# From the PCO President Rachel Smith

"How did it get so late so soon? Its night before its afternoon. December is here before its June. My goodness how the time has flewn. How did it get so late so soon?" Dr. Seuss.

I don't know about you, but for me, 2021 flew by. It's almost inconceivable that Christmas is less than 30 days away. And although we're still feeling the impacts of the

COVID pandemic, Pullman has accomplished so much this year. In January, the Vision Committee kicked off a successful and inclusive lawn sign campaign, reminding us all to "Be Kind". The PCO successfully (and consistently) conducted executive and general membership meetings to maintain the business of the organization.

The Membership Committee, led by the enthusiastic Fernando Rosiquez and Claudia Flores kicked off the successful membership drive with a cookout for the community. PullmanArts also launched their 3-day formal opening celebration of the Pullman Artspace Lofts and The Block House Gallery. The Historic Pullman Foundation welcomed Julian Jackson as Interim (now permanent) Executive Director.

The Beman Committee was busy. From overhauling the Façade Reimbursement Program to showcasing profiles of various craftsmen experienced in Pullman's homes, the Beman Committee continuously served to educate, inform, and support the Community about the beauty of preservation and restoration.

The grand opening of the Pullman National Monument Visitor Center and Pullman State Historic Site Factory Grounds on Labor Day served to showcase the community to the world. A weekend of activities – a car caravan, various tours, visiting train cars, and other various events – showed Pullman in our best light. Welcoming dignitaries such as United States Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland was arguably the highpoint of the year. Pullman's annual events – Garden Walk and House Tour didn't disappoint. Well organized and well-attended, both events showed that even in a pandemic, visitors continue to be curious about and interested in what Pullman is all about – quaint, charming, and historic. We're looking forward to welcoming them back next year!

Family-focused events such as the Trunk or Treat in October, the planned Lionel Train Exhibit (December 17-19) and the PCO Holiday Party close out the end of a very busy year.

It is my hope, as president of the Pullman Civic Organization, that in 2022, the organization continues to live up to our charge of promoting the general welfare of the community, preserving its historical significance, and educating and promoting the significance of the area. It's a been a heck of a successful year and I'm grateful to volunteer alongside many of my neighbors who care very much about Pullman's past, present and future.



The Caritas Chorale of Pullman invites you to attend a concert:

# **Christmas Vespers** at the Greenstone

SUNDAY DECEMBER 19 AT 6PM

CAROLS AND TRADITIONAL MUSIC FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON

The Greenstone United Methodist Church 11211 S. St. Lawrence in Pullman

ADMISSION IS FREE. A FREE-WILL OFFERING WILL BE ACCEPTED

#### Celebrating the Season of Light Lorraine Brochu

In December, barring pressing business, the PCO entertains a motion to suspend usual business and get on with the important matter of connecting with neighbors and friends. All are invited to the PCO General Meeting for our annual potluck and good cheer on December 15th at 7:30 pm at the Exhibit Hall. Please bring a dish to share if you can, bring a friend or neighbor, but most importantly bring yourself. If you'd like to help organize, tidy up, or brainstorm, please contact the Hospitality Chair, Susan Schoephoester, at sschoephoester@gmail.com.

### Christmas Eve Car Caravan Tom McMahon

Once again, we are going to have a Christmas Car Caravan through the streets of Pullman on Christmas Eve at 6:00 PM. We will gather at Exhibit Hall around 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. 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).

Again, we would ask that at 6:00 PM residents greet the caravan from their porches or curbs ringing bells. This Caravan was a great success last year 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.



The Train Is Coming into the Station...
Tom and Mike McMahon

This December 17th from 6:00 PM/9:00 PM and December 18th and 19th from 11:00 AM/3:00 PM, the Historic Pullman Foundation will be hosting a model train exhibit featuring Lionel Trains. There will be a number of Pullman Cars on exhibit as well as realistic engines and accessories from the 1950's and 1960's.

Additionally, there will be a new exhibit on the Polar Express. Pullman was the back drop for the North Pole as envisioned by the director, Robert Zemeckis, who grew up in Roseland and graduated from Fenger High School (Class of 1969).

This one-of- a-kind exhibit will bring back memories of Lionel Trains running under your Christmas tree. We invite all to experience Lionel Trains at Christmas in Pullman at Exhibit Hall on December 17th, 18th, and 19th.

# Attention Members: Bylaws Notice

The Bylaws Review committee has been formed for the normal review process. Cochairs are:

Patrick Watson patrickcwatson@icould.com Larry Lagadinos llagadinos@att.net



# Solon Says: A Report of the PCO Beman Committee Megan Lydon and Wyatt Ollestad Co-Chairs

pcobemancommittee@gmail.com

Happy Holidays, Pullman!

