



The Frederick Law Olmsted Society of Riverside

Stewards of the land and Olmsted's plan

Summer 2024 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

June 29	Workday : Big Ball Park
June 30	Tour : South Division
July 20	Workday : Longcommon and Downing
July 28	Tour : North Division
August 4	Vintage Baseball Game
August 17	Workday : Akenside/Longcommon Triangle
August 31	Tour : South Division

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Family fun at the exciting rematch!
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Logo Contest announced

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New to town? Fun activities just for you.
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Your voice, your parks

Help Parks and Rec create a master plan.
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President's Letter



Dan Murphy

FLOS Board President

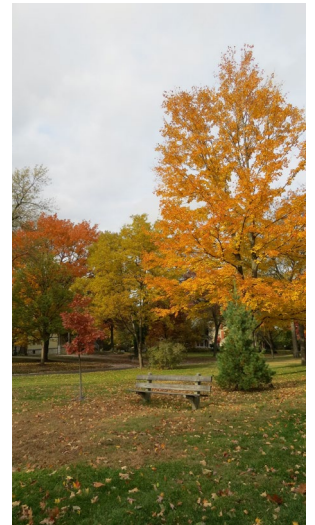
By this point, the emergence of cicadas isn't news to anyone. (Although, I'm sure there are many who wish the cicadas were *yesterday's* news.) When we were planning our April presentation, Dr. Frederic Miller of the Morton Arboretum warned against giving his talk a sensationalistic title. He felt the news media was making the cicada emergence sound like a Biblical plague. At his well-attended presentation with Village Forester, Mike Collins, ([Spongy Moths & Cicadas: Facts & Fallacies](#)), Dr. Miller emphasized cicadas' many benefits for the environment; they aerate the soil, provide food for birds and other insect-eating animals, and cicada shells and bodies will fertilize the topsoil.

One word of caution; if you covered your young trees and shrubs with netting, check to see if your plants are still protected. Cicadas are persistent in their search for mates and hospitable branches to lay their eggs. Board members Cathy and Mike Maloney checked on the netted trees in the [Olmsted Overlook](#) recently and discovered that the cicadas had found their way under the netting on one of the trees. Several vigorous shakes of the netting freed the bugs.

This year we are doing more to introduce ourselves to new Riverside families. The Olmsted Society is sponsoring a scavenger hunt to introduce new families to the unique and historical features of our community. As I mentioned in the spring newsletter, the Vintage Baseball game (Sunday, August 4) will include a VIP tent for the same families who attend the game. We are also planning the first ever Riverside ghost walk for this October. It will be a shorter version of our regular walking tour that will be longer on creepy tales and Riverside atmosphere.

In another effort to reach more of the community, the Olmsted Society is considering a brand refresh. Of course, we will remain committed to the same mission, values and work, but with a new name and logo. You can be certain we will continue to value the support of you, our current members. Our new branding will better communicate who we are, what we do, and our relationship to Riverside. More on this as we complete the process of finding the right name and logo.

Make your voice heard. (No, I don't mean the upcoming presidential election – although that's important, too.) Instead, I'm talking about the [Riverside Parks and Recreation Department survey](#) of residents. You may have already received an email from the Rec Department or you may get a postcard in the U.S. mail with instructions for completing the survey. Either way, we encourage you to respond to this survey about the programs and amenities you want the Rec Department to provide. While we welcome new amenities for our parks, we want to ensure that the improvements are balanced with natural, open park land. In other words, while Riverside residents need spaces in which we can "do," it's just as important that we have green space where we can simply "be."



Hop Stop community beer festival returns this year on Saturday, September 28. By that time, the cicadas will be long gone, so the festival will take place in the shade of Guthrie Park. As in the past, beverages, food, music and activities for kids are all part of the plan. Look for ticket sales to begin, July 1.



Play ball! The old-fashioned way!

Vintage Baseball is back August 4th!



Come to Big Ball Park on Sunday, August 4 at 1:00 pm to join in this annual favorite event. The Chicago Salmon vintage baseball team will face another worthy opponent this year.

