

## Protect Your Heritage

PDHA  
Annual Meeting  
Thursday,  
October 19<sup>th</sup>, 7pm  
Lincoln Center  
Room 503

### IN THIS ISSUE:

Page 1:

2017 PDHA Annual  
Meeting Lecture:  
*Mysteries of the  
Monarch*

DuPage Monarch  
Project

Page 2:

PDHA Directors  
DG Park District  
Is Planning For  
Our Future

Page 3:

Belmont Prairie  
Wildflower Walk 2017  
Highland Avenue  
Adopt-A-Highway  
CLEAN-UP DAYS

Page 4:

PDHA Sponsored  
Tribute to  
Lyman Woods Heroes  
Betty Cheever &  
Wally Brown

Page 5:

Friends of the  
Edwards House Wins  
Richard H. Driehaus  
Foundation Project  
of the Year Award  
for Advocacy

Grant Awarded for  
Pollinator Garden

## 2017 Annual Meeting

### PDHA Fall Lecture: *Mysteries of the Monarch*



Kim White

PDHA is sponsoring a free public presentation entitled *Mysteries of the Monarch*, Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in Room 503 of Lincoln Center, 935 Maple Avenue, Downers Grove. Our speaker is to be Kim White, who participates in the [DuPage Monarch Project](#) and writes [The Natural Naturalist](#) blog.

Kim will tell us about the marvelous life cycle of Monarch Butterflies and about the DuPage Monarch

Project's work to provide improved habitats for these extraordinary creatures throughout DuPage County.

Kim volunteered as a docent at Brookfield Zoo for 10 years, followed by 10 years as an employee in their Education Department teaching school groups. Later she worked as a tour guide for a pilgrimage company, taking people to Israel, Egypt, and Europe. After taking 4 years off to care for her beloved in-laws, she is now back to learning and teaching about the natural wonders of the world that can be found in our own backyards. - *By Gordon Goodman*



Monarch Butterfly  
Photo by Tiago J. G. Fernandes

## DuPage Monarch Project

PDHA is supporting the efforts of the DuPage Monarch Project to increase suitable habitat for the monarch butterfly in DuPage County. To accomplish this, DuPage Monarch Project is asking village and park district boards to adopt resolutions to make their communities more monarch friendly. The Downers Grove Park District has already been supporting monarch friendly programs for several years, including native landscaping, educational programming, and the designation of Lyman Woods as a waystation. Staff has agreed to pursue adoption of a resolution with the park district board. PDHA is helping the DuPage Monarch Project to pursue adoption of a resolution by the Village.



Downers Grove is already a leader in DuPage County in the number of waystations, with 28 waystations, mostly on private property. In addition to Lyman Woods, the Library also contains a waystation. Monarch butterflies need additional habitat. If your garden contains milkweed and nectar plants, please visit <http://www.monarchwatch.org/waystations/certify.html> in order to see if your garden qualifies as a waystation. - *By Irene Hogstrom*

## 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:

Sue Carroll,  
Jim Cavallo,  
Marge Earl,  
Irene Hogstrom,  
Rich Kulovany,  
John Schofield,  
& Mark Thoman

Director Emeritus:

Wally Brown.

Newsletter

Editing by  
G. Goodman

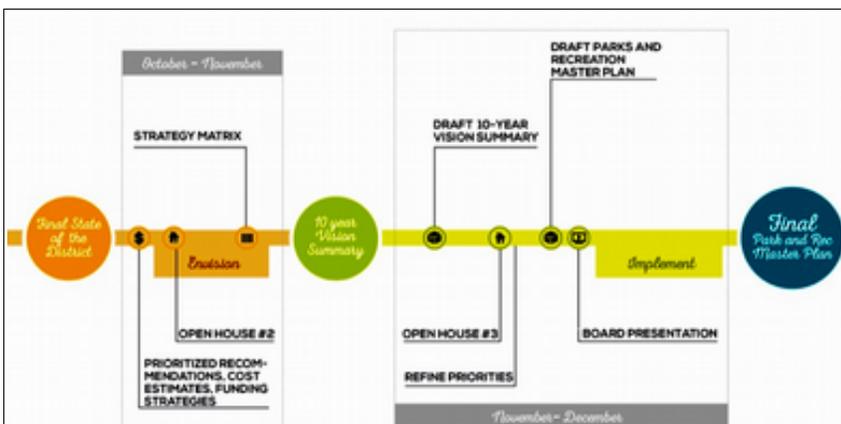
Logo designed by  
Kate Earl

Photos by  
M. Bragen,  
G. Goodman,  
I. Hogstrom,  
R. Kulovany,  
K. Lerner &  
D.A.White Photography

