



THE PULLMAN FLYER

- NEIGHBORS SHARING ARE NEIGHBORS CARING -

December 2024

Pullman Civic Organization

614 E. 113th Street, pullman-civic.org

PCO Holiday Party, Wednesday, December 18, 2024, 7:30 pm

PCO Holiday Party

Lorraine Brochu

Come eat, drink and be merry at the PCO's annual Holiday Party on Wednesday Dec. 18 at 7:30 pm. All are welcome to this potluck event (and doesn't Pullman have the BEST cooks?!) where we set aside business to attend to the important business of fellowship with our neighbors. Bring something to share if you can, bring a neighbor, but please come!

This year we'll have a Free Share table, where you can bring a used book or cd to share and take another home.



Christmas Eve Car Caravan

Tom McMahon

Once again, we will have a Christmas Car Caravan through the streets of Pullman on Christmas Eve at 6:00 PM (weather permitting). We will gather at Exhibit Hall at 5:30 to decorate our cars. From there we will drive-up and down the streets of Pullman honking horns and yelling good cheer.

If you want to participate, please meet at Exhibit Hall at 5:30. To decorate your car with lights I suggest purchasing an "inverter" (this is different from a converter) for your car (Menards \$20.00). This plug-in-device will allow you to fully decorate your car with hundreds of lights (use LED lights). At 6:00 PM residents can greet the caravan from their porches or curbs ringing bells. This Caravan was a great success in the past and we would hope to make this an annual Pullman event. And yes, there will be that special visitor riding in the last car bringing lots of holiday cheer.

Solon Says: Reflecting on a Year of Growth

The Beman Committee's Workshops and Events in 2024
Megan Lydon, Chair
pcobemancommittee@gmail.com

The reflection on the Beman Committee's accomplishments over the past year is particularly personal to me as I conclude what has been a wonderful 4 ½ years as co-chair. As we look back on a year of meaningful engagement and growth, we are proud to share a recap of the workshops, events, and initiatives that have helped strengthen our community. With a focus on preservation, education, and community-building, we have worked tirelessly to foster a deeper connection to Pullman's rich history by providing a wealth of information to residents.

The Beman Committee has continued its commitment to the preservation of Pullman with a series of hands-on workshops this year through a newly formed partnership with Revolution Workshop. These sessions, along with other workshops and events, provided valuable knowledge to homeowners and residents alike who were looking for tips on caring for their old home. Workshops have included: Window Repair and Restoration with TMC Windows; Power Tools 101 with Revolution Workshop; Permit Workshop with Beman Committee Co-Chairs; Tile Repair and Installation with Revolution Workshop; Window Expo with guests Pella/Air Tite and Marvin/Revisions; and Wood Repair and Painting with Evryman Wood, including a pant giveaway by Sherwin Williams.

In addition, we have continued into our 21st year of administering the Façade Reimbursement Program. This program has yielded over half a million dollars in façade restoration work in the neighborhood since its inception! Our Homeowner Guide, updated annually with trusted contractor referrals from community members, is a free resource available online to help answer a wealth of questions about living in a Landmark District and doing work on your property. And finally, neighbors have pulled together in an effort to save Reformation Lutheran Church in neighboring Roseland – home to Barack Obama's South Side office when he was a local community organizer.

As we wrap up this year, we are already busy planning new initiatives for 2025 that will continue our commitment to preservation, education, and community-building. Most importantly, we are happy to announce that the Beman Committee is now the proud keeper of Ralph Larson's complete collection of milling knives. Thanks to the generous donation of Revolution Workshop, the knives are freshly sharpened and ready to get to work! We will be putting a tool lending agreement in place in the new year for contractors or hobbyist who have the appropriate equipment to utilize these tools. We hope the legacy of Ralph and his generous contributions to this neighborhood live on for generations to come.

If you're looking to get involved or have an idea for an event or workshop, we encourage you to reach out. The success of this past year has been made possible by the efforts and enthusiasm of our residents, and we look forward to working together to make next year even more impactful. I want to thank you all for your trust in me over the years. Connecting with each and every one of you that has reached out with questions about restoration, frustration with the permit process, or even a simple call looking for paint colors – I have truly enjoyed them all. It has been a joy building our education and outreach efforts to empower you to take on your own projects or to hire a tradesperson with confidence.

As a reminder, Façade Reimbursement Program Applications and Guidelines are still available online at pullman-civic.org, on the front door of 11307 St. Lawrence, and can be requested by emailing pcobemancommittee@gmail.com. Paper copies will also be made available at forthcoming PCO General Membership meetings. Selections of projects to be made at the January PCO General Membership meeting.

- Maximum reimbursement amount: \$1,250
- Agreement period: January 1 - December 31
- Completed applications due: December 31

The Historic Pullman Garden Club presents

WINTER LECTURES 2025

January 26 Gardeners Roberto Burle Marx
Beatrix Ferrand

Frederick Law Olmsted

February 23 African American Heritage Water Trail
From Beaubien Woods to Robbins

March 23 20 years of Winter Lectures
A Photo Retrospective



All the lectures are free
and will be presented on Sundays
at the 614 Building on 113th Street, at 2pm.

