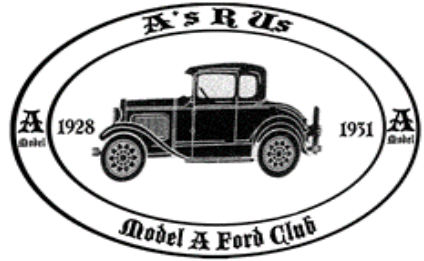


BACKFIRE

Volume #22 Issue
#10 October 2017



First, a few words from Ken Chamis

I would like to take this space in the newsletter to publicly acknowledge and give a formal thanks to a club member and almost seems like a lifelong friend. Al Kaleta is presently doing you could almost say a mini makeover / restoration to my 1929 special Coupe. We've made a joke out of it that I brought it to his house for an oil change and he took it apart. And taking it apart he has. I have pretty much giving him free rein to do whatever he would like and he's really taking it to the next level. At least four or five days a week he is out there tinkering cleaning painting Etc on the car.



He has cleaned and painted Parts. Replaced nuts and bolts and cotter pins. Taken the vinyl top off and replaced wood. The engine compartment looks fantastic. He's added parts that I have been saving for years stashed away in different parts of the garage for that car. He has been to the hardware store and the paint store and body shop and spent countless hours on the internet looking for parts and interior for the car.

And speaking of the interior his wife Sandy has been also involved in picking out and locating the correct interior that would make the car look very nice. They took the interior seat covers apart and she's actually going to cut and design and sew new seat covers for the car. That's absolutely amazing and I would like to also greatly thank her. She did not need to do it she volunteered

The car is not completely finished yet as we are presently waiting for the fenders and other parts to come back from the body shop. They are due back probably if all goes well by about the middle of October. He has touched up the paint from all the nicks since the car was painted back in 1965 in Ames Iowa. The car used to be what they call a 25-footer but now you can hardly see any imperfections from 3 feet away. I don't want a show car I want a nice-looking driver . He's also determined that the paint was a fleet paint meaning maybe it was from a private company and it pretty much looks like the color that Caterpillar tractor uses.

My plan years ago was to make it to a theme vehicle from Illinois Bell. My mother was a switchboard operator in the late 40s early 50s and I had two uncles that were linemen.



We're not changing the color of the car so now I'm going to take the theme in a different direction. The car started going just to the ice cream place about 25 years ago and has ended up all over God's creation.

I told him that he does such a nice job on the cars that he should put it out to other people that he would detail their cars and make them look nice also. So at this point it looks like he will be doing Diane and Bert's 1930 door over the winter time. The thought is to take off all the fenders and get them all cleaned up and repainted for them



You will have to contact him directly and see if he can schedule you in.

You will be surprised on how much the vehicle has changed for those who really had looked at it and I'm anxious to get it back on the road . It will ultimately be a dramatic transformation and I wish that the people that I had bought it from were still alive to see it. I have been in contact with the guy who drove it in 1960 to High School and I will be sending him pictures also when it's finished.. So with that I'd like to say a heartfelt thank you very very much to both Al and Sandy for what they have done to the car and breathing new life back into it. I know the grandkids are going to enjoy riding in the rumble seat for years to come and that's going to be priceless,giving them lots of fun memories and I am looking forward to it. And I imagine years down the road that the car will be passed down to one of the kids or the grandkid that takes the most interest. Time will tell.



QUALITY MEANS DOING IT RIGHT WHEN NO ONE IS LOOKING.

HENRY FORD

A few more interesting words from Ken

Recently one evening I got a phone call. Diane said that they were out in the car and was making a sound and would not start. It was a zinging according to her. Bert believed that the starter was not engaging. So they gave me a call and Dale and I headed over there. They had gone out for pizza and were going to enjoy the evening in the car. Of course it never breaks when you're at home always when you're away.



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So we hopped in the car and when I got there I hit the starter and sure enough it was.

Option one drop the starter but without any tools or parts that became not an option anymore. The other option was to push start the car. It definitely helps if both people in the car know how to drive it. They had called their friend John and so we had plenty of help to push start car. But how do you push start the car. Many of the members have seen the guys hop out of their cars and push start someone's car and away they go. But what actually happens to get it to run again. There's just a few steps that need to be taken and there's a good chance you're going to be able to get the car started and go on your way to your destination and fix it later. If you are lucky enough to park the car on a hill then typically you will not need anybody to push for you.



