

AAMBC NEWSLETTER



Spring Issue

April 5th, 2024

A Message from the President

Dear Members and Friends,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing dedication and donations to the AAMBC. Thanks to your support, the AAMBC is celebrating our 10th anniversary as a mobile museum!

We have been very busy meeting the high demand for educational programs to celebrate MLK Day, Black History Month and Women's History Month. In just the first quarter of 2024, we have brought our pop-up exhibits to area high schools, created public displays for the Bucks County offices and Bucks County Community College and held numerous presentations for faith-based groups, women's groups, and corporations.

Most notably, however, is our continued fundraising efforts for our Building Our Dream Capital Campaign. Our goal is to raise an additional \$2 million this year to complete the renovations at Boone Farm and outfit the building as an operating museum. Our target opening date is mid-2025. With your help, we believe we can achieve this goal. We have launched an on-site commemorative recognition program as well as an engraved brick campaign so supporters can leave their legacy at the new museum. Please take a moment to visit our new website to learn more about these exciting opportunities: aamuseumbucks.org/support

We are asking friends like you to help us spread the word through sharing our exciting programs and events with others in the community by word of mouth and on social media.

We are in great need of volunteers and members to help us sustain this rapid growth in programs. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact our new program manager, Erika Land at: eland@aamuseumbucks.org.

Finally, as we make the welcome shift into spring and summer, I invite you to save the date for our upcoming Juneteenth Festival! Mark your calendars for June 22, 2024. We can't wait to share with you the exciting things we have planned for the day!

Sincerely,

Linda Salley

President and Executive Director

www.aamuseumbucks.org



Newsletter Highlights

BUILDING OUR DREAM
WITH LOVE - CAPITAL
CAMPAIGN CONCERT

PROGRAMMING
THROUGH BUCKS
COUNTY

MEET OUR PROGRAM
MANAGER

THE AAMBC ON 6ABC

BOONE FARM
PROGRESS

215 E Richardson Ave, Langhorne, PA

Building Our Dream with Love

This past February, we hosted Building Our Dream with Love, a valentine's themed concert and fundraising event at PARX Casino and Racetrack, and what a night it was. The night was filled with music, dancing, food and drink, good company, and of course, love. Long time supporter, Donald Schuler Jr. joined us as host of the evening, while Jeff Murrell and his band got everyone on their feet with the smooth and soulful sounds of Luther Vandross. Not to mention our special guest of the night, Kim Sledge, helping to close out the exciting night!

Kim Sledge Proves 'We Are Family'

Pictured right, Kim Sledge brought the audience to their feet for a fun tribute to her former girl-band, Sister Sledge, with a performance of 'We are Family'. Sledge also performed an original love song in keeping with the theme of the evening. She also spoke about her love of Bucks County and the importance of the museum's presence within it.



Starting the night off with a bang, and a big check! PARX Casino donated \$33,000 to support the museum in its current Capital Campaign efforts. This significant donation brings the museum one step closer to its fundraising goal of \$2 million to complete renovations at their future permanent home at Boone Farm in Langhorne.

Pictured left Ron Davis, Linda Salley

Building Our Dream - Engraved Brick Campaign

The Building Our Dream with Love event also kicked off an exciting new opportunity to support the museum. The launch of their brick campaign gives supporters a chance to donate to the AAMBC from the ground up (literally). With your purchase of a brick for our outdoor patio, you will leave a legacy as a supporter of the museum.

Pictured right: Jeff Murrell



We are so grateful and thankful to everyone who came out in support of our Capital Campaign. Though we still have a long journey ahead of us, we know with your support that this time will fly by, and we still need help to reach our goal of \$2 million by the end of the year. The AAMBC cannot continue to Build Our Dream without your support. If you are curious about more ways to help us on our journey to Boone Farm, please go to our website at www.aamuseumbucks.org. We cannot wait to see everyone at our next event!