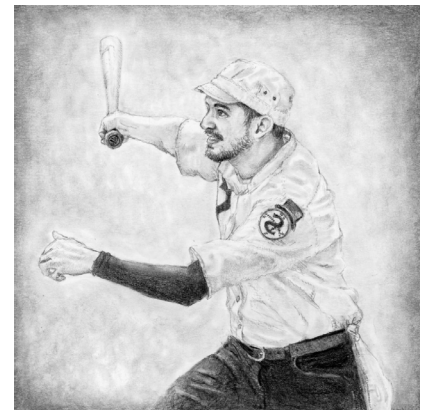
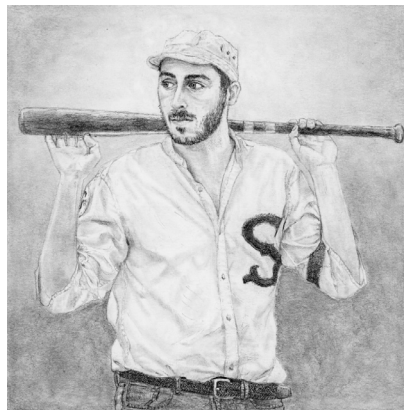
Bring the family and your own blanket and snacks. Kids are allowed to “run the bases” after the game with real players in attendance.

This free entertainment shows how baseball was played in Frederick Law Olmsted’s era. Look for old-fashioned uniforms, long wooden bats, old time rules, and a special song during the seventh-inning stretch.



You’ll be charmed by the friendly players in the lineup. Which team will you be watching?

Join us!





Save the Date! Hop Stop is Coming Saturday, September 28

Tickets Sales Begin July 1st

Riverside Foods, in conjunction with the Olmsted Society, are once again collaborating to bring you the 2024 Hop Stop craft beer festival. This year, Hop Stop makes a return to the Riverside Train Station and Guthrie Park. The event will be held on Saturday, September 28th from 3-6pm.



Hop Stop is a major fundraiser for the Olmsted Society. Last year's event was our greatest success to date, raising over \$17,500! We aspire to make this Hop Stop even better. We will be sampling offerings from local craft brewers, and food will be available for purchase. Live performances are planned throughout the event. Activities will be on deck for children in a wonderful outdoor family-friendly setting in the arboretum Village of Riverside.

Tickets will go on sale July 1st at www.riversidehopstop.com for \$60 per person. As a thank you to all our members, an early bird discount will be available in July. Use the code "olmsted" for \$5 off each ticket.

100% of the proceeds from Hop Stop go to the Olmsted Society to help foster a sustainable future in our community and celebrate the legacy of Frederick Law Olmsted. We are pleased with early sponsorships from Flood Brothers, Twilight Rentals, and Wastenot Compost. If you would like to become a sponsor for Hop Stop, please send us an e-mail at hopstop@olmstedsociety.org.



Hop Stop 2023 photos courtesy of Secco Studios

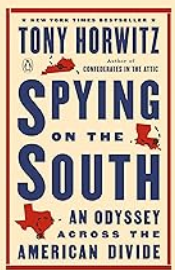




New books in the Olmsted Collection

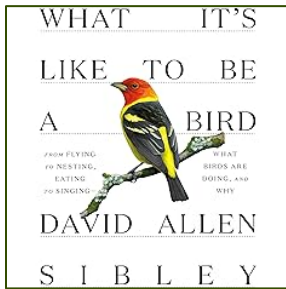
Library donations address birds and Olmsted's travels in the American South

The Olmsted Society frequently purchases books relevant to Riverside, nature, and Olmsted for the Riverside Public Library. Curated by Olmsted Society Board member Constance Guardi, the most recent purchases include:



Spying on the South by Tony Horowitz. (Penguin Books, 2019)

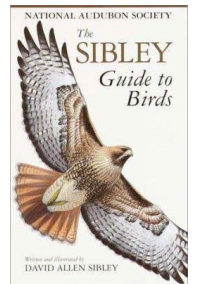
A 21st century journey through the South tracing the steps of Frederick Law Olmsted's 19th century journey through the Cotton Kingdom. NPR reviewer [Maureen Corrigan](#) says, "Horwitz rightly prides himself on being a curious and empathetic freestyle conversationalist — a gift that Olmsted apparently shared. Traveling south and west by car, steamboat, and even mule in advance of the 2016 primary season, Horwitz wants to gauge what Olmsted called "the drift of things" in America." ['Spying On the South' Book Review: Tony Horowitz Chronicles A Divided America: NPR](#)



In honor of the certification Riverside earned from Audubon Great Lakes as an Important Bird Area, the following two books were purchased for the Olmsted collection:

What It's Like to Be a Bird: From Flying to Nesting, Eating to Singing--What Birds Are Doing, and Why by David Allen Sibley. (Penguin: 2020)

The Sibley Guide to Birds, 2nd edition by David Allen Sibley.