But if you got a few willing people and you're not on a hill this is what you need to do. Step 1 turn the gas on. Step 2 turn the key on. Step 3 have the driver put their foot on the clutch and put the car in second gear. Step 4 have one or more people begin to push the car until it gets to at least five miles per hour. That really will not take very much. Step 4 release the clutch which will in turn begin to turn the motor and should start. Put the clutch back in let the car warm up as usual. Which then you can thank your friends and be on your merry way.



This also makes for a good issue that everyone in the club should be able to drive the car at least in some respects.

I've had to push the car myself and hop in to get it to start but that's not easy and can be dangerous but you do what you have to do. Not too long ago I had broke down along the way and scooter and Karen happened to be coming back from Indianapolis. Worked out very well that he got out of his car along with another guy who had stopped along the way and pushed it and started right up. It's just a really few quick steps and you can repair the starter when you get to your destination.

I would like to thank Ken and Dale and my friend John Kemp for coming out and getting the car started and Ken again for showing me how to fix the starter.



I would also like to thank Jon Lisota for fixing our exhaust and the use of his carburetor. He got the car to run the best it ever has. I have since swapped his out (with Kens supervision) for on we had and it is still running fine.


ADVERSITY IS THE ONLY BALANCE TO WEIGH FRIENDS.

PLUTARCH

Historic Pullman House Tour


THE PULLMAN NATIONAL MONUMENT

44TH HISTORIC PULLMAN HOUSE TOUR



SATURDAY & SUNDAY **OCTOBER 7TH & 8TH 2017** **11:00 AM TO 3:00 PM**

Presented by The Pullman Civic Organization and The Historic Pullman Foundation
The new location of the Pullman State Historical Society, 11144 S College Street, Chicago 60628
Tickets are \$10.00 in advance, \$15.00 at the door. For more information visit www.pullman.org
For information please call 773-763-8871, or visit www.pullman.org

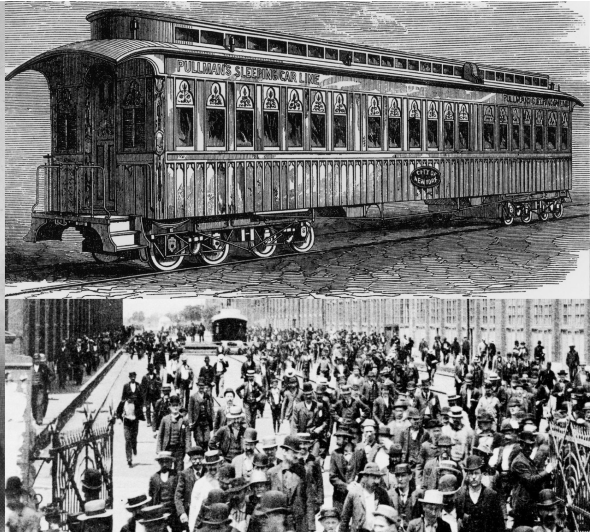
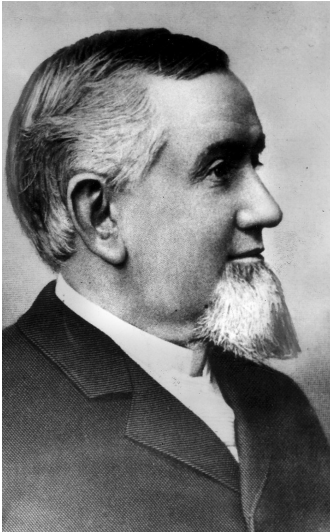


On Sunday October 11th Diane and I attended the historic Pullman house Tour with my Mom and a co worker of Diane. We happened to meet Tim and Carol Dione and Steve Coe there. They had a car show and had a grilled food stand. The tour itself was very interesting there were homes and a church you could tour inside with knowledgeable guides to see you through.

Following is a brief history of the Pullman District..



The town of Pullman, the brainchild of George M. Pullman, began as a small community on the far south side of Chicago. In 1879, Pullman, builder of the well-known Pullman Sleeping Car, purchased land just west of Lake Calumet and surrounding the Illinois Central Railroad, to build his model town in 1880. Pullman was the first planned model industrial town, and its center was Pullman's railroad car business. Employees lived in well-constructed housing on pleasantly landscaped streets, with all the necessary conveniences, including a bank, library, theater, post office, church, parks, and recreational facilities. In fact, Pullman was presented an award for the "World's Most Perfect Town" in 1896.