Pictured Left: Linda Salley and Sherry Sadoff Hanck

Programming through Bucks County

The AAMBC has been very busy since the time of our last newsletter! On top of our Building Our Dream with Love event, we have been traveling through Bucks County educating the community! This January we set up an exhibit at the Bucks County Courthouse and administration building, as well as featured our Juneteenth display at Bucks County Community College's Skull Sessions art exhibit. The Second Baptist Church and Doylestown Presbyterian Church also partnered together to host the AAMBC for a presentation done by board member, Roger Brown, and dedicated volunteer, Pat Mervine.



Meet Our New Program Manager: Erika Land

The AAMBC is incredibly excited to announce our newest team member, Erika Land. Erika is an experienced program manager with a background in museum curation. Erika has a master's degree in theological and cultural anthropology as well as a BFA in Art Education. She is currently pursuing a second master's degree in Arts Administration from the University of Kentucky. We are so grateful to have Erika as a part of our team and cannot wait to see the great work she continues to do!

Pictured left: Erika Land

The AAMBC also presented at Friends Village, and the American Association of University Women in Doylestown. These presentations were done by our dedicated and inspiring supporter, Pat Mervine. Pat's dedication to the museum continues to amaze us and we could not be luckier to know her. Pat also wrote a book about Boone Farm and its history in Bucks County. You can purchase a copy on aamuseumbucks.org/shop, today!

Black History Month at Holy Ghost Prep

This January, the AAMBC Board members stopped by Holy Ghost Prep for a MLK Day presentation. The exhibit featured the story of Juneteenth, and historic African American Figures throughout time. We wouldn't be able to create these incredible moments without our board, Roger Brown, Lugensure Jones, Millicent Brown, Deal Wright, Bill Reed and Brenda Reed.

Pictured Right: Roger Brown at Holy Ghost Prep



Shortly after the AAMBC's pop-up exhibit at Holy Ghost Prep, the museum headed over for a two-day stint at the Bucks County Technical High School (BCTHS) for another Black History month presentation. Students at BCTHS joined the AAMBC board on stage as they walked through the different defining moments in history for African Americans. Many of the students asked thoughtful questions and were very engaged throughout the exhibition

Pictured Left: Pat Mervine presenting at Friends Village

Progress at Boone Farm

Built in 1716, the Boone Farm property has a rich history that spans three centuries and has historical ties to the Great Migration, making it eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. During the 20th Century, six million African Americans moved from rural Southern states to Northern states, including Pennsylvania, in search of economic opportunity. In the 1930s and 1940s, the Boone Farm offered good paying jobs and steady employment for African Americans, which allowed them to raise their children and have a better life, a safe life, in Bucks County. The beautifully renovated Boone Farm will be a

destination for school children and adults, a welcoming place to explore everchanging exhibits of historical and cultural artifacts, view timelines of significant events in African American history, and learn about remarkable "hidden figures," whose stories may have been largely forgotten but whose legacies live on. Progress continues to be made at Boone Farm with the hope of external renovations to be completed around the summer of 2024. Pictured right, you can see the extensive work being done in progress, stabilizing the wrap-around porch. The anticipated



date for Boone Farm's total completion is the spring of 2025. However, the museum is still in the process of fundraising for the cost of internal renovations. We at the AAMBC are extremely grateful to everyone who has donated to our Capital Campaign for Boone Farm. We would be nowhere without your support. Thank you for continuously helping us Build Our Dream at Boone Farm. We cannot wait to show you the finished product.

Pictured left: Boone Farm renovations in progress

The AAMBC on 6ABC

One of the most exciting moments thus far in 2024 was a feature story done by 6abc on the museum and our progress at Boone Farm! The story featured brief interviews from Executive Director and President, Linda Salley, as well as the Project and Diversity Office of Bucks County, Bernard Griggs. Check out the wonderful spotlight on YouTube or our website at, aamuseumbucks.org!



New Website Launch

Have you seen our new website? As part of our 10-year celebration we gave our website a bright, warm, and inviting new look! You can find the latest news on Boone Farm, all our offered programs, upcoming and past events, our video series as well as photo galleries! Check out our new site today and don't forget to subscribe for updates on all things AAMBC! Visit aamuseumbucks.org, today!

