

- For Immediate Release

The History of Sleeping Cars
150th
Anniversary Symposium

In 1859, George Pullman operated one of the first comfortable new sleeping cars on the Chicago and Alton Railroad. To commemorate this grand event the PTHS - Passenger Train Historical Society will celebrate the 150th Anniversary on April 23-26, 2009. This featured event, a historical symposium will be held on Friday and Saturday, April 24&25, 2009 at the Pullman Visitors Center in (Pullman) Chicago IL. Additional activities include scheduled tours to various railroad historic sites on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and a field trip to the Illinois Railway Museum in Union, IL on Sunday, April 26th, 2009.

This is an important anniversary event with over 150 years of history. The symposium lectures will feature a number of presentations on the history of railroad sleeping cars, the equipment, operations, services, and the trains. There will be displays of historical photographs and artwork, as well as technical and historical information about the Pullman complex. The event will be held at Pullman's most dramatic and elaborate building development the town of Pullman. Following the presentations, on Saturday evening there will be an Anniversary Reception and Dinner held at the *Phil Stefani's Signature Pier 37 Restaurant* within the *Harborside International Golf Course*. The Dinner will feature recipes from the Golden Age of Pullman Dining Car service. The featured speaker will be James D. Porterfield: *Fine Dining a la George Pullman: The Cars and the Cuisine that Made Long Distance Trains Possible*. After the dinner slide shows about sleeping cars, Chicago's trains, and terminals will be shown by various invited presenters.

The cost for the presentations and tours will be \$55.00 per person, \$45.00 for students. The Saturday evening Anniversary Reception and Dinner is open to the public separately and is an additional \$60.00 per person for all attendees. Pre-registration for the Symposium and dinner ends on April 20th, 2009.

Further information can be obtained by visiting the PTHS symposium website at <http://www.trainweb.org/pths/symposium.html>. To register, email or print and send the online registration form with payment (which can be made by credit card, PayPal, or check) to:

pthssymposium@hotmail.com

PTHS registration, 150th Sleeping Car Historical Symposium
P. O. Box 67
Randolph OH 44265 or call 330-819-3423

For information on:

- Pullman State Historic Site -- www.pullman-museum.org
- The Pullman Visitor Center -- www.pullmanil.org
- *Pier 37 Restaurant* -- www.harborsidegolf.com
- Illinois Railway museum -- www.irm.org
- Baymont Inn & Suites (Official Hotel) -- http://www.baymontinns.com/Baymont/control/Booking/property_info?propertyId=11641&brandInfo=BU
- Other lodging & travel information -- http://www.roadsideamerica.com/hotels_motels/poi/64527.html

Parking is available onsite. Travel to the event via public transit on CTA bus #111 or Metra Electric rail line to 111th or 115th stops, South Shore line to Kensington, 115th Street both stations are located very near the Pullman Visitors Center.

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