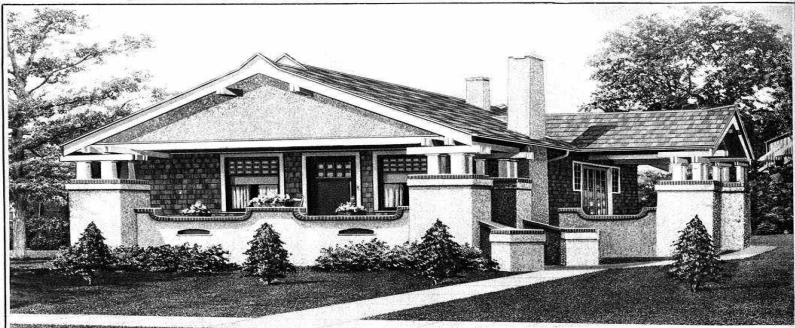


**For more in depth information visit
www.pullmanil.org**

Those people not lucky enough to work for Pullman And live in company housing had to purchase their homes the old fashioned way.....Through the Sears catalogue.

From 1908–1940, Sears, Roebuck and Co. sold about 70,000 - 75,000 homes through their mail-order Modern Homes program. Over that time Sears designed 447 different housing styles, from the elaborate multistory Ivanhoe, with its elegant French doors and art glass windows, to the simpler Goldenrod, which served as a quaint, three-room and no-bath cottage for summer vacationers. (An outhouse could be purchased separately for Goldenrod and similar cottage dwellers.) Customers could choose a house to suit their individual tastes and budgets.

FROM THE GOLDEN WEST



THE OSBORN is the most pleasing type of stucco and shingle sided bungalow in Spanish mission architecture. Where will you find its equal? Massive stucco porches and bulkheads, trimmed with red brick coping, give that needed touch of color, emphasizing its graceful lines. The timber columns resting on the large square piers or concrete columns, are in perfect harmony with the rest, and support the graceful roof with its wide verge boards and timber pilings. Here the architect has given careful study to every detail, and furnished a creation that is striking, yet restful. The shingle siding, the timber wood columns, corbels and pilings, can be painted or stained a rich brown, or dark brick red, with most pleasing effect, in contrast with the gray stucco porch walls and chimney.

The Osborn will appeal to the lover of nature because of its two open porches both sheltered by the main roof, and the sleeping porch in the rear. The side porch is private, size 13 feet by 8 feet 8 inches. The front porch is provided with steps and landing leading to the front entrance, and is 22 feet by 9 feet, which is unusual size.

The Living Room. This spacious room extends the entire width of the house. Size, 23 feet 11 inches by 11 feet 11 inches. One is immediately impressed with the cozy atmosphere of this room which is at one end of the house. At the other end is a bookcase with leaded glass doors, and a nine-light window above each bookcase. A window seat with lamp cover is at the other end of the room. The window seat has storage space for clothing, books, etc. At each side of the window seat is a coat closet. Armchairs will nicely accommodate a piano and pictures, while the large floor area provides a good setting for furniture, including davenport. Five windows furnish an abundance of light and ventilation.

The Dining Room. A cased opening with a bookcase on either side, leads from the living room to the dining room. Size, 13 feet 7 inches by 13 feet 1 inch. Walls are paneled according to the latest mode. Space accommodates a complete dining room set. French doors lead to private side porch. A cheerful atmosphere is assured with a flood of light and air from the windows and French doors.

The Kitchen. Directly back of the dining room is the kitchen, 12 feet 3 inches by 14 feet 3 inches. It has two large cupboards, a convenience that is appreciated by the

Honor Bill
The Osborn
 No. P12050A "Already Cut" and Fitted
\$2,792.00

busy housewife. Each cupboard is equipped with adjustable shelves. The large cupboard has a working surface which does away with the need of a sink for high or short water-erator or table. Three windows provide light and cross ventilation. Door leads to rear porch and steps to back porch.

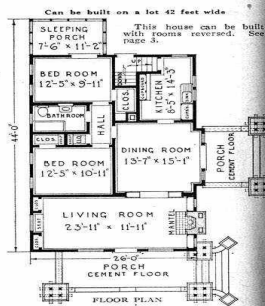
The Bedrooms. From the dining room a door opens into the hall connecting with bedrooms, bathroom and hall closet. Each bedroom has a clothes closet, and is heated and aired by two windows.

The Bathrooms. A window provides plenty of light and air. **Electric Range.** French doors connect the rear bed and other suitable furnishings. One may store out-of-doors and still have all the comforts of an indoor room.

The Basement. Lined by cedar, with three stairs. Room for furnace, storage and laundry.

Heating by Ceiling. Main floor of feet from floor to ceiling. Basement. 7 feet from floor to joists. Basement has cement floor.