## Downers Grove Park District Is Planning For Our Future

Members of the PDHA Board of Directors met August 1<sup>st</sup> with staff from the Lakota Group, which is assisting the Downers Grove Park District with revision of the Park District Master Plan. The Master Plan will set priorities for the Park District for the next ten years. In written and oral comments, PDHA stressed:

1. Management of our natural areas - We value the Park District's continued efforts to manage and highlight our natural areas, Lyman Woods and Belmont Prairie, and support efforts to protect these areas through attention to their surrounding buffer zones.
2. Continued support for the District's historical mission. Preserving our cultural and historical legacy is part of the District's Strategic Plan. PDHA urges the Park District to complete the adaptation of the 1846 Blodgett House to allow educational tours, and highlight and expand availability of the Museum's historical research assets, especially to those researching their property for Village landmarking or the Historical Society's Historic Homes program.
3. The Park District should develop a land management master plan, in coordination with the Village, to make explicit goals and priorities for local open lands. Coordination with the Village is important because the Village maintains and acquires neighborhood parcels for stormwater management.
4. Hold on to and expand the "pocket parks" and other scattered small parcels the District owns. They are neighborhood assets and an opportunity to develop native-plant areas or possibly even neighborhood garden areas. The objective should be to establish small parks strategically situated in neighborhoods within walking distance of as many homes as possible, so that green, recreational space is convenient to parents and children. This will be beneficial from both an ecological and health standpoint – ecological, because less auto fuel would need to be expended in getting to a park; and healthful, because people could walk or bike there, instead of taking a car. Park District green spaces should feature rain gardens and other green-landscape architecture, as reflected in the Sustainable Sites Initiative ([www.sustainableites.org](http://www.sustainableites.org)).



Remaining Steps of Planning Process To Update The Park & Rec Master Plan

5. We also suggested reviewing the parks/open space components of the Village Comprehensive Plan, and the "TCD 3" study that preceded it, to review pertinent public input about open space and recreational opportunities.

**Opportunity for Public Comment:** For more information about the Park District's master planning process visit [www.thelakotagroup.com/projects/downers-grove](http://www.thelakotagroup.com/projects/downers-grove). The website has a link to a survey where you can provide your own feedback and comments. We urge all of our newsletter recipients to take this opportunity to tell the Park District your priorities for park space and recreation opportunities.

**More Opportunity for Comment: The DuPage Forest Preserve District is working on it's master plan, too.** A series of public meetings is planned, and there will be an online survey as well. Visit [www.dupageforest.org/master-plan](http://www.dupageforest.org/master-plan) for more information. - *By Ken Lerner*

## Belmont Prairie Wildflower Walk 2017

PDHA held a fundraiser Wildflower Walk at the Belmont Prairie in August. Volunteer naturalist Lance Herning led a group of eight walkers with his usual mix of erudition and enthusiasm. Among the many blooming plants, Lance identified five of the seven types of goldenrod growing in this Illinois Nature Preserve: Grass Leaved, Old Field, Stiff, Early & Tall Goldenrod. (The others live in the wetlands.)