July 4 Needs Cicada walkers like you!



March with the Olmsted Society for a Fourth of July tradition!

The Olmsted Society will be in the Fourth of July parade and welcomes your participation! Drop us an email if you'd like to join us and wear one of these cool cicada tee shirts!

Contact July4@olmstedsociety.org to RSVP and give your Tee-shirt size by June 21.



Tributes & Trees Program



Linda LaBelle & Sandie Petrzilka
Co-Chairs of Tributes and Trees

Tributes & Trees donations do a lot of good for our Village. Recently, donations from this year and last were used to purchase cicada tree netting, tree fencing, compost and shovels. If you would like to help Riverside’s landscape and recognize someone with a donation, please visit our [Tributes & Trees page](#) on our website for details. We can be reached at tributes@olmstedsociety.org if you have any questions.

TRIBUTES & TREES REMEMBERS:

Charles Hand Carpenter, Jr.

“Charlie was a wonderful man”
Donors: Thomas and Constance Guardi

“In Memory of Charles Carpenter”
Donor: Cindy Kellogg

Diane Hartnett

Donors: Thomas and Constance Guardi

Ronald John O’Brien

Donor: Cindy Kellogg



Donations to Tributes & Trees paid for the netting used on these trees, among other items.



Summer Walking Tours of Historic Riverside

Cool off with a breezy walk!

What better way to celebrate 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 regularly scheduled Sunday afternoon tour dates for 2024 are:

Date	Tour Area
June 30	South Division
July 28	North Division
August 31	South Division
September 29	North Division
October 27	South Division

Design the New Olmsted Society Logo

Design competition for designers, artists & marketers

As part of our continued efforts to engage the broader Riverside community and prepare for the Sesquicentennial in 2025, we are working to update our branding, logo, and website. We are reaching out to local marketing agencies, graphic designers, and those with an artistic bent to submit potential logo ideas that *could* become the new official logo of the organization.



In addition to the recognition and visibility for all the entries, we are offering prizes for the Top three:

- **1st Prize:** Gourmet dinner for eight at Frank Lloyd Wright's Avery Coonley House
- **2nd Prize:** Four free tickets to Hop Stop 2024 on Saturday September 28th, 2024
- **3rd Prize:** Planting of a tree (s) in your business or family's name in a Riverside Park

Please contact Richard Marritt at rmarritt@yahoo.com to request the design guidelines package by July 15th, 2024. The contest will close on Friday August 30th, 2024.



Newcomer Events

Welcome neighbors! Join us for these fun events.

There's a bunch of new folks in town! According to Zillow, several hundred houses have sold in Riverside since the pandemic. The Frederick Law Olmsted Society welcomes all of our new neighbors to this historic landmark village!

The Olmsted Society invites newcomers (those who have moved to Riverside since the pandemic) to join in a special, fun way to explore Riverside and meet fellow newcomers and neighbors. There are two fun activities planned:

DiscoverRiverside!: A DIY scavenger hunt to find some of Riverside's treasures. You can enjoy the hunt from June 1 through July 20 any time that is convenient for you.

Newcomer tent at a Vintage Baseball game: (August 4, 1:00 pm at Big Ball Park):

Vintage Baseball, a crowd favorite tradition, is a free event where two teams play ball following rules and dressed in uniforms from 1869. This year, we will have a Newcomer Tent where you can get SWAG bags (while supplies last).

We'll also pick the winner from a raffle for all those who completed the **DiscoverRiverside!** Activity. Raffle prizes are:

Prize 1: \$100.00 to the Chew Chew Restaurant

Prize 2: \$50.00 to LaBarra Restaurant

Prize 3: \$50.00 to Riverside Foods

Click this link and see the quiz and scavenger hunt map! [Welcome to Riverside 2024! | Frederick Law Olmsted Society](#)

Let your new neighbors know! Looking forward to seeing you at Big Ball Park on August 4! Any questions? Please contact newsletter@olmstedsociety.org.

Take the survey and think green!

The Rec Department wants to hear from you



Riverside Parks and Recreation department is surveying villagers to see what they would like in the green spaces and athletic parks in Riverside. The goal is to develop a Needs Assessment and produce a Master Plan for the parks in Riverside. Some residents have already received the survey via email or social media. You can also access the survey on the Village of Riverside website: [News Flash • We Want Your Feedback! \(riverside.il.us\)](#).

