# \*\*\*PCO GENERAL MEETING\*\*\* Wednesday, August 16, 7:30 pm

#### From the PCO President

John Lydon

As Labor Day approaches, let's look at its history and relationship with Pullman. Before Labor Day was a federal holiday, it was recognized in individual states by labor organizers. New York and Oregon were the first to pass legislation for the holiday in 1887. Over the next several years, a total of 23 states honored Labor Day, leading to the national effort passed by Congress in 1894. President Cleveland signed the bill into law on June 28, 1984 in the midst of the Pullman Strike. A few days later, Cleveland sent federal troops to Chicago, marking the first time an injunction was used to break a strike and resulting in a conflict that cost 30 lives.

The Pullman Strike—then and now—embodies fundamental questions about American society. Pullman workers organized to fight for fair wages and working conditions as the national Labor Movement grew. One voice from Pullman-seamstress Jennie Curtis-particularly stood out. At the age of 19. Jennie was the President of The Girls Local Union 269, which had 125 members in 1894. She played a pivotal role in the Pullman Strike–from speaking at the first convention of the American Railway Union (ARU) that rallied national support to providing critical testimony to the United States Strike Commission. Below is an excerpt from the Report on the Chicago Strike of June-July, 1984, by the United States Strike Commission:

#### TESTIMONY OF JENNIE CURTIS (excerpt)

10 (Commissioner WRIGHT). State what took place at the first interview.— Ans. We went there and asked, as the men did, for more wages; we were cut lower than any of the men's departments throughout the works; in 1893 we were able to make 22 cents per hour, or \$2.25 per day, in my department, and on the day of the strike we could only earn, on an average, working as hard as we possibly could, from 70 to 80 cents a day.

- 11 (Commissioner KERNAN). Can you give us how the wages changed from month to month?—Ans. Whenever the men were cut in their wages the girls also received a cut. We were cut twice inside of a week in November, 1893, and in January our wages were cut again; that was the last cut we received, and we worked as hard as we possibly could and doing all we could, too. The most experienced of us could only make 80 cents per day, and a great many of the girls could only average 40 to 50 cents per day.
- 12 (Commissioner KERNAN). How many girls in the Pullman works at Pullman belong to your union?—Ans. About 125.
- 13 (Commissioner KERNAN). How much were these girls that finally got but 40 to 50 cents per day earning in May, 1893, for the same kind of work?— Ans. They could average at that time not less than \$1.50 per day.
- 14 (Commissioner WRIGHT). Do you pay rent in Pullman?—Ans. No sir;
- 15 (Commissioner WRIGHT). You pay board?—Ans. Yes, sir. My father worked for the Pullman company for thirteen years. He died last September, and I paid the rent to the Pullman company up to the time he died; I was boarding at the time of my father's death. He being laid off and sick for three months, owed the Pullman company \$60 at the time of his death for back rent, and the company made me, out of my small earnings, pay rent due.

16 (Commissioner WRIGHT). How did they make you do it?—Ans. The contract was that I should pay \$3 on the back rent every pay day; out of my small earnings I could not give them \$3 every pay day, and when I did not do so I was insulted and almost put out of the bank by the clerk for not being able to pay it to them. My wages were cut so low that I could not pay my board and give them \$3 on the back rent, but if I had \$2 or so over my board, I would leave it at the bank on the rent. On the day of the strike I still owed them \$15, which I am afraid they never will give me a chance to pay back.

Jennie Curtis lived on the 113th block of Champlain, which was then named Stephenson Avenue. Neighbor Andrew Bullen, a historian, archivist, and professor, culled together decades of Census data for every address in our neighborhood. He developed a website to document who lived at each home in addition to occupations, nationalities, and familial ties. What's your house

history? Together, we can!

Membership Committee Arlene Echols and Harriette Burks-Watson

Hello Neighbors!

We are the new co-chairs of the Membership Committee. With big shoes to fill, we look forward to carrying on the good work of previous Membership Committee Chairs, Claudia Flores and Fernando Rosiquez, and before them, Beverly Carli.

Our first order of business is filling much needed block captain slots, critical to the success of the Pullman Civic Organization.

