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Pullman Railroad Days announces three historic railcars never before seen in Pullman

April 2, 2024 – 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.

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“These incredible Pullman cars all tell a story,” said Pullman Railroad Days Chairman and HPF President Emeritus, Joe Szabo. “It’s like going back in time and experiencing what it was really like to travel in the late 19th and early 20th century.”

The *Blue Ridge Club* was built by Pullman-Standard in 1950 for the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway. In its current configuration, this remarkable blunt-end observation car boasts three double bedrooms, one master suite, and a large dining-lounge-observation area. It’s painted in the classic brown and orange with a gold-yellow trim line - just as livery cars on the Illinois Central featured during that era.

And finally, the 1956 art deco beauty, the *Hollywood Beach*. Built by Pullman in 1956, the car first saw service on the Seaboard Air Line’s *Silver Meteor* between New York and Florida. This extraordinary solarium car is one of just three cars ever built that boasts the rare combination of half-lounge, half Pullman sleeping car. It offers five double bedrooms, a spacious lounge, and even a galley-style kitchen.

The 3rd Annual Pullman Railroad Days continues as one of the Midwest’s premier railroad-centric events, offering a whole weekend of historic Pullman tours, exciting new exhibits, and a host of interactive activities at Pullman National Historical Park.

Early Bird Tickets are available now through April 15th at [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) for just \$22. Best of all, only Early Bird Tickets offer a guaranteed spot on the historic railcar tour.

“With limited capacity to tour these amazing Pullman cars,” added Joe Szabo. “This is the best chance for train-enthusiasts, Pullman fans, history buffs, and everyone who wants to climb aboard actual Pullman history!”

For more information about Pullman Railroad Days including pictures of the historic Pullman rail cars, go to pullmanil.org or call Bart Darress at 773-569-6499.

Historic Pullman Foundation is the official nonprofit Friends Group of Pullman National Historical Park. For over 50 years, we have created opportunities for all people to come experience and understand the continuing American story that is Pullman.

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