As this newsletter goes to press, new disc golf equipment is being installed in Indian Gardens. While the Olmsted Society fully supports outdoor recreation, we did not support the location of this course, particularly the last three holes, and offered alternatives. Riverside's historic significance is in its thoughtful delineation among green spaces meant for passive recreation (e.g. birdwatching, hiking, walking) and for active sports. The disc golf course commands land that for 150 years has been designated for quiet recreation. Your voice is needed in the upcoming park survey. There are many ideas proposed for new or revamped athletic park equipment. You can always add in the comment section your ideas about keeping green space available for areas not needing permanent sports equipment. See this recent article for more information: [Disc golf is coming to Riverside, but concerns are raised - Riverside-Brookfield Landmark \(rblandmark.com\)](#)



Landscape Workdays



Cindy Kellogg & Holly Machina

Landscape Co-Chairs

Legacies from trees



The weather was perfect on Saturday, April 27th, to plant 13 trees at Scottwood Common. We had 14 volunteers dig, plant and mulch trees that were grown from acorns from pre-settlement Oak trees. Seven years ago, our Forester, Michael Collins collected the acorns from Scottwood Common and along Bloomingbank Road. The acorns have been growing at Possibility Place Nursery. for the last seven years. Our grandchildren and beyond will be able to enjoy these trees for many years to come.

Mulch, mulch, mulch was placed on two large beds at Big Ball Park by hearty volunteers on Saturday, June 1st. The day was gloomy but no rain until around 10:30 when we decided we were finished. (Lower left photo)



Date	Location
June 29	Big Ball Park
July 20	Longcommon and Downing
August 17	Akenside/Longcommon Triangle
September 14	Patriot's Park
October 5	Indian Gardens
October 19	Riverside Road
November 9	Harrington Park

Join us on any and all of the upcoming landscape days! Contact Chairpersons Holly Machina or Cindy Kellogg at workdays@olmstedsociety.org with any questions. 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 snacks will be provided.



Membership Report



Linda LaBelle
Membership Chair

2024 Membership renewals are off to a great start. Thank you for your generous contributions. Many exciting activities are planned for 2024. 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](#)

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!



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.

MEMBERSHIP:

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

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

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

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

New Member

Renewal

Gift Membership

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

COMMITTEES:

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

Architecture

Education & Tours

Fundraising events:

Hop Stop

Housewalk

4th of July Parade Float

Landscape Workdays

Library

Membership

Newsletter

Public Relations

Website

I wish to receive a receipt for my tax deductible donation



Cathy Maloney
Newsletter Editor

Other events from kindred organizations you may enjoy:

Sun, June 16 - 1:00 pm

[Cicada Sensory Walk](#)

Sagawau Environmental Learning Center • Lemont, IL
Before they’re gone, experience periodic cicadas through sound, sight and touch on a guided walk. Forest Preserve District of Cook County. [Events from Sun, June 16 - Sat, June 22 - Forest Preserves of Cook County \(fpdcc.com\)](#)

Mon, June 17 – 7:00 – 8:30 pm ET (virtual)

Preservation skills

How can more landscape architects learn the preservation skills to uphold the character and experience of cultural landscapes while improving accessibility? Experts will share successful methods used in projects that bridge the gap between historic preservation and accessibility; case studies from National Parks and Olmsted-designed landscapes will be explored.

Hosted by the Friends of Fairsted, the program is free, but registration is required. For details: [A Path Forward: Identifying Accessibility Challenges and Solutions for Historic Landscapes - Olmsted Network](#)

Thurs, June 27 at 5:30 PM

Riverside Public Library

Practice Tai Chi (a mind-body practice that originated in ancient China) outdoors in nature. Led by Tom Wilkens outside Riverside Library (3rd Floor Township Hall, if raining). Hosted by Riverside Cross-Community Climate Collaborative (C4)

Sun, July 14 - 10:00 am

Elmhurst Garden Walk & Faire

Wilder Park, Elmhurst
“An Afternoon in the Garden” showcases 6 private and public gardens along with a boutique in Wilder Park. Wilder Park includes a conservatory once used by famed horticulturist and author Louisa Yeomans King. For tickets and info: [ELMHURST GARDEN CLUB GARDEN WALK AND FAIRE Tickets, Sun, Jul 14, 2024 at 10:00Sun, AM | Eventbrite](#)




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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