What Our Price Includes
 At the price quoted we will furnish all the material to build this five-room and sleeping porch bungalow, including:
 Roofing, Best Grade Clear Red Cedar Shingles;
 Siding, Best Grade Clear Red Cedar Shingles;
 Floor Lumber, Best Grade Yellow Pine;
 Ceiling Lumber, Best Grade Yellow Pine;
 Stair Lumber, Best Grade Yellow Pine;
 Siding, Best Grade Yellow Pine;
 Stair, Two Runn Coats for Shingles on Walls;
 Shingles and Gypsum for Ceiling, Trim and Doors;
 Main Floor;
 All necessary cement material to build this house.
 Price does not include cement, brick or plaster.
 See description of "Honor Bill" Houses on pages 12 and 14.



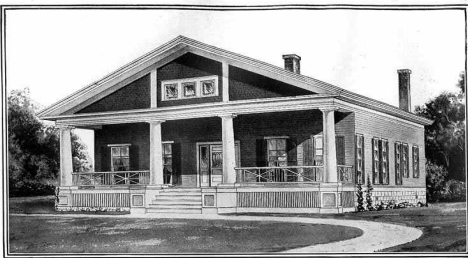
OPTIONS
 Sheet Plaster and Plaster Finish, to take the place of wood lath, \$127.00 extra. See page 142.
 Original 3 grade Shingles, guaranteed 17 years, instead of wood shingles, for the roof, \$61.00 extra.
 4 inch Style Oriental Asphalt Slate Surfaced Strip Shingles, guaranteed for seven years, instead of wood shingles for roof, \$42.00 extra.
 Oak Doors and Trim, for living room and dining room, \$212.00 extra.
 Storm Doors and Windows, \$123.00 extra.
 Screen Doors and Windows, galvanized wire, \$55.00 extra.
 For prices of Plumbing, Heating, Wiring, Electric Fixtures and Shades see pages 140 and 141.

Sears was not an innovative home designer. Sears was instead a very able follower of popular home designs but with the added advantage of modifying houses and hardware according to buyer tastes. Individuals could even design their own homes and submit the blueprints to Sears, which would then ship off the appropriate pre-cut and fitted materials, putting the home owner in full creative control. Modern Home customers had the freedom to build their own dream houses, and Sears helped realize these dreams through quality custom design and favorable financing.

Sears homes can be found across the continental United States. While sold primarily to East Coast and Midwest states, Sears homes have been located as far south as Florida and as far west as California. A handful of Sears homes have also been found in Alaska. A handful of Sears homes have been identified in

Shipped by railroad boxcar, and then usually trucked to a home site, the average Sears Modern Home kit had approximately 25 tons of materials, with over 30,000 parts.

Plumbing, electrical fixtures and heating systems were not included in the base price of the house but could be included, at an additional cost, with the house order. The Modern Homes features of central heating, indoor plumbing, and electrical wiring were the first steps for many families to modern HVAC systems, kitchens, and bathrooms. During the Modern Homes program, large quantities of asphalt shingles became available. Asphalt shingles were cheap to manufacture and ship, and easy and inexpensive to install. A later feature was the use of drywall instead of the plaster and lath wall-building techniques which required skilled carpenters and plasterers. Drywall offered the advantages of low price, ease of installation, and added fire protection.



MODERN HOME No. 165

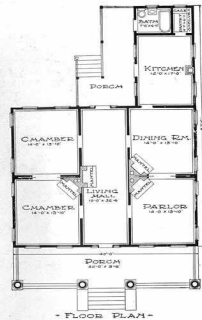
\$1,248⁰⁰

For \$1,248.00 we will furnish all the material to build this Six-Room House, consisting of Mill Work, Ceiling, Siding, Flooring, Finishing Lumber, Building Paper, Pipe, Gutter, Sash Weights, Hardware, Mantels, Painting Material, Lumber, Lath and Shingles.

By allowing a fair price for labor, cement, brick and plaster, which we do not furnish, this house can be built for about \$2,650.00, including all material and labor.

For Our Free Offer of Plans See Page 1.

