

# Southeast Bus Nuts Newsletter

December 2016

## Ed's Editorial

As my time as president of SEBN draws to a close, I want all members to know I cherished the job, and I want to thank all of those who supported me and helped when asked. Thank all of you who hosted rallies, all of those who attended our rallies, and those who were simply friends.

Thank you **Mike Heron** for editing the best chapter newsletter in all of FMCA. Thank you **Charlie Bukoski** for generally being on top of everything with the treasury, and the website. Thank you **Ron Daniels** for taking over the Secretary job mid term and doing an outstanding job, and for that fabulous pig roast at Twin Oaks. Of course, thank you **Bryan Bowman** for assuming the duty as president for the next term.

Anke and I are excited about the prospect of attending two bus rallies in consecutive week ends: the upcoming New Years rally in Arcadia and our SEBN rally in Titusville. Although the Arcadia rally is being hosted by our new member **Bill Miller**, it is not a SEBN rally and I hope you can attend. If you haven't yet registered for Arcadia, there is no better time than right now to get your choice of accommodations. See p.8.

SEBN's membership has voted to select the second weekend in January for SEBN's Winter rally, which will be held in the rally park at the Great Outdoors in Titusville, and your officers have planned a fabulous time for all. Please plan to be there with us. If you can attend only one of these rallies, I would encourage you to support SEBN at Great Outdoors.

Our travel schedule has changed a little this year. We normally are in St Augustine for November, then home for December, then back to St Augustine via Arcadia right after Christmas. This year, both of us had so many doctor appointments in November we just stayed here in Virginia, and will leave Dec 26, for St Augustine via Arcadia and Titusville.

Hope to see