Visit our new website, pullman-civic.org (note the dash between Pullman and civic) where you can renew (or begin!) your membership.



Historic Pullman Garden Club:
On the Power of Place and our Upcoming Winter
Lecture Series
Lynn Smith

The Upcoming Winter Lecture Series will be held on the fourth Sunday of the month, beginning in January, and ending in March, (lecture dates being 1/28, 2/23, and 3/23, at 2 pm). ALL lectures will be held at an HPF setting, most likely the Miller Center on 113th street.

This Winter we will be using homegrown Pullman talent to showcase in three cases, important landscape architects (those being Roberto Burle Marx, Beatrix Farrand, and Frederick Law Olmstead), the development of the African American Water Trail from Beubien Woods to Robbins, and last but certainly not least a photo retrospective from Tony Dzik, "20 years of Winter Lectures". These lectures promise to highlight the role of imagination, preservation, and dedication in developing spaces. What makes a space appealing? What is your vision for a place?

Finally, a Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday, and Happy New Year from the Historic Pullman Garden Club! We hope to see you in 2025!

MODEL TRAIN EXPERIENCE
See an awesome display of vintage Lionel trains featuring four unique set-ups and a Polar Express exhibit showcasing the role Historic Pullman played in the making of that enduring Christmas classic.
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Green Spaces and Places:
Winter at Big Marsh
Lynn Smith

Technically, as I write this column, it is not yet Winter. But a walk today at Big Marsh showed many of the charms of the season. . .that is with layers of fleece and long underwear, a hat and warm gloves. . . it was quiet at the Marsh, the water had frozen over, and the pattern of ice crackling showed patterns both random and repeating. The egrets were no longer posted as still sentinels by a pond.

The characteristic dotted eyes of Blacked Eyed Susans (Rudbeckia) showed distinct against the grasses. Small song birds still flitted in the meadows. Three deer watched my approach from a nearby hill, close to where park staff had planted Red bud and River Birch. One deer in particular seemed especially curious, looking after me even after the two others had flitted away. How does a deer view the universe, I wonder. Coyote scat is visible on the walking/ biking trail, just evidence that this is a park for wild things. I noticed that staff had planted some columnar junipers near the trail, evidence that the park continues to evolve. At one large pond I saw new signs of beavers- four branches of a tree had been repeatedly gnawed in a characteristic triangular pattern.

The Nature Center was warm and welcoming with interesting exhibits and comfortable seating areas to contemplate what you had just been seeing. If you haven't yet seen Big Marsh, you're missing something. . .and we'll keep talking. . .

HPF Holiday Gift Ideas

Bart Darress

This holiday season, give a gift membership to someone special. Share your love of history with friends and family. Discover iconic architecture and urban planning. Learn about the origins of the American labor movement and civil rights. For as little as \$30, you can give them something unique and meaningful they'll enjoy all year long. It takes only minutes- just click the button below and choose Gift Membership. You'll receive a beautiful card to send or give to your friends and family at the holidays. And as a member, they'll enjoy all the exclusive benefits as part of the official friends group of Chicago's national park. So, give the gift of history, community, and legacy. Give the gift of Historic Pullman Foundation membership today. Gift memberships available at Pullmanil.org

Exhibit Hall Gift Shop is your one-stop holiday gift-buying spot! Come and see a host of new Pullman glassware, beautiful porcelain ornaments, and even beautiful Pullman ornaments that light up. But don't delay. Our incredible selection of Pullman collectibles are going fast: Limited edition pen sets and 50th anniversary plates. Stylish Pullman hats. One-of-kind prints. Hundreds of stocking-stuffers and under-the-tree wonders you won't find anywhere else. So, shop local. And give gifts that give back to Pullman National Historical Park! Visit Historic Pullman Exhibit Hall at 11141 South Cottage Grove Avenue in Chicago.





From the Dining Car
Astrid Fingerhut

We kind of went from summer to winter over the past couple of weeks. I know it's not rare in Chicago to have shorts weather followed by several inches of snow a couple of days later, but it's always unpleasant and unsettling when changes happen so abruptly.

This year, I'm going to try to focus on how astonishingly adaptable we humans are. It may not feel great for the temps to drop from the 60s to the teens, but we dig out the mittens and puffy coat and, shivering a bit, carry on! I complain bitterly every year about the darkness... but looking out my window (at 4:30—it's pitch dark now), I see that my neighbors have strung beautiful lights framing their house all the way up to their roof and I can see the twinkling lights of a Christmas tree in their window. We adapt! And finally, as time passes and our families or friend groups grow and shrink, even those traditions that feel like they should be permanent are not... and we adapt. We get through it. And along the way, we might even find that we are forming new traditions that we will carry on going forward.