Would you consider becoming a block captain? Optimally, this would be for your own block; however, we are looking to fill a couple of vacancies immediately and would consider residents from other blocks to fill in the gaps. What are the duties, you ask? Well, aside from the membership drive during our summer push, the time commitment is nominal - less than one hour monthly. Keep in mind that a Block Captain's block is only 1 side of the street. The vital function of block captains include:

- Delivering the Pullman Flyers door-to-door every month to their block;
- Asking their neighbors to join the PCO during the annual membership drive;
- Alerting the New Neighbor Committee when someone moves onto their

If you would consider being of service to our community, please contact us at: PCOMember ship Committee@gmail.com

Finally, a word of thanks to Beverly Ash-Larson and Elizabeth Mishler, who have volunteered to serve on the committee with us.



# 50th Annual Pullman House Tour



October 7 and 8, 2023

11am-5pm Mary, Katie, & Margaret, Volunteer Coordinators

The homeowners are opening their homes...now we need you!

Volunteering gets you a free House Tour ticket, the opportunity to tour on Preview Night, Friday October 6th, attend the Kickoff Party, AND the undying gratitude of the Volunteer Committee!

Go to http://bit.ly/451F0Ob or Scan QR CODE or Email pullmanhousetour@ gmail.com

Please add Pullman House Tour gmail address to your contact list and check your spam/junk folder for confirmation that your application has been



FIND YOUR HOUSE HISTORY



# The Pullman Flyer

### Solon Says: A Report of the PCO Beman Committee

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

Come one, come all to the Beman Committee's Window Expo on Saturday, August 19 from 1:00-4:00PM at the Pullman National Historical Park Service Visitor Center (Clocktower). This will be a drop-in event, so feel free to come by anytime. Representatives from Pella, JELD-WEN, and Sierra Pacific will be on hand to answer your questions regarding historic window replacement and talk about their available products. No registration required, and the event is totally free. Join us!

Thank you to everyone who attended our Plaster Workshop in July. Andy Bullen guided us through the ins and outs of repairing historic plaster, and the session was both informative and entertaining. Be on the lookout for more events like these from the Beman Committee in the future. We've had a really great series of programs this year that we are hoping to expand upon (as well as offer a few repeat 'fan favorites'). Be sure to watch this space, attend a General Membership meeting, and check out our Facebook page for all the latest news.

With House Tour just around the corner, we want to call attention to the beauty and charm of Pullman's front façades. Even if your house isn't part of this year's House Tour, a fresh coat of paint, a little tidying up, and maybe a simple repair or two go a long way in making our community look like the picturesque unified town it was designed to be.

Also, it bears repeating that House Tour is how the Beman Committee's Façade Reimbursement Program is funded each and every year. It's a milestone year both for House Tour (celebrating its 50th) and the Façade Reimbursement Program (turning 20 with the 2024 cycle), so let's each do our part to make them both a smashing success!

And of course, for everyone who's been putting off that big restoration project for a few years, it's never too early to start planning for 2024 and getting ready to apply for a Façade Reimbursement this Fall! Applications and Guidelines will be made available in November for all qualifying projects to occur next year. Don't delay - contractors' schedules fill up fast, and there's always at least one unexpected hurdle (or several) that accompanies any project, so the earlier you can plan, the better!

#### **HPF** Events

Emily Maynard

Hope you're enjoying your weekend 2 HPF is rounding out the summer (and Labor Day Weekend) with more programming updates, and we'd love for these inclusions in the Pullman Flyer! Plus, update: our 50th anniversary exhibit / Pullman Exhibit Hall's hours have changed to Thursday-Sunday, 12PM - 4PM. It is still donation-based entry, and any activity below can be accompanied with this time capsule experience. Please let me know if you have any questions and thanks as always for your support!

Historic Pullman Labor History Tour, August 20 at 1:30PM Co-sponsored by the Illinois Labor History Society and Historic Pullman Foundation, this tour explores the relationships between George Pullman, his company town, and the men and women who worked at his factory. We will again bring to life a period of conflict and struggle that reflects many contemporary issues - Pullman is where America's story lives.

Chicago On-Screen: A behind-the-scenes take, August 27 at 3PM The thrilling stunts and heart pounding chases of The Dark Knight, The Fugitive and Transformers were mere moments on-screen, but what it took to get it done was months in the planning. In our August #HPFSpeakerSeries, the former director of the Chicago Film Office Rich Moskal reveals the drama behind the camera and how a big city bureaucracy learns to make friends with Hollywood mavericks.

