



THE PULLMAN FLYER

- NEIGHBORS SHARING ARE NEIGHBORS CARING -

April 2024

Pullman Civic Organization

614 E. 113th Street, pullmancivic.org

PCO General Meeting, Wednesday April 17, 2024, 7:30 pm

From the PCO President

John Lydon

Two years ago, the Pullman Civic Organization committed to work toward achieving five goals. One of them was to clearly define the purpose of the PCO and its role in our community. Other goals included increasing the diversity of our membership and fostering inclusivity. Let's look at these together.

When examining the myriad of organizations in our community, the PCO serves a unique purpose in promoting the civic welfare and historical significance of Pullman. The PCO is the only nonprofit organization in the community designated as a 501(c)(4), also known as a social welfare group. Compared to other 501(c) organizations, this designation allows more flexibility with advocacy and lobbying efforts. Additionally, all members of the PCO in good standing have the opportunity to vote on issues discussed at meetings, providing a platform for community voice. Simply put, PCO members have agency.

Our platform of community voice has been active since 1960. As the longest-running organization in the neighborhood, there are decades of stakeholders who have dedicated their lives in service to Pullman; our historical and continued success can be attributed to the paradigm of a community focused on its own collective efforts rather than those of outside interests. And, as with any democratic institution, ideas and opinions vary. How we engage during discourse matters.

Pullman is its people. In our efforts to best serve our community and foster inclusivity, it is imperative to ensure everyone is seen and heard. To this end, an excerpt from Margaret J. Wheatley's book *Turning to One Another: Simple Conversations to Restore Hope to the Future* came to mind and is shared below:

As we work together to restore hope to the future, we need to include a new and strange ally—our willingness to be disturbed. Our willingness to have our beliefs and ideas challenged by what others think. No one person or perspective can give us the answers we need to the problems of today. Paradoxically, we can only find those answers by admitting we don't know. We have to be willing to let go of our certainty and expect ourselves to be confused for a time.

We weren't trained to admit we don't know. Most of us were taught to sound certain and confident, to state our opinion as if it were true. We haven't been rewarded for being confused. Or for asking more questions rather than giving quick answers. We've also spent many years listening to others mainly to determine whether we agree with them or not. We don't have time or interest to sit and listen to those who think differently than we do.

But the world now is quite perplexing. We no longer live in those sweet, slow days when life felt predictable, when we actually knew what to do next. We live in a complex world, we often don't know what's going on, and we won't be able to understand its complexity unless we spend more time in not knowing.

It is very difficult to give up our certainties—our positions, our beliefs, our explanations. These help define us; they lie at the heart of our personal identity. Yet I believe we will succeed in changing this world only if we can think and work together in new ways. Curiosity is what we need. We don't have to let go of what we believe, but we do need to be curious about what someone else believes. We do need to acknowledge that their way of interpreting the world might be essential to our survival.

Since 1960, the PCO gathers, supports, and informs our community. Together, we can!

PCO Nominations

The following slate of nominees will be presented at the April 17 General Membership meeting, where further nominations may be made from the floor. The election will be held at the May General Membership meeting, and the newly elected officers will be sworn in at the June meeting.

Officers (One-year term)

President: Wyatt Ollestad
Vice President: Melissa Campos
Secretary: Kathy Lynch
Treasurer: Darrell Hill

Zone Directors (Two-year term)

Zone 1: Eva Villagomez
Zone 2: Harriette Burks-Watson
Zone 3: Melinda Moore
Zone 4: Beatrice Hardy

Elected Members of the 2024 Nominating Committee

Harriette Burks-Watson
Arlene Echols
Mike Mishler

Submitted by the 2023 Nominating Committee: Beverly Ash-Larson, Harriette Burks-Watson, Claudia Flores, John Lydon

Solon Says:

