



NEWS

Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

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**Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce
Architectural & Environmental Committee
*2008 Excellence in Design Tour
Promotes Delaware River Corridor***

The **Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce** along with **Major Sponsor, 3rd Federal Bank** and **Patron, Langan Engineering and Environmental Services**, present the 2008 Excellence in Design Tour on Sunday, September 21, 2008 from noon to 4 p.m. with a special catered networking reception for tickets holders immediately following from 4-6 p.m. with catering generously provide by **Côte Catering** and wines served by **Chaddsford Winery**.

The Excellence in Design Tour is a self-driving tour focused on 6 homes and/or landscapes along the Delaware River Corridor chosen for their unique architectural and/or environmental aspects.

This year's Tour will impress with properties including the following:

- Circa 1900 home built from decommissioned, disassembled canal barges that has been renovated inside and out with a mix of environmental sensitivity and cutting edge interior design;
- A Chinese Viewing Pavilion designed by prominent interior designer Angelo Donghia that set on several acres of rural Bucks County farmland that once played host to infamous New York and Hollywood celebrity personalities;

- An archetypal example of classic adaptive re-use structure combining an existing concrete masonry block garage and a relocated 125-year-old barn to create a 6,750-square-foot home featuring high-efficiency design, sustainable materials, quality construction and historic architecture;

Additional sites on this year’s tour include a passive-solar home built in the late 1980s before “green” building became mainstream and a joint undertaking by private homeowners who preserved more than 270 acres of privately owned Bucks County land while restoring existing farmhouses on the site or building new homes that are sensitive to their immediate surroundings thereby significantly limiting environmental impact.

A program of the Chamber’s Architectural & Environmental Committee (A&E Committee), this year’s tour will take place Sunday, September 21, from noon until 4 pm, followed by a reception for ticket holders at Keller’s Landing, Home of the **Bucks County Trolley and Riverboat Companies**.

Tickets for the self-driving tour are \$20 each, include a map and directions, and are available for purchase at the **Doylestown Bookshop**, 16 South Main Street, Doylestown; **Côté & Co.**, 800 North Easton Road, Doylestown; **Third Federal Bank** branches (Doylestown, Cross Keys, New Britain and Newtown) and the Offices of **Raphael Architects**, 169 N. Main St., Doylestown. Tickets can also be purchased at the **Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce**, Bailiwick #23, 252 W. Swamp Rd., Doylestown Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Additional support for the Excellence in Design Tour is provided by **Anne Biggs Inc.;** **Reprographic Specialists, Inc.;** and **Stampfl-Hartke Associates, LLC**. For more information, visit www.centralbuckschamber.com or call: 215.348.3913.

CAPTION:

- Members of the Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce’s Architectural and Environmental Committee plan the September 21 Excellence in Design Tour. Left to Right: Mary-jo May, Co-Chair, (Community Conservatory of Music); Dana Dobson (Third Federal Bank); Kevin Shine, (Click Electric); Anna and Jerry Perkins, with baby Ellie (Côté Catering). (Photo Courtesy of Anne Biggs);
- Circa 1900 home built from decommissioned, disassembled original canal barges features environmentally sensitive renovation and New York chic interior design
- Chinese Viewing Pavilion designed by prominent interior designer Angelo Donghia;
- 125-year-old barn readapted to create a 6,750-square-foot home featuring high-efficiency design, sustainable materials, quality construction and historic architecture.

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The Excellence in Design Tour is part of the Chamber’s *Bucks Fever – a Celebration of the Arts* program. Founded over two decades ago, Bucks Fever augments the economic vitality of Bucks County by showcasing the region’s art, culture and history as a tourist destination. Bucks Fever is comprised of six major events including the Byers Art

Exhibition (*April*); Artists Studio Tour (*May*); Brown Bag-It with the Arts (weekly musical series *May-August*); Excellence in Design Architectural Tour (September); and the Bucks County Sculpture Show founded by Dr. Selma Burke (October). In addition to these Chamber events, the Chamber produces and distributes 50,000 copies of the popular *Bucks Fever* brochure that promotes hundreds of Bucks County nonprofit art, culture and history events from March – October. The Major Benefactor for the 2007 Bucks Fever series is Uninvest National Bank & Trust Co.

The mission of the Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce is to build alliances among its members by uniting business, industry, professionals, artists and non-profit organizations. The Chamber serves as a catalyst that creates a rich business climate and improves the quality of life in the community. The Chamber is devoted to furthering the arts, humanities and welfare of the Central Bucks region. For more information on Bucks Fever or the Central Bucks Chamber, visit www.centralbuckschamber.com or call (215) 348-3913.