>
Honorable Mention 5th Grade	M. Jayashree	Ames	<i>The Wild</i>
Jr. High – First Place	C. Hull	Hauser	<i>Spring in Riverside</i>
Jr. High – Second Place	E. Blomgren	Hauser	<i>Our Wild</i>
Jr. High – Third Place	C. Truesdale	Hauser	<i>The Way of the Wild</i>
Jr. High – Third Place	J. Hopson-Andino	Hauser	<i>Individualized Frame</i>



Tributes & Trees Program

Please think of *Tributes & Trees* when recognizing special people. All funds raised will be put to good use. An order has just been placed for tools to support landscape workdays. Our Landscape Workday volunteers are hard at work from April through November taming and maintaining our parks.

Visit our website to [donate](#) to Tributes & Trees

TRIBUTES & TREES REMEMBERS:

- In memory of **Larry Matei**
Donors: Erin (Matei) Wieland & Family
- In memory of **Phyllis Pecelunas**
 - “A person who was always there for you”
Donors: Sandie & Jim Petrziika
 - “With deep sympathy”
Donors: Thomas & Constance Guardi
 - “With deep sympathy”
Donor: Cindy Kellogg



We are happy to report that a Burr Oak was chosen for Riverside's Arbor Day Tree and planted on April 29. It was purchased with *Tributes & Trees* donations to replace storm-damaged trees at the Kent and Longcommon Triangle. Tributes & Trees donations matter and make a difference.



Olmsted Society workday volunteers plant a Burr Oak tree for Arbor Day. Donations to *Tributes & Trees* paid for the purchase of the tree.



Walking Tours of Historic Riverside

Let Us Share Our Hometown Pride with You!

What better way to celebrate 201 years of Olmsted's legacy than to take a walking tour of Riverside, America's first planned suburb and a national historic site?

Today, this magical place of lush landscaping, curving streets, gas lamps, and charming parks still fulfills Olmsted's dream. It has since inspired architects such as Frank Lloyd Wright and Louis Sullivan to create some of their most beautiful works. Over 70 landmarked structures representing over 150 years of American architecture dot the village.

The Frederick Law Olmsted Society of Riverside invites you to experience this very special American place. A place with a hidden history that may surprise you.

The regularly scheduled Sunday afternoon tour dates for 2023 are:

Date	Tour Area
August 27	South Division
September 24	North Division
October 29	South Division

Tours depart at 2:00 PM from the main Riverside Train Station on Bloomingbank Rd., south of the BNSF railroad tracks, on the east side of the platform.

Tickets are \$20 per person (\$15 for seniors 62+ and Olmsted Society members). PayPal or credit card payments are accepted in advance on the Historic Walking Tours page of our website. Tickets may be purchased with cash only at the start of the tour.

Special customized tours are available by appointment. For more information call 708-447-7635 or e-mail tours@olmstedsociety.org.



Along the path by Swan Pond on the Des Plaines River



Presentations Report



Dan Murphy
Presentations Chair

Advance Registration Encouraged

For each presentation you plan to attend, please pre-register on the Riverside Public Library website. This will ensure that the library provides enough chairs for the expected number of attendees. Of course, you're always welcome to attend our free presentations – even if you don't pre-register.

Living in a Modern or Contemporary House in Riverside

Wednesday, October 18 at 7:00 PM at the Riverside Public Library

The Olmsted Society and the [Riverside Arts Center](#) will host a conversation highlighting contemporary and modern houses in Riverside. This panel discussion is presented in conjunction with [Outside the Box: Modern and Contemporary Homes in Riverside](#), a photography exhibition at the Riverside Arts Center's FlexSpace. Join exhibition co-curators Kim Freeark and Michelangelo Sabatino, along with architectural photographer Will Quam, Riverside homeowners, and other contributors to hear their insights about owning, living in and, in some cases, growing up in a contemporary or modern house in Riverside.

Pre-register for this panel discussion at the [Riverside Public Library website](#).



