

Protect Your Heritage

PDHA
Next Meeting
Thursday,
June 28th, 7 PM
Lincoln Center
Room 307

IN THIS ISSUE:

Page 1:
Helping Pollinators
in Downers Grove

Page 2:
PDHA Directors

Belmont Prairie
Wildflower Walk

Advancing Nature
Education

Page 3:
Explore Our Heritage
with a Self-Guided
Walking Tour

Highland Avenue
Adopt-A-Highway
CLEAN-UP DAYS

Helping Pollinators in Downers Grove



Connie Schmidt

Connie Schmidt, Chair for the State of Illinois Sierra Club, attended the May 15th Village Council meeting. She explained that June has been declared National Pollinators Month and Governor Bruce Rauner has designated June 18-24 as Illinois Pollinator Week. Connie presented our community its own special poster for Illinois Pollinator Week in recognition of our support for the DuPage Monarch project. PDHA Chair, Ken Lerner, joined Connie in praising the support for pollinators that is being given by Downers Grove.



The Village has been awarded a grant for a pollinator garden through the [ComEd Green Region program](#), which assists local communities in protecting and improving public spaces. [Openlands](#), a non-profit conservation land trust dedicated to protecting open spaces in the Chicago region for over 50 years, administers the Green Region program. [The Conservation Foundation](#) is partnering with the Village on the project and providing their Pollinator Meadow Mix for the garden.

The pollinator garden is now being installed in the open areas near the Belmont underpass. The grass inside the turnarounds at Warren Avenue and Belmont Road is being replaced with sustainable native plants to attract and provide a habitat for pollinators. Although you may not always see them in a garden



or green space, pollinators like bees, beetles, moths, hummingbirds and butterflies, are a critical component to strong and healthy harvests, but populations have been declining in recent years. The garden will also include milkweed to target Monarch butterflies, building on efforts by surrounding suburbs to develop a "Monarch corridor" along the BNSF railroad.



Monarch caterpillar on
Butterfly Milkweed,
Asclepias tuberosa.



Two spotted Bumble Bee,
Bombus bimaculatus,
on Foxglove Beard Tongue,
Penstemon digitalis

– By Gordon Goodman & Susan Quasney, CFM, Stormwater Engineer for the Village of Downers Grove.

Protect Your Heritage

PDHA Directors

Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance is a 21-year old, Illinois not-for-profit corporation with charitable group status from the Internal Revenue Service. PDHA's Board of Directors manages its activities.

The following people are

PDHA Officers:

Chair Ken Lerner,

Chair Pro-Tem
Chris Saricks,

Secretary
Mark Bragen,

Treasurer
Gordon Goodman,

& PDHA Directors:

Jim Cavallo,
Marge Earl,

Irene Hogstrom,
Rich Kulovany,
John Schofield,
& Mark Thoman.

**We warmly thank
Director Emeritus
Wally Brown
for his many years
of public service
and have dedicated
a bench in the
Lyman Woods
Preserve in his honor.**

Newsletter

Editing by
G. Goodman

Logo designed by
Kate Earl

Belmont Prairie Wildflower Walk

Join naturalist Lance Herning for a wildflower walk in the Belmont Prairie Nature Preserve on Saturday morning, July 14. Please visit our website www.PDHA.org for details and to register for this popular outing.

- By Gordon Goodman

Advancing Nature Education

For many years, PDHA has supported the nature education programs offered by School District 58 at Lyman Woods, especially the Little Sprouts program for first graders. In February we met with Mr. Justin Sisul, District 58 Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, and Ms. Georganne Law, Curriculum Secretary, along with Ms. Shannon Forsythe, Manager of Natural Resources and Interpretive Services for the Downers Grove Park District, to review current and future nature education programs for students.

As currently structured, the program involves three tiers of education:

1st Grade – Little Sprouts (an introduction to plant cycle processes—germination, the role of soil, growth, flowering, pollination, and seed development—at various “learning stations” entertainingly devised by park district staff)

2nd Grade – A 2-hr. program focusing on the Sherman Center's educational displays followed by a self-guided hike of Lyman Woods

3rd Grade – “Classy Critters” (also a 2 hr.-program presenting the families, activities, and habitats of the species of fauna at Lyman Woods, with a hike to 2 or 3 learning stations).

Mr. Sisul discussed plans for expanding the scope and reach of the District's nature education programs, in anticipation of receiving new guidance on the “next generation science standards” curricula recently adopted by the the State of Illinois for implementation in the 2019-20 school year.

PDHA has endorsed the continuation of these programs, or something very like them that may arise from the new standards guidance. We indicated that we will materially support the Little Sprouts program going forward, with a possible expansion of that support to include the broader (3-year) program.

Furthermore, PDHA encourages District 58 to coordinate with Manager Forsythe during ongoing development of revised curricula, in order to benefit from her great experience in nature education and detailed understanding of activities and programs at Lyman Woods. For the best possible program, let's use all the expertise at our disposal, and combine the experience and enthusiasm of staff and volunteers from both District 58 and the Park District.

We also endorsed the idea of a teacher training program for nature education – a previous practice that should be revived if possible.