Belmont Prairie Wildflower Walkers – August 2017

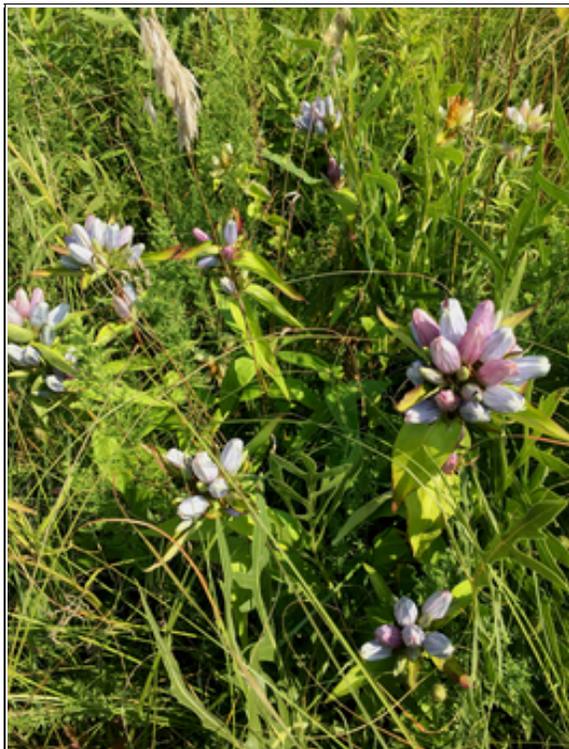


Early Goldenrod  
*Solidago juncea*

Goldenrod was investigated as a potential raw material for natural rubber by no less than Thomas Edison and Henry Ford, but was never widely commercialized. Goldenrod is often mistakenly blamed for fall hay fever but the true culprit for most allergy

attacks is ragweed.

Other plants noted along the way included the showy blooms of bottle gentian, and the compass-plant – noted for its tendency to orient its large leaves on a north-south plane.



Bottle Gentian – *Gentian andrewii*



Compass-plant  
*Silphium laciniatum*

After the walk Joellen Siddens hosted the group for refreshments and conversation. She showed the group a copy of the new and authoritative (1300-page) *Flora of the Chicago Region*, which she helped

develop and edit over the last 15 years. - By Ken Lerner

Please Join Us  
On Our 2018  
Highland Ave.  
Adopt-A-  
Highway  
CLEAN-UP DAYS

April 14  
June 9  
August 18  
September 29

Saturday  
8:30-10:30 AM

Visit our  
website to  
[sign up to  
participate!](#)

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!

Pierce Downer's  
Heritage  
Alliance

P.O. Box 422  
Downers Grove,  
Illinois 60515

## Protect Your Heritage

Learn more about  
the benches  
honoring  
Betty Cheever &  
Wally Brown  
by visiting us at  
[www.PDHA.org](http://www.PDHA.org)

To receive your  
**Newsletter**  
in full color!  
Send your  
e-mail address  
to us at  
[info@pdha.org](mailto:info@pdha.org)

National Arbor Day  
will be  
April 27, 2018.  
Let's get together  
to celebrate the  
importance of trees!  
You will find a  
wealth of information  
at  
[www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org)  
and at  
[www.mortonarb.org](http://www.mortonarb.org)

## PDHA Sponsored Tribute to Lyman Woods Heroes Betty Cheever and Wally Brown

Many organizations and individuals joined forces with PDHA to honor Betty M. Cheever and Wallace H. (Wally) Brown with tribute benches in Lyman Woods Preserve. Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance was joined in its financial support of this project by the Grove Foundation for Recreation, The Conservation Foundation, League of Women Voters of Downers Grove, Woodridge, & Lisle and the Downers Grove Downtown Management Corporation as well as by a dozen individual donors.

A celebration of Betty's and Wally's community leadership was held on Sunday, May 21, 2017 in the Lyman Woods Interpretative Center. Betty and Wally were joined by members of their families and by representatives of the supporting organizations and by those of the DuPage Forest Preserve District, Downers Grove Park District, Illinois General Assembly, DuPage County Board and Village of Downers Grove.



