

THE FANLIGHT

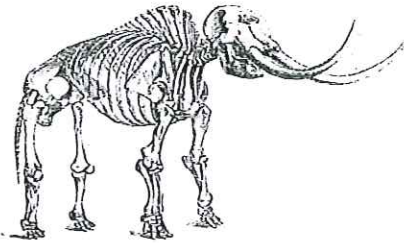
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Monroe County Historical Association

November - December 2009

Monroe County's Mastodon highlight of special exhibit in Harrisburg

The Marshalls Creek Mastodon will be the highlight of the upcoming *Tusks! Ice Age Mammoths & Mastodons* exhibit at the State Museum of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg from January 24 through May 2, 2010. This display will present the fascinating story of extinct mammoths, mastodons and their tusked relatives that roamed North America from 15 million to 10,000 years ago. Visitors will follow fossils from the field to the laboratory to a museum exhibit.



The staff members from the Phil Fraley Productions, Inc. are assembling the Marshalls Creek Mastodon skeleton on a framework of steel that will support the skeleton. Then it will be moved to a major new section of the third-floor Hall of Geology, which will open in fall, 2010. Staff from The State Museum of Pennsylvania excavated the Marshalls Creek Mastodon from a peat bog in Marshalls Creek in 1968. Nearly 90% of the mastodon skeleton was retrieved. Only a few of the bones were missing, and some other bones were damaged. The damaged bones have been restored, and missing bones have been replaced using casts from a similar-size mastodon.

For over 35 years, only half of the Marshalls Creek Mastodon was on display in the Hall of Geology for visitors to see. The other half (the right side) was stored in the collections of The State Museum. This exhibit will bring the entire skeleton together for the first time in a state-of-the-art mount. Restored in a life-like pose, and properly conserved for the first time, this skeleton ranks as one of the most important mastodon specimens known from North America.

The State Museum of Pennsylvania, located in Harrisburg is open Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 12 noon to 5 p.m. General admission is \$3.00 for adults, \$2.00 for children/senior citizens. For more information on *Tusks!* as well as other programs, exhibitions and events at The State Museum, click on www.statemuseumpa.org.

Plan to visit The State Museum of Pennsylvania to view this piece of important Monroe County prehistory!

Buy-A-Bone Campaign for Marshalls Creek Mastodon

Holiday shoppers looking for something – anything – for that person who has everything now can buy bragging rights to a piece of Pennsylvania's prehistoric history – one of the 300 bones that comprises a 12,000-year-old mastodon soon to be unveiled at The State Museum of Pennsylvania.

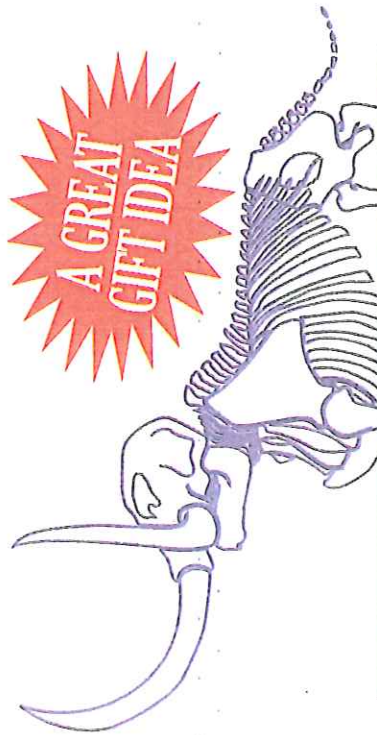
The non-profit Friends of the State Museum is launching the *BUY-A-BONE* campaign at www.pabookstore.com as part of a year-long effort to raise funds to reconstruct the Marshalls Creek mastodon and to build the massive creature a new home at the museum.

The mastodon is comprised of roughly 263 bones. Donors may purchase a bone for \$25 up to \$25,000 for the animal's skull. All donors will receive a certificate commemorating their purchase as well as an invitation to a special preview of the mastodon to be held in January, 2010. In addition, all of the 'owners' will be named on a plaque that will hang in the new exhibit hall.