As a reminder, copies of the Application and Guidelines for the 2022 cycle of our Façade Reimbursement Program are still available both at the front door of 11307 St. Lawrence and online (pullmancivic.org, under the 'Resources' tab). Completed Applications are due back no later than December 31, so be sure to get yours filled out soon! These chilly winter days are perfect for planning restoration projects for next year, and with contractors' schedules booking up months in advance, there's no time like the present to start putting those plans to paper!

I think we'd all agree that 2021 was a bit of a tumultuous emergence from the standstill that was 2020, but we hope you've seen the signs of both progress and a return to 'normalcy' (including having House Tour again!) that we have. Despite many unanticipated roadblocks, we've seen some great restoration and preservation work happen in our community this past year. We hope you'll join us for our celebration of this work in our Preservation Excellence Awards ceremony, to take place in early 2022. Watch this space for details. The new year brings with it the promise and hope of new possibilities, and the Beman Committee is hard at work on several exciting projects that we hope to debut in 2022. As always, look for our article in each and every Flyer for all the latest, or feel free to join one of our monthly meetings (typically the fourth Wednesday of each month, but be sure to check the Calendar first). From seasoned professional to casual observer, we welcome all with a passion for preservation to join us in our efforts.

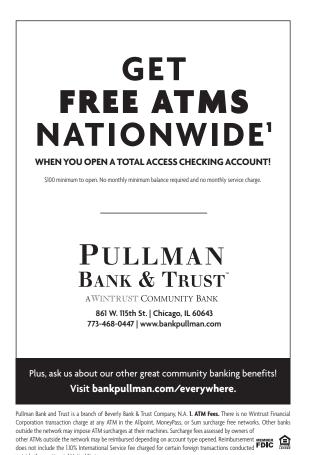
See you in the new year!

# On Enjoying Holiday Containers: Green Spaces and Places Lynn Smith

The colors green and red have a long association with the time of Christmasdating back to the time of the Romans and Celts, with Romans celebrating Saturnalia with green boughs and gifts, and Celts bringing in holly and greenery to represent beauty and prosperity in the midst of Winter. More recently, during Victorian times, greenery was brought into houses in England to represent the "holiness" of the holidays, with the dark green of holly representing everlasting life, and the red berries representing the crown of Christ's crucifixion.

A more marketplace related connection with red and green was amplified by the commercial art work of Haddon Sundblom, who characterized "Santa" in 1931 with red robes against a green background. He was jolly and chubby, not thin/elf like, as previously portrayed. This art work commissioned by Coca Cola., was quite successful.

Finally, if you are looking for a native plant, having the red and green motif to create some festivity and beauty in the Winter Season, look no further than Ilex verticullata, or Common Winterberry. You will need at least one male and female plant to create berries. Good cultivars are "Red Sprite" and "Winter Red". Merry Christmas/Happy Holidays, and we'll keep talking...



# The Pullman Flyer

# Winter Safety Lynne M. Collins

My car would not start! I found myself in the parking lot of a grocery store, recently, with a dead battery. I believe in good car maintenance; but, I didn't drive my car far enough after getting an oil change. (Can I get two points for getting an oil change, in October?) I pulled into the nearby grocer's lot expecting to purchase a few items and head on home. That familiar sound of "sphlittt" .... nothing.... told me that my battery was dead! Shoot!!

Well, I'm a good Girl Scout, No? So, I pulled out my insurance card and called the Emergency Road Service number on the back of the card. "No worries, Ma'am, someone will arrive within 30 minutes," they said. Great! Such wonderful, reliable customer service, I thought. Twenty-five minutes later, I received a text message stating that it would be 90 minutes before help arrived. Now, I was mad. The oil change business had closed for the evening. What now? It was raining and beginning to get dark. I didn't want to be a vulnerable senior citizen, out after dark. Moreover, I didn't want to be a victim, in a parking lot.

Well, the good news is that after checking with store management to see if there was a battery jump service offered (there wasn't), a few minutes later, the Emergency Road Service guy called to say that he was now only a few minutes away.

He arrived, as promised, and in a jiffy jumped my battery, lickety-split, with a device that was the size of a small computer and I drove home without further incident.