A Report of the PCO Beman Committee

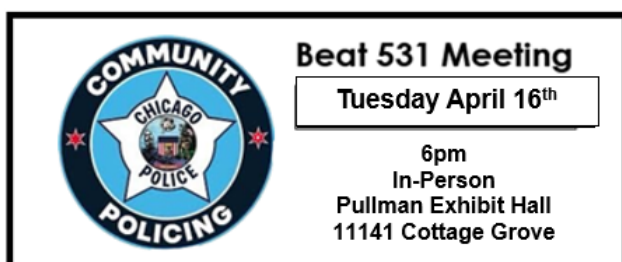
Megan Lydon and Wyatt Ollestad Co-Chairs
pcobemancommittee@gmail.com

Save the date! The Beman Committee will be hosting a presentation on the Façade Legacy Project, Saturday, April 27 from 1:00-3:00PM at the Florence Lowden Miller Historic Pullman Center (614 E. 113th St.). Come learn about the efforts of the Committee over the years, including the most recent expansion of façade documentation to the northern portion of the Historic District. We hope to see you there both to learn more about incredible resources available to this community and to celebrate the hard work and dedication to those involved.

In 2007, the Beman Committee launched an effort to document the façades all of the residential units with an initial focus on the southern part of the District. The project first began as a visual survey of all residential properties followed by archival research to identify distinctive features of each façade type. The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation and the National Trust for Historic Preservation provided funding for the initial phase of the project completed in 2013. All architectural drawings completed by Joe Dietz were then added to a public, searchable database of façade styles by property address. This database continues to act as a standing resource to property owners, the Commission on Chicago Landmarks for use in building permits, and contractors wishing to perform any rehabilitation, stabilization, or other work on the façades of the applicable buildings.

The Beman Committee has received several awards for its efforts throughout the years, including a 2008 Preservation Excellence Award from the Commission on Chicago Landmarks, a 2009 Landmarks Illinois/Richard H. Driehaus Preservation Award and, a 2014 John Baird Award for Stewardship in Historic Preservation from the Commission on Chicago Landmarks, and most recently, a 2022 Timuel D. Black Jr. Grant from Landmarks Illinois for the continuation of the Façade Legacy Project in the northern part of the Pullman Historic District.

These efforts complete the catalogue of residential facade drawings for the entire Pullman Historic District and will be available (very soon!) on the searchable public database found here: www.pullman-museum.org/facades. Look up your address and come join us on April 27th to learn a little bit more about the history of your home!





Historic Pullman Garden Club On the Value of Adaptation Lynn Smith

For all of you have been following the *Pullman Flyer* and NPS postings, there will be a joint lecture on April 28th at 2pm, at the NPS classroom, featuring arborist Jerome Scott, on "Tree Pruning 101". I expect that this lecture will be informative and fun, so don't miss it.

For those people that are interested in a hands-on demonstration lecture, I will be doing a window box demonstration on May 5, 2024 at 2pm, with space being limited to 15 people and limited to Pullman Garden Club members. If interested in being at this demonstration, please be at the May 1, 7pm meeting where you can join the club (if not yet a member)! We are gauging the interest in this type of lecture, and depending on the response, may have more lectures of this type.

On the topic of adaptability, I had originally planned to do a demonstration on Spring blooming shrubs. However, our Korean Spice Viburnum chose this year to need a radical, and I do mean radical trimming...it will need to be almost totally cut down. Whether you have been a gardener for some time or are just wading into the gardening world, you will find that adaptability – in response to weather, soil, your own limits in terms of physical activity, etc. is key to enjoying gardening in the long run. Hope to see you at both the April 28 lecture and the May 1st garden club meeting (7pm, Miller Center).

Green Spaces and Places: Proposing Pea Gravel Lynn Smith

I've gardened in Pullman for over 25 years and only last year did I decide to try using pea gravel in our garden. Why? In my defense I have to say that I am drawn to green things, and gravel does not fall in that category. However, pea gravel, and by that I mean small smooth stones that range in size from 1/8 inch to 3/8 inch and range in color from buff, rust brown, to shades of white and gray are very appealing in small gardens and have the added benefit of improving drainage and deterring rodents liking to eat bulbs. Particularly in conjunction with flagstone or pavers, the use of pea gravel can create a more weed free and mud free path (if you are using about 3 inches of gravel) Use of pea gravel may make plant fungal diseases less likely, but it will need to be replaced periodically, possibly every several years.