Labor Day Parade and Eddie Fest, September 2 at 12PM For the first time ever, attend Chicago's Labor Day Parade in Historic Pullman hosted by Chicago Federation of Labor and community partners! The parade kicks off at 12PM and Eddie Fest will be held at Pullman National Historical Park starting at 1PM.



### **Green Spaces and Places:** Hydrangea - A Traditional Plant, Rediscovered

Lynn Smith

Hydrangea are not new. The first hydrangea cultivated in the west was a native species (H. arborescens-) arriving in England in 1736. Although a recent book notes that there are 1.876 cultivated varieties of Hydrangea, the native varieties include Hydrangea arborescens (or which "Annabelle" is a cultivar) - discovered near Anna, in Ohio, and Hydrangea gurecifolia, or Oak leafed hydrangea, which is native to the Southeastern US. Other hydrangea varieties are native to China, Japan, Korea, parts of the Himalayas and Indonesia. There are even some which are native to Mexico and South America. But for purposes of cultivation in the US, most cultivars come from either the US or the Orient.

The word "Hydrangea" is derived from the Greek word "hydor" and though it is true the hydrangea tend to need quite a bit of water, especially in initial cultivation, the reason for the name is supposed to be that the buds of the flower are the same shape as the ancient Greek vessel that carried water.

Hydrangea can be divided into three types: Mophead, Lacecap, and Panicle. Mophead hydrangea, commonly seen in Eastern seaboard towns in shades of blue, will generally be pink or red in our more basic, or non-acidic Midwestern soil. Although there are cultivars in each type which will grow well in the Midwest, or here in Historic Pullman, eventual size needs to be considered. Some of the easier cultivars to grow in Pullman would include 'Hydrangea' paniculate Grandiflora syn H.p., 'Pee Gee' (though this can grow larger), 'Tuff stuff', 'Twist -n- Shout', 'Annabelle', 'Nikko Blue', 'Magical Candle', 'Pee Wee', 'Vanilla Strawberry', 'Limelight', and others.

For it's long flowering Summer statement in the landscape, there are few shrubs that can compete with hydrangea, if you are willing to continue to water them well. In return they will reward you with many months of flowers, both on the plant, and potentially dried, inside. And we'll keep talking...

### **Zone Directors and Block Captains**

Zone 1 Daryl Hall Director: 11100 Langley(East) Alexis Willis 11100 Champlain (East) John Cwenkala Eva Villagomez Director Eva Villagomez 11100 Langley (West) 11100 Champlain (West) Patti Kraning 11100 St. Lawrence **Sheldon Nagelberg** 

Zone 2

**Director: Susan James** 11200 Champlain (East) 11200 Champlain (West) 11200 Langley

Director: 11200 St. Lawrence (West)

11200 St. Lawrence (East) 112th Street

11200 Forrestville

Beverly Ash-Larson

Susan James Harriette Burks-Watson Patrick Watson

Lynn Smith Mary Bosman Claudia Flores

Zone 3 Director:

11300 Cottage Grove 11300 Forrestville (West) 11300 Forrestville (East) 11300 St. Lawrence (West) 11300 St. Lawrence (East)

Director: 11300 Champlain (East) 11300 Champlain (West) 11300 Langley (East) 11300 Langley (West)

Susan Schoephoester Jason Jones Jacob Hartman

Linda Feutz Arlene Echols Mike McMahon Pilar Carrera Pamela Williams Alexa Lawson Mark Cassello

Zone 4

Director: 11400 Champlain (East) 11400 Champlain (West) 11400 St. Lawrence (East)

115th Street Director:

11400 St. Lawrence (West) 11400 Forrestville (West) 11400 Forrestville (East) 11400 Forrestville (East) 11400 Forrestville (West) 115th Street

C.J. Martello

Denise Alcantar C. J. Martello **Beatrice Hardy** Katie Williams John Lydon Francine Williams John Lydon Francine Williams C. J. Martello



# The Pullman Flyer

#### From the Dining Car

Astrid Fingerhut

Last week I had one of those perfect evenings with our neighbors, Allison and Joe Kallo, where the conversation was sparkling and the food was delicious and I left full of gratitude not only to know these interesting, brilliant people, but to get to call them friends.

I asked Allison for this recipe, because not only are these cabbage pancakes now fully associated with a lovely evening, but they are tasty, easy, and (gasp!) kind of healthy! Allison says that while there are cabbage pancakes all over the world (she's a fan of both Japanese Okonomiyaki and Korean Baechujeon), this recipe is her variation of the Ukrainian version.