Kim Freeark is a retired IT consultant. She moved to Riverside in 2016, when she purchased her parent's home. Kim enjoys gardening, reading, and opining about architecture. She currently serves as Treasurer of two non-profit organizations: the Frederick Law Olmsted Society of Riverside (FLOS) and the Yucatan Environmental Foundation (YEF).



Michelangelo Sabatino is a publicly engaged architectural historian, curator, and preservationist. He is Professor at IIT's College of Architecture where he directs the PhD program and is the inaugural John Vinci Distinguished Research Fellow. He serves on the Board of Directors of Docomomo US. Sabatino and his partner Serge Ambrose recently restored their late 1930s modern home in Riverside. Their forthcoming book is entitled *Modern, Again: The Benda House & Garden in Chicagoland* (2024)
www.michelangelo-sabatino.com



Will Quam is an architecture photographer, architecture writer, and researcher and the heart behind Brick of Chicago. He loves bricks. Learn more about the [bricks and architecture tours](#) Will leads! Check out some of [Will's media appearances](#).

<https://www.brickofchicago.com>

[Outside the Box: Modern and Contemporary Homes in Riverside](#) will be on exhibit at the Riverside Arts Center's FlexSpace from September 10 to October 21, 2023.



Landscape Workdays



Cindy Kellogg & Holly Machina

Landscape Co-Chairs

Help Beautify Our Public Parks

For 2023, we are teaming up with the Village of Riverside to help beautify our green spaces.

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

All workdays are scheduled for **Saturdays from 9 AM to 12 PM**. Bring your own **work gloves and a water bottle**. All landscaping supplies and pandemic-safe snacks will be provided.

Date	Location	Notes
August 19th	Akenside & Longcommon Triangle	With the Landscape Advisory Commission
September 9th	Patriots Park	
September 30th	Indian Gardens	Planting Native Species
October 7th	Longcommon	Planting Native Species
November 4th	Riverside Road	Collecting Seeds

To make advanced reservations to participate in a workday or to be added to our FLOS landscape committee e-list, please contact:

- Holly Machina & Cindy Kellogg
FLOS Landscape Committee Chairpersons
workdays@olmstedsofociety.org
708-447-0226
- Michael Collins
Riverside Village Forester
mcollins@riverside.il.us
708-442-3590 x 502



Snacks and drinks are a regular feature of landscape workdays. Volunteers finding an animal skull is a much rarer occurrence.





Membership Report



Linda LaBelle
Membership Chair

2023 Membership renewals are off to a great start. Thank for your generous contributions. Many activities are planned for 2023. Members and the community are welcome to participate.

Please consider renewing, becoming a member or giving the gift of membership. The Olmsted Society invites residents and visitors to join us in learning, enjoying Riverside's landscape and preserving our cultural and physical heritage.

Membership is open to all interested individuals for a minimum \$35.00 tax-deductible contribution. You can join or renew online using the link below:

[Olmsted Society New Membership or Renewal](https://www.olmstedsociety.org)

If you prefer to use a check, print and mail the form below:

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

Thank you for your continued support!

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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. The town was developed in 1868 by Landscape Architect Frederick Law Olmsted and his business partner Calvert Vaux.

Membership is open to all interested individuals for the current calendar year (Jan. 1- Dec. 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, IL 60546** or join online at www.olmstedsociety.org and select the Membership tab.

<p>MEMBERSHIP:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Reliable Redbud</i> \$35-\$49 \$ _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Hearty Hickory</i> \$50-\$124 \$ _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Sugar Maple</i> \$125-\$249 \$ _____ (includes 2 walking tour tickets)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Mighty Oak</i> \$250 + \$ _____ (includes 4 walking tour tickets)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New Member</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Renewal</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Gift Membership</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>Phone: _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p>	<p>COMMITTEES:</p> <p><i>Put your talent to work & your energy to good use by joining a committee!</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Architecture</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education & Tours</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising events:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Hop Stop</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Housewalk</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 4th of July Parade Float</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Workdays</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Library</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Membership</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Website</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to receive a receipt for my tax deductible donation</p>
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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.

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

Check out our social media links and website for information on upcoming events:



facebook.com/RiversideFLOS



instagram.com/riverside.FLOS



olmstedsociety.org