A COLONIAL one-story house particularly suited and arranged for a warm climate where a great deal of ventilation is desired. Large front porch, 40 feet by 9 feet 6 inches, with massive Colonial columns; also large rear porch. Large center hall, 10 feet by 32 feet 6 inches, with a door at each end. Doors from this hall lead to the two bedrooms, parlor and dining room. Double sliding doors between the two bedrooms and double sliding doors between dining room and parlor. You will notice by this arrangement and the ceilings being 12 feet high that the ventilation is perfect. Front door and rear door at the opposite end of the hall, 2x7 feet, 1 1/2 inches thick, veneered oak, glazed leaded glass. Interior doors are six-cross panel veneered oak with clear oak casing, base and molding. Clear sellow pine flooring for interior and porches. Mantel in hall, front bedroom, parlor and dining room. Outside blinds for all windows.



Painted two coats outside; your choice of color. Varnish and wood filler for interior finish.
This house is built on a cement block foundation, frame construction, sided with narrow level edge cypress siding, gables sided with cedar shingles, and has cedar shingle roof.
Excavated basement under the entire house. Rooms on the main floor are 12 feet from floor to ceiling.

This house can be built on a lot 44 feet wide.

Complete Hot Air Heating Plant, for soft coal, extra.....	\$134.72
Complete Hot Air Heating Plant, for hard coal, extra.....	139.57
Complete Steam Heating Plant, extra.....	229.31
Complete Hot Water Heating Plant, extra.....	267.82
Complete Plumbing Outfit, extra.....	100.48

SEARS, ROEBUCK AND CO.



CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

NOW FOR SOME CLUB NEWS

A REMINDER TO THE CLUB MEMBERS THAT MAFCA AND CLUB DUES SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO JIM WRIGHT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. \$70.00 TOTAL. MAKE THE CHECK OUT TO A'S R US AND JIM WILL TAKE CARE OF THE REST. PLEASE DO IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY SUBMITTED.

TIM DIONNE

MEMBER NEWS: Jack will be having a Total Knee on October 5th. Keep him in your prayers. Bob S stated he is doing well and the doctor is pleased. We have not received any report from Arlene and Ken, keep them in your prayers. Tim D. asked for prayers for an old friend who is in ICU, who is also

OLD BUSINESS; EXPOSURE TOUR: Phil reported it was a fun time and only 2 cars had problems. There was a lot to see, places to tour and great driving. The ferry was a challenge with a trailer. They met up with other members in Meyers Gardens and traveled a total of 650 miles.

GRINDERS BALL GAME: Tim B. stated though they lost it was a good time and great weather. They had a Hot Dog wagon this year, so we might want to consider that for next years lunch.

RTE 66 RECAP: Jack and Karen said it was a great time and they are planning on hosting again next year.

BLUE ISLAND CRUISE NIGHT: 7 members attended, it was a good time.

CORN ROAST AT THE YACHT CLUB: Wally stated it was fun and tasty. They really enjoyed our cars and would like us to come annually.

DIXIE COMMITTEE: Jim reported the committee has not met yet.

NEW BUSINESS: CHRISTMAS PARTY: Al K. reported the date is Wednesday, December 13th and more information will follow.

TECH TALKS: Tim discussed our recent neglect to schedule Tech Talks.

Wally and Tim stated we have numerous videos, and would enjoy more talks like Ray presented. Ken and Al proposed a Tech Talk at Als house to put Kens Coupe back together. A date to be announced.

MISCELLANEOUS: Ken made a suggestion that we make Gilmore a weekend event when they have their Model A Days and Swap Meet.

SHAKE DOWN CRUISE: A suggestion to visit Landis Wareman, on a Saturday, in spring of 2018 in Grant Park. It would be a perfect 4 hour outing.

ROSTERS: Dale gave out extra rosters. Al B. stated he would be happy to make our phone list available to download on our phones. The membership agreed that would be helpful.

KAREN: Brought a 1916 Tour Book that was recently found in an attic, for all to see and enjoy.

WALLY: thanked GateWay Auto (394 & Exchange in Crete) for the loan of chairs for the meeting. He also stated they are willing to host a meeting at no cost to our club.

BRUCE: Stated he has been asked to use his car in a wedding and asked what if anything he should charge. It was stated we usually leave it as a donation to the A'SRUS. **KEN:** stated he was approached by a new Wedding Business in Grant Park, for Photo Shoots and Cars to transport bridal parties. It was decided that photo shots were OK, but NO to providing transportation for a business due to insurance factors.

NEXT MONTHS MEETING: Will be at Chuck and Linnea's (Fritz Barn). Saturday October 28th, 5:00 Hayride, weather permitting. Bring liquid refreshments and small quantities of desserts. Menu: Chili and Hotdogs.

I am looking forward to receiving words and pictures for the Exposure tour, Fall tour and the Hill climb. I would like to add to future news letters.

Thank you all for your kind consideration

Albert Paradiso



THE END