However, while I'm fully prepared to focus on the miracle of our adaptability and to ignore my heels-dug-in self who wants warmth and light and traditions to stay the same, I truly don't think I should have to adapt without an adult beverage or two and some really good snacks.

So, this month, I'm presenting a comfort dessert favorite; kranskekake. Kranskekake is usually served in beautiful rings that are the traditional Norwegian wedding cakes. But, there's a far easier way to make these that allows for variation and adaptation but remains a chewy, delicious almond cookie that is incredibly easy to make.

Kranskekake

- 2 1/4 cup almond flour
- 2 1/4 cup powdered sugar
- 4 egg whites

Mix all the ingredients together till they form a thick dough. Cover the dough and let it rest (the original instructions say to let it rest on your counter... I'm not positive that that's especially safe, but I will say I've never gotten sick from it) for a couple of hours. Then heat your oven to 350 and roll out the dough by hand into snakes about the width of your finger on a clean surface that you sprinkle with powdered sugar to keep it from sticking. Cut into finger-length pieces (I honestly cut them longer—maybe 5 inches long or so) and line them up onto a cookie sheet covered with parchment paper. Don't let the cookies touch and allow a little space for them to expand. Cook for 16-17 minutes. These cookies are best when they are just starting to turn golden brown... but don't cook them so long that they get crisp. They are meant to be chewy, so err on the side of lighter color and shorter cook time. Cool on a rack. If you feel fancy, you can melt chocolate and dip one side into it and dry on the rack. Honestly, these are so delicious, I don't usually bother. Serve them with a cup of coffee. I honestly have no idea how long they will last stored in your fridge—much longer than mine ever last.

Happy holidays, you amazing adaptable human!



PULLMAN CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2024-JANUARY 2025

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES		
National Park Service Visitor Center (Clocktower) - Open 7 days a week, 9am-5pm		
The Block House Gallery Open Thurs 4pm-6pm / Sat 12pm-2pm 11137 S Langley		
Historic Pullman Foundation Exhibit Hall Thursday-Sunday 12pm-4pm 11141 S Cottage Grove		
MONTHLY MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS		
When	Event (\$ if charge)	Where/How
Sat 12/14 4pm-7pm	PNHP Holiday Traditions program	NPS Visitor Center 610 E 111th A family friendly Holiday event: make ornaments, carolling, take pictures with Jolly Old Elf and more
***Tues 12/17 7:30 pm PCO Beman Committee Mtg (4th Wed) FLM Center 614 E 113th		
WED 12/18 7:30PM PCO ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY <i>PLEASE BRING A DISH OR DESSERT TO SHARE AND SPREAD HOLIDAY CHEER WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS AT THE HPF EXHIBIT HALL</i>		
Tue 12/24 5:30pm Decorating cars / gathering at the Exhibit Hall for the : 6:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE CAR CARAVAN THROUGH THE STREETS OF PULLMAN 6pm-6:15pm <i>RING BELLS</i> with neighbors ~ from your porch!		
Fri-Mon 12/27 - 12/30 12pm-4pm Lionel Train Club & Polar Express Display Exhibit Hall <i>Seasons Greetings and Happy New Year - Welcome 2025!</i>		
Tue 12/31 11:59pm DEADLINE for 2025 PCO Façade Reimbursement Program Applications		
Wed 1/8 7:30 pm PCO Executive Board Meeting (2nd Wed) FLM Center 614 E 113th		
Wed 1/15 7:30pm PCO General Membership Meeting (3rd Wed) Everyone is welcome! Exhibit Hall 112th St		
Wed 1/22 7:30 pm PCO Beman Committee Mtg (4th Wed) FLM Center 614 E 113th		
Sun 1/26 2pm HPGC Winter Lectures Series # 1 FLM Center 614 E 113th St		
Submit your Pullman / local community event details to pullmancalendar@gmail.com		

The Pullman Flyer is produced monthly by the Pullman Civic Organization, 614 E. 113th Avenue, Chicago, IL 60628. The viewpoints expressed in The Pullman Flyer are not necessarily the convictions of the Pullman Civic Organization. The deadline for the upcoming Flyer is the last day of the previous month. Committee reports, announcements, letters to the editor, dedication suggestions, and articles should be emailed to sandyczajko@sbcglobal.net. All submissions become the property of The Pullman Flyer.

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Non-residents may receive a one-year subscription to the Pullman Flyer by sending a \$10.00 check made out to the Pullman Civic Organization to: Pullman Flyer, (Attn: Beverly Ash-Larson, Distribution Coordinator), 614 E. 113th Street, Chicago, IL 60628

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Checks should be made payable to the Pullman Civic Organization.

All inquires about ads in the Pullman Flyer can be sent to:

PullmanFlyerAdvertising@gmail.com.

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GALLERY

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Contact info@pullmanarts.org to inquire about rates, see the space, or set up an event rental.

Follow @blockhousegallery on Instagram or PullmanArts on Facebook to learn about upcoming gallery shows and other stuff PullmanArts is doing in the community.

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