Some of the pros of using pea gravel are that it is relatively inexpensive and versatile, can prevent weeds (if you weed thoroughly before and have put about three inches of gravel down), can serve to deter rodents, and improves drainage. It also tends to be timeless looking, and can be raked into shape as needed. It's surface also brings plants into high relief. . . Plants against soil can look more ordinary plants against pea gravel look, dare I say, more refined.

On the negative side, gravel often needs to be contained with edging such as brick, edging material, will shift underfoot unless you put more rock or something solid underneath it, and will not be a stable surface for lawn furniture like metal café chairs. Pea gravel also is most useful with other solid surface areas interspersed. It would not be easy to shovel snow from, for example.

However, if you are looking for a timeless edging material which highlights plants, improves drainage, deters those pesky rodents, and minimizes fungal problems, consider the use of pea gravel in your garden, and we'll keep talking. . .

National Park Week Teri Gage

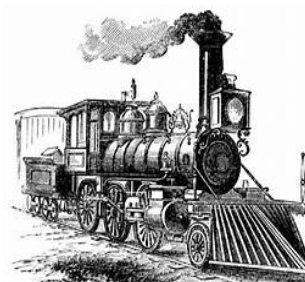
Pullman National Historical Park will celebrate National Park Week from Saturday, April 20 through Sunday, April 28. National Park Week is an annual observance to celebrate and recognize YOUR national parks. National Park Week usually coincides or connects with Earth Day (April 22), National Volunteer Week (April 14-20), and is a fitting segue into National Historic Preservation Month in May that celebrates the nation's heritage through historic places.

The National Park Service is pleased to kick off National Park Week on Saturday, April 20, with our partners at the Pullman House Project, as they launch a new house exhibit and open the doors to the former Lisciotto residence. The public is invited to visit the home for free on April 20, and learn about the extraordinary efforts undertaken by Lisciotto and fellow Pullman residents to thwart plans for the town's demolition. The home has been recreated with 1960s decor, offering a glimpse into the life of a typical Italian working class family in Pullman. FREE - Registration required. Visit the Pullman House Project website to learn more at <https://www.pullmanathome.org>. The Pullman House Project is managed by the Bielenberg Historic Pullman House Foundation, a key interpretive partner of Pullman National Historical Park.

On Saturday, April 27, neighbors and volunteers are invited to join park rangers for a Pullman community clean up from 10AM to 1PM. Safety vests, gloves, and tools will be provided. Long pants and closed-toe shoes are required. Please check in with park rangers at the National Park Service Visitor Center at 610 E. 111th Street. Sign up to be an official Volunteer In Parks. Volunteers in Parks are Very Important People! The clean up is supported by our partners at Pullman State Historic Site and our official friends group, the Historic Pullman Foundation.

National Park Week is a great time to explore Pullman National Historical Park! The National Park Service visitor center is open daily from 9AM to 5PM. Free to all and all are welcome.

RailRoad Days: Three Historic Railcars Never before Seen in Pullman Bart Darress



Historic Pullman Foundation (HPF) in partnership with Metra and the American Association of Private Rail Car Owners (AAPRCO) is excited to announce the three Chicago Pullman-built rail cars featured at Pullman Railroad Days, People, Progress & Innovation, coming June 1st and 2nd. All three train cars are appearing at the event for the first time ever!

"We're so excited to bring a whole new crop of Historic Pullman cars to this incredible event," said AAPRCO Executive Director, Julie King. "It's like a homecoming for these extraordinary rail cars."

This year's luxury cars include the 1923 Sleeper-Lounge Dover Harbor, 1950 Pullman Sleeper-Observation Blue Ridge Club, and the sleek 1957 Hollywood Beach. Throughout the weekend visitors can tour these remarkable train cars at the 111th Street/Pullman Metra Electric Station.

"Bringing these iconic cars to Pullman gives everyone a chance to see real railroad history up close," offered Metra CEO/Executive Director Jim Derwinski. "We couldn't be more thrilled to be a part of Railroad Days once again."