#### Allison's Cabbage Pancakes

#### Ingredients:

- 16 oz. cabbage
- 4 eggs
- 0.25 cup chopped dill
- 0.5 tsp. salt (or to taste) use finishing salt if needed
- 0.5 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 tbsp. oil (I have used grapeseed and avocado)

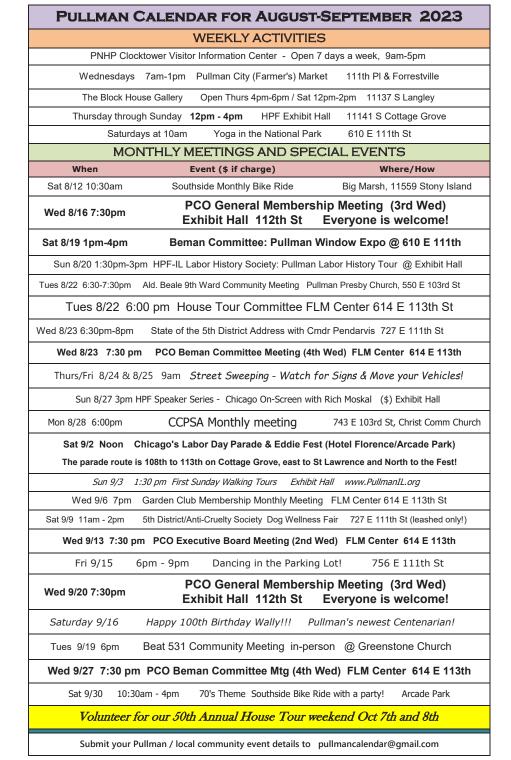
#### Instructions:

- Cut the cabbage thinly, like you would for coleslaw.
- Whisk eggs, salt, flour, and dill in a bowl large enough for the cabbage
- Add the cabbage to the egg mixture and stir well.
- Heat the oil in a non-stick skillet over medium heat. Add the cabbage mixture and flatten it with a spoon (it should be about  $\frac{3}{4} 1$ -inch thick).
- Cover the pancake with a lid and cook for about 5-7 minutes. Flip with the help of a plate, and then cook it for another 5-7 minutes.

#### Allison's notes:

- I don't really measure out the cabbage or slice as thinly as the recipe calls for. I'm much more casual.
- I've used fresh and dried dill (I thought it would be odd, but it is great). Fresh was better but dried dill was great.
- I've also tried parsley and chives--both parsley and chives (together and separately) were great. I also tried basil, but it was weird and I would not recommend it.
- I've also added 1/2 a spring onion to the cabbage and that was great.
- I can only successfully flip the pancake if I don't use too much cabbage
  but if it breaks apart you can usually still make it look good on the plate.

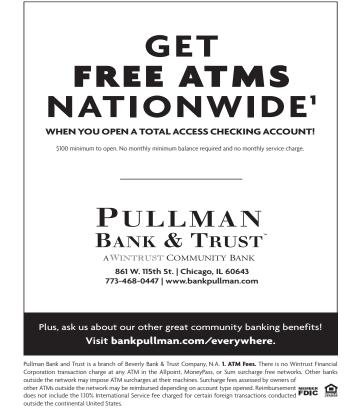
It is best served hot. I like it with Mayo-Must Saucy sauce and Hoison sauce, but I've had it with black sesame seed, spicy saracha. (From Astrid: I think it would also work topped with dill and sour cream, mostly because half the food in Norway--where cabbage is king--is topped with sour cream and dill, and partly because we wouldn't want it to be TOO healthy, right?)





#### Happy 100th Birthday to Aurelia "Wally" Estrada!!

Affectionately known to her friends as "Wally," she is one Pullman's longest living residents. Always helping behind the scenes in some of Pullman's most important events, such as preparing bakery items for Blanca's Youth Group, helping Betty with PCO senior events that took place in the past, and making breakfast for a large group of volunteers when her son Eddie and Kelly played a role in the Pullman picnic. Congratulations, Wally!! You are cherished as one of Pullman's "Best Caring and Sharing Neighbors"! Her 100th Birthday is September 16, so please give her a shout out!!









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

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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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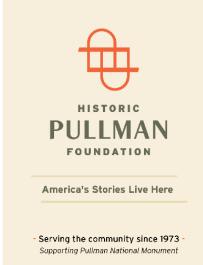
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