The Friends' goal is to raise \$250,000 to help defray the extraordinary costs of reconstructing the mastodon and building the new Paleontology Gallery where the mastodon will live. The new gallery on the museum's top floor will be comprised of four areas and a series of dioramas with interactive tools for visitors.

The mastodon is the most complete skeleton of its kind ever discovered in Pennsylvania. Growing to nearly 20 feet long (from rear to tip of tusks) and 9 feet high, the creature weighed 4 to 5 tons.

Buy-A-Bone is just one facet of The Friends' year-long effort to support the new exhibit. The Friends will seek corporate partners interested in sponsoring the four areas and special features in the new gallery space, as well as a series of family-oriented events for the coming year.



The Friends of the State Museum
Invite You To

BUY-A-BONE

Although you won't be able to take your bones home, with each purchase you will receive:

- Satisfaction in helping secure a true Pennsylvania treasure
- "Certificate of Appreciation" signed by State Museum Paleontologist Dr. Robert Sullivan
- Acknowledgement on display in the gallery
- Invitation to Mastodon preview party at "Tusks" exhibition opening, January 23, 2010

All gifts are tax deductible.

Questions?

Contact Lindsey Kennedy at c-lkennedy@state.pa.us or call 1-866-823-6539.

In association with the Pennsylvania Heritage Society.



BUY-A-BONE

Help support The State Museum of Pennsylvania's exciting new exhibit by "purchasing" individual bones from our mastodon.

To participate, log on to

www.pabookstore.com

and use a credit card on our safe, easy-to-use Web site. Or call

1-866-823-6539

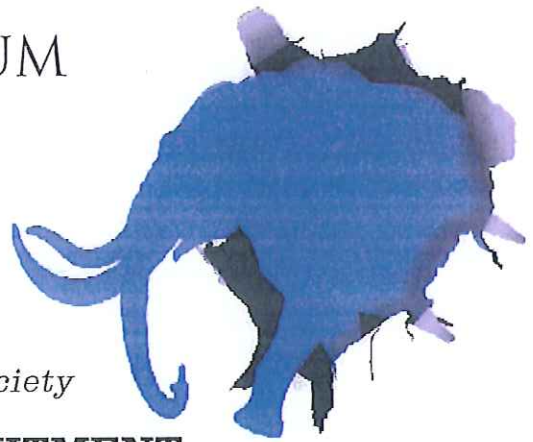
to make your purchase.

Prices begin at \$25, are 100% tax deductible, and make for unique and unforgettable gifts.



FRIENDS OF THE STATE MUSEUM

BUY-A-BONE



In cooperation with the Pennsylvania Heritage Society

CONTRIBUTION COMMITMENT

Yes, I would like to support the campaign to restore and preserve the Marshalls Creek Mastodon at The State Museum of Pennsylvania. I understand that my contribution is fully tax-deductible.

OTHER \$ _____ \$25,000 \$15,000 \$5,000 \$1,000 \$500

I would like for a staff member to contact me to assist me in "buying a bone."

PLEASE NOTE: Selection of bones and information regarding honorees will be taken at the time of purchase.

-OR-

I would like my contribution to be a **general gift** to the mastodon campaign.

I would like my gift to be in honor of: _____

Certificates of appreciation for honorees will be mailed to your address listed below. Call 1-866-823-6539 to *make other arrangements*.

My Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ (Daytime) _____ (Evening)

Email Address: _____

Check enclosed - *Please make payable to the Pennsylvania Heritage Society*

Or, please charge my credit card: _____ VISA MASTERCARD

Expiration: _____ Signature: _____

**Mail to: Pennsylvania Heritage Society
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120**

For more information or assistance with your contribution, please contact Lindsey Kennedy at the Pennsylvania Heritage Society, Mon-Fri. 9 am – 4 pm 1-866-823-6539 or by email at c-LKennedy@state.pa.us.

All gifts are 100% Tax Deductible. Contributions will be recognized with a "Certificate of Appreciation" signed by The State Museum Paleontologist, Dr. Robert Sullivan, and acknowledgement will be on display in the gallery. In addition, all contributors will be invited to a Mastodon preview party at the "Tusks" exhibition opening on January 23, 2010. More information and pictures of the mastodon are also available at www.paheritage.org.