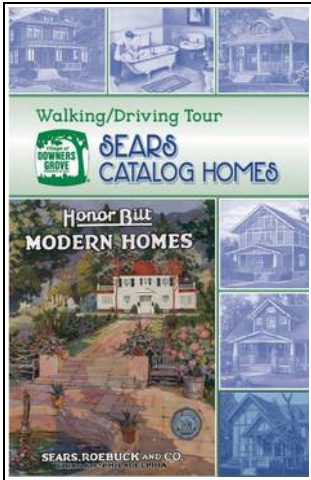
We look forward to advancing nature education for our next generation of conservationists. - By Chris Saricks & Ken Lerner



Belmont Prairie, June 28, 2015

Explore Our Heritage with a Self-Guided Walking Tour

You can explore the architectural and cultural heritage of Downers Grove through a series of brochures produced by our own village staff and volunteers, with funding assistance from the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office. The brochures can be downloaded directly from <http://www.downers.us/govt/historic-preservation>, or you can pick up printed copies (and they look really nice) at Village Hall. The three brochures are:



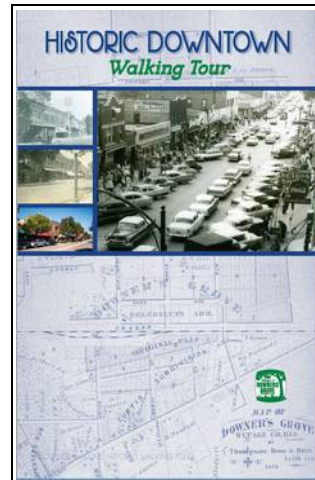
Sears Homes Walking Tour

The Sears Roebuck Company offered home kits from 1908-1940 and there are numerous Sears homes in Downers Grove. The Sears Home Walking Tour brochure outlines 21 different models with examples in Downers Grove, along with details about the Sears home kits and references for more information about them.

Historic Downtown Walking Tour

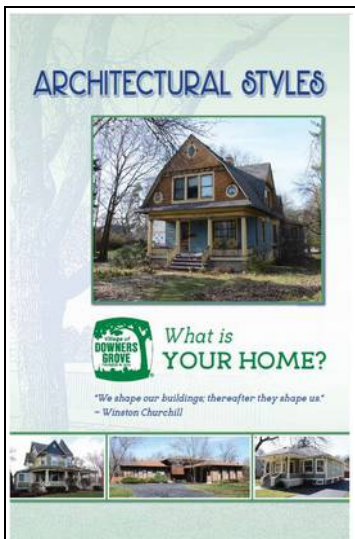
The Historic Downtown Walking Tour was a collaboration of the Village of Downers Grove, the Downers Grove Museum staff, and

volunteers from the Downers Grove Historical Society. The self-guided tour features 23 historical properties in the downtown area, from familiar icons such as the Tivoli Theater to more obscure buildings such as the Art Deco-style Illinois Bell Telephone building on Forest Ave. Through these buildings, the walking tour summarizes the history of the downtown, the architecture, and some of the people who were instrumental Downers Grove's development.



Architectural Styles Guide

The Architectural Styles Guide shows how to identify the style and form of a house based on specific features, with examples drawn from Downers Grove. It illustrates numerous architectural styles – such as Greek Revival, Queen Anne, Prairie, and Mid-Century Modern – along with house forms such as foursquare, bungalow, and split-level. – *By Ken Lerner*



Please Join Us on Our Remaining 2018

Highland Ave. Adopt-A-Highway CLEAN-UP DAYS

*June 9
August 18
September 29*

*Saturdays
8:30-10:30 AM*

Check our website for updates. If you would like to help us keep Highland Avenue clean, please contact us at info@PDHA.org to learn more about volunteering.

Have you renewed your membership in the Heritage Alliance?

See the back page of this newsletter for more info and how YOU can make a difference!

Check us out at www.PDHA.org

*Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance
P.O. Box 422
Downers Grove,
Illinois 60515*

Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance

**P.O. Box 422
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515**



Pierce Downer
1782-1863

Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance Summer 2018 Newsletter

**You are invited to join us at our next 2018 Meeting
Thursday, June 28th, 7:00 pm
Room 307, Lincoln Center, 935 Maple Ave., Downers Grove.
Check our website www.PDHA.org for more details.**

Your membership in the Alliance helps in our efforts to petition local government officials to preserve our heritage resources. Your participation in our programs demonstrates to our community the strength of our alliance to protect Downers Grove's natural and cultural heritage.

Please join Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance or renew your membership now as we work for protection of the natural and cultural heritage of Downers Grove.

Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance
P.O. Box 422, Downers Grove, IL 60515

Yes, I want to begin/renew my membership in Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance.

Name(s): _____

Street Address: _____ Telephone: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Email Address: _____

Contribution: \$ _____ (Employer matching contribution?) _____ I/We can also volunteer some time.

A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION of \$10 or more will help the Alliance defray expenses, but is **not** required for membership. Your email address will allow us to keep you informed of future events.

Help us **save trees & receive a full color digital version of this Newsletter** electronically by sending us your e-mail address at Info@PDHA.org!