The oldest car at this year's event, the 1923 Dover Harbor, was originally configured as a combination baggage-library car with four sections, a 12-seat lounge, a barber shop, and a 28-foot baggage area. After ten years in service, the car returned to the Pullman Company where it was rebuilt with six double-bedrooms, a buffet and lounge. Restored to its as-built 1934 appearance, it's now the only heavyweight Pullman revenue service car still in an original Pullman configuration, and fully operational for use on Amtrak passenger trains.



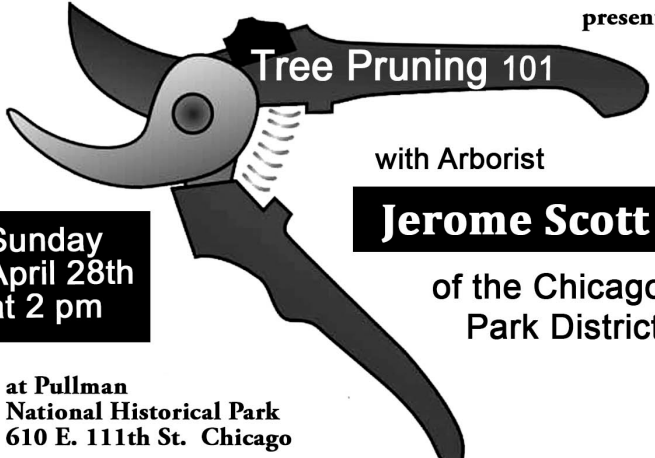
The Historic Pullman Garden Club & National Park Service present

Tree Pruning 101

with Arborist **Jerome Scott** of the Chicago Park District

Sunday April 28th at 2 pm

at Pullman National Historical Park 610 E. 111th St. Chicago





From the Dining Car
Astrid Fingerhut

You know that feeling when just as you finish something and feel pretty good about it, something else pops up that's much better than what you did? That happened this month with veggie chili.

It was good. Really good. And not just because I was hungry and grateful. When I asked if Linda would be willing to share her recipe, she readily agreed, but told me that it had already been published in the column.

- 2 tbsp vegetable oil
1 medium onion, chopped
2 large cloves garlic, minced
1/2 large red pepper, chopped
1/2 large green pepper, chopped
1/2 jalapeno with seeds, chopped
1/2 lb mushrooms, sliced
1 medium zucchini, chopped
2 15-oz cans diced tomatoes, either chili ready or with green chilis
1 15-oz can tomato sauce
1 15-oz can sweet corn, drained
2 15 oz cans dark red kidney beans, drained
1 tsp ground cumin
2 tbsp chili powder
1 tsp salt
1/4 tsp pepper
1-2 tbsp sugar

Put oil in a large pot and stir in the first five ingredients. Continue stirring until tender, about 20 minutes. Add mushrooms and cook until they give off liquid, stirring occasionally, Add zucchini and cook another 20 minutes.

Linda notes that it has a kick but isn't hot!

So, apologies for two chili recipes in a row... but sometimes you want a quick meal that you can throw together with ingredients you probably have on hand (my chili) and sometimes you want something more refined that takes a bit longer, but the effort shows in the complexity of flavors (Linda's chili). Enjoy!

Advertisement for Pullman Bank & Trust featuring a group photo of volunteers and the text 'You make all the difference VOLUNTEER TODAY volunteer@pullmanil.org' with a QR code and link bit.ly/RRD24Vol.

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

PULLMAN CALENDAR FOR MARCH-APRIL 2024. Table with columns: When, Event (\$ if charge), Where/How. Includes weekly activities like National Park Service Visitor Center and monthly meetings like PCO General Membership Meeting.

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.

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BLOCK HOUSE GALLERY

Hold your event at Pullman's volunteer-run local art gallery, located inside the Pullman Artspace Lofts at 11137 S Langley!

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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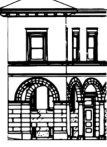
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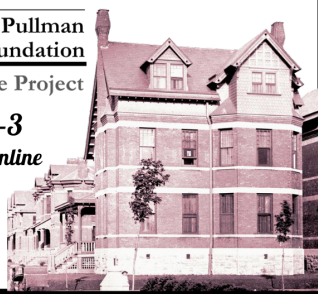


PULLMAN CLUB COFFEE



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