The next morning, my battery was dead again and I headed straight to a local auto supply store immediately, to purchase and install a new battery. So, "What's the point of this story?" Friends, it is this. I thought that I had replaced my battery, but I had not! Otherwise, I would have been on my way to purchase a new battery, in October, along with my new oil change. The moral of the story is this. It is now December. Snow, ice, and severely cold temps are on the way. We need to be reasonably sure that our cars will get us reliably where we are going and return us safely, to our homes. Get your car serviced if you haven't already. Be sure that you have a spare tire in the trunk and that it has air in it!! Be sure to have a set of jumper cables, or the newest thing, a jumper battery, so that a good Samaritan can help to get you on your way. Also, have mittens, a blanket, a flashlight, a candle, matches, and an empty coffee can. Such items can help to provide you with warmth and comfort, inside of your car, if the help that you expect takes longer than expected to arrive. Merry Christmas to all, and to all, a good night! Happy Holidays!

#### Ladies Luncheon Group Carol Lagadinos

Covid has reshaped everyone's social connections and the Pullman Ladies Lunch Group is no exception. The group, who met monthly, stopped getting together after the February 2020 lunch held at Asian Harbor in Homewood. It wasn't until a year later, in February 2021 that we had our first virtual luncheon together to catch up, discuss how everyone was doing and coping with the current crisis. Those on the call were really grateful to be able to connect, talk about how they're feeling and have some girl talk time. Although everyone was somewhat stressed, the overall consensus was that staying positive is the best thing we can do.

We met and ate lunch again virtually in March and April of 2021. With warmer weather in May and June, we met outdoors at a resident's backyard where lunch was BYO-Bring Your Own. Even though the members of the group were vaccinated, we agreed we would rather progress slowly and safely. In July, we finally had lunch at a restaurant but outdoors on the patio at nearby Harborside Golf Course. We skipped August but in September were able to book a private patio room at Thi's Thi's in Evergreen Park for lunch and their famous martini's. In October, we met for lunch in another private dining room at Zachary's in Palos Heights, which we all highly recommend.

Then in November we met for the first time in inside a restaurant with other diners in the room since February 2020. November location was Public Landing in Lockport and we highly recommend it for service, food and ambiance.

Not sure yet what the plans are for the rest of the winter but on December 22, the December lunch will be themed as an outdoor Paris Christmas Market and held in a residents backyard with plenty of heaters. If you are interested in more information and/or joining the Ladies of Pullman for interesting conversation and good food, contact carollagadinos@att.net. Luncheons are usually the 4th Wednesday of each month.



### Reflections on the Caritas Chorale in Concert Elizabeth C. Mishler

The Caritas Chorale, directed by Pullman's Pat Brannon, will present a concert, Christmas Vespers at the Greenstone, on December 19 at 6 PM at the Greenstone Church. This new choir—a sixteen voice chamber ensemble—is named for caritas, the Latin word for charity; see I Corinthians 13:13:

But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

In this context, charity refers to Christian love of humankind. My Swedish-American Grandmother, Ethel Baker, exemplified this virtue throughout her life-time. To sing with the Caritas Chorale is to be in her presence, though she is on the other side of the veil. While singing the Christmas hymns and carols with the chorale, I find myself enveloped in the ancient and holy chords that resound within this music. With Dr. Brannon's direction and Dr. Jabir's accompaniment, one is transported to a realm of pure harmony and love together with our community of singers and with the greater Pullman community as a whole. To exist within this holy sound is to be, once again, in my Grandmother's arms and to hear the unfaltering beauty of her alto voice, harmonizing with the many voices of the ages who have sung these songs. Christmas was my Grandmother's favorite time of year, the music of the season her favorite music. My family is a musical family and the deep bass sound of my Grandfather's voice reverberated in your bones. My Grandfather, Reid Baker, was a professional musician and troubador with perfect pitch, who played the String Bass; but in reality, he could play anything with strings. My Mother has a powerful soprano voice that soars with the angels, a voice of which I have inherited only "una piccola parte." As for my Father, he sings with an unparalleled appreciation of harmony. His soul listens with a deep abiding sense of wonder and faith to the amazing grace of our divinely imbued human voices.

The above passage from Corinthians was read at my wedding, 29 years ago. I would be remiss not to mention that my husband, Michael Mishler, is also a musician and singer whose knowledge of modern music is tremendous. Our son, Paul, a budding pianist, has inherited a century-old Mason and Hamlin grand piano from my Grandfather, a love of music from our family, and a voice all his own to share with the world.

And so it goes for all of us. The universal language of music connects us with each other and with all of the voices of the past and future. The Christmas season allows us to express our gratitude for life and our caritas for each other in many ways – through generosity, fellowship, forgiveness, and grace; but the greatest of these is to be together, as a community, sharing our love and hope with each other, in this case, through music.