*Here are some of the community leaders who came to celebrate with Wally and Betty.  
Front row: Wally Brown, Betty Cheever, Hilary Denk, Ken Lerner,  
Back row: Joe Cantore & his son, Bob Gelwicks, Nicole Walus,  
David Olsen, Liz Chaplin, Martin Tully, Gordon Goodman*

The Lyman Woods Preserve owes much to the leadership of these two outstanding individuals. As Downers Grove Mayor, Betty Cheever championed the 1982 tripartite purchase of Lyman Woods from George Williams College by the Village of Downers Grove, the Downers Grove Park District and the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County. In 1996, Forest Preserve Commissioner Wally Brown led the campaign for additional Forest Preserve District funds to supplement referendum-voter-approved Park District bond funding for purchase of the heavily wooded site at the south-east corner of Highland Avenue and 31st Street. Wally Brown also played a key role in achieving a million dollar Illinois State grant for the Lyman Woods Interpretive Center. Both Betty and Wally have held many public service positions in our community over the years. Wally Brown continues to serve as Director Emeritus on the PDHA Board. - *By Ken Lerner*

## Friends of the Edwards House Wins Richard H. Driehaus Foundation Project of the Year Award for Advocacy

Landmarks Illinois recently recognized historic preservation achievements in Downers Grove with one of its prestigious annual awards. On September 16, Friends of the Edwards House (FOEH) received the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation Preservation Award for Project of the Year for Advocacy. Rich Kulovany, FOEH Chair (and PDHA Director), accepted the award from Kim Coventry, Executive Director of the Foundation, who stated, "Through persistent and effective local advocacy, the Village has come to view historic preservation as an asset and community priority."



*Landmark Illinois Ceremony Friends of the Edwards House Honorees*  
 Front row: Amy Gassen, Chris Martin, Bo Martin, Shanon Tully  
 Second row: Mark Bragen, David Gassen, Rich Kulovany, Bryon & Chuck Holtzen,  
 Cindy Zaeske, Irene Hoagstrom, Ken Lerner

In accepting the award, Kulovany stated, "We consider this to be the most profound honor...." Speaking of the eight other award winners, he said, "I am both humbled and inspired by what *you* have done." Rich cited five key elements of the group's activities:

- use of social media to raise awareness
- active engagement with Village leadership, including the supportive Mayor & Village Council
- partnerships with like-minded groups, such as PDHA & the Downers Grove Historical Society
- regular educational events and
- most rewardingly, direct outreach to owners of historic homes



*"Landmarking Your Historic Property & the Historic Home Program"  
 A Presentation Given for 57 People at Emmett's Brewing Company*

FOEH and the Downers Grove Historical Society continued their awareness efforts presenting events in May and in September about Landmarking Your Historic Property & the Historic Home Program, as well as manning a booth at the Village's Downtown Market and holding their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Landmarked House Tour, in which approximately 175 people walked through 4 landmarked homes.

Historic home and building owners

are stepping forward to protect the heritage and charm of Downers Grove. This year local landmark status has been granted for Pierce Downer House on Seeley, Chilvers-Winter House on Middaugh, Fairview Train Station, Lottie McDougall house on Linscott and Frank Rogers House on Fairmount. The total number of local landmarks has now risen to sixteen, with several more in the pipeline. Momentum for voluntary landmarking seems to be growing as more property owners learn of the Village's simplified, revised Historic Preservation Ordinance. – *By Rich Kulovany*

### Grant Awarded for Pollinator Garden

The Village of Downers Grove is the recipient of a grant to develop a pollinator garden at the Belmont Train Station. The garden is to replace a large expanse of turf grass near one of the parking lot ramps. It will be planted with native plants to attract pollinators such as honeybees and butterflies, and contain educational signage. The grants are administered by OpenLands as part of the ComEd Green Region Program. Twenty-five grants have been awarded this year in northern Illinois as part of the program's fifth anniversary. Grants this year focused on conservation of pollinators. PDHA is to help the Village with promotion of this project and to provide additional volunteer assistance.

- *By Irene Hoagstrom*

*Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance*

**P.O. Box 422**

**Downers Grove, Illinois 60515**



Pierce Downer  
1782-1863

Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance Fall 2017 Newsletter

**Come hear Kim White tell us about**

**Mysteries of the Monarch**

**at our 2017 Annual Meeting on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm**

**Lincoln Center Room 503, 935 Maple Ave., Downers Grove.**

**Check our website [www.PDHA.org](http://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.

**[Email us at info@pdha.org](mailto:info@pdha.org) to receive your PDHA Newsletter in its full color digital version with live action links to additional online information!**