After a year without live music due to the pandemic, please join the Caritas Chorale in celebrating this holiday season! The concert, Christmas Vespers at the Greenstone, will be on Sunday, December 19 at 6 PM at the Greenstone Church. Admission is free.

# Community Improvement Andreas Morgen

Hello, some of you may know me...others may not. I'm Andreas Morgen one of your fellow Pullmanites. I'm the Community Improvement Coordinator with the PCO. If you have any problems that needed to be addressed please let me know after notifying 311. I will follow up with my contacts at Alderman Beale's office. I can be reached at 773-431-9081, Andreas.M.Morgen@gmail. com or on our several Facebook sites.

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.

Sandy Melnyczenko Czajkowskyj.	Editor
Debbie Newman	Copy Editor
Beverly Ash-Larson	Distribution Coordinator
Ralph Larson	Distributor

# The Pullman Flver

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Jan/Feb 202	2 HPF Exhi	bit Hall - Open	Friday, Saturda	y and Sunday	11am-3pm
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Wed 12/15 7:30pm	<b>PCO</b>	ANNUAL	. HOLIDa	Y PA	RTY
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Tue 12/21	7pm PC0	O Safety Commi	ttee Meeting	carollagadino	os@att.net
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# From the Dining Car: Holiday Eating Tips Patty Lawson

Wed 1/26 7:30pm PCO Beman Committee Meeting pcobemancommittee@gmail.com

Submit your Pullman / local community event details to pullmancalendar@gmail.com

As we celebrate this joyous season in various and wondrous ways, more than likely, food will be at the center of most of our activities. Over the years, friends and my sister, Janet, have offered their tips on how to get the most out of the holiday meet-and-eat occasions, and I pass them on to you.

- Avoid carrot sticks. Anyone who puts carrots on a holiday buffet table knows nothing of the Christmas spirit. In fact, if you see carrots, leave immediately. Go next door, where they're serving rum balls.
- Drink as much eggnog as you can. And quickly. Like fine single malt scotch, it's rare. In fact, it's even rarer than single malt scotch. You can't find it any other time of year but now. So drink up! Who cares that it has 10,000 calories in every sip? It's not as if you're going to turn into an eggnogaholic or something. It's a treat. Enjoy it. Have one for me. Have two. It's later than you think. It's Christmas!
- If something comes with gravy, use it. That's the whole point of gravy. Gravy does not stand alone. Pour it on. Make a volcano out of your mashed potatoes. Fill it with gravy. Eat the volcano. Repeat.
- As for mashed potatoes, always ask if they're made with skim milk or whole milk. If it's skim, pass. Why bother? It's like buying a sports car with an automatic transmission.
- Do not have a snack before going to a party in an effort to control your eating. The whole point of going to a Christmas party is to eat other people's food for free. Lots of it. Hello?
- Under no circumstances should you exercise between now and New Year's. You can do that in January when you have nothing else to do. This is the time for long naps, which you'll need after circling the buffet table while carrying a 10 pound plate of food and that vat of eggnog.
- If you come across something really good at a buffet table, like frosted Christmas cookies in the shape and size of Santa, position yourself near them and don't budge. Have as many as you can before becoming the center of attention. They're like a beautiful pair of shoes. If you leave them behind, you're never going to see them again.
- Same for pies. Apple. Pumpkin. Mincemeat. Have a slice of each. Or, if you don't like mincemeat, have two apples and one pumpkin. Always have three. When else do you get to have more than one dessert? Labor Day?
- Did someone mention fruitcake? Granted, it's loaded with the mandatory celebratory calories, but avoid it at all cost. I mean, have some standards.
   One final tip: If you don't feel terrible when you leave the party or get up from the table, you haven't been paying attention. Reread tips; start over, but hurry. January is just around the corner.

May you always have love to share, health to spare, and friends that care. And may you always believe in the magic of the season.



# **CLASSIFIED ADS**

Real Estate Ads (sales and rentals) are \$15 per month. Service ads for businesses, personals, and other sales ads are \$10 up to 3 lines per month. 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.

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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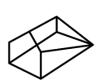
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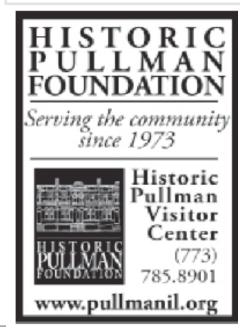
Located in the Pullman National Monument, in the new Pullman Artspace Lofts building at 11137 S. Langley Ave. is now open and available to rent for gallery exhibits, cultural events, celebrations and more. The gallery is 1,300 sq.ft. with lots of natural light. Please contact events@PullmanArts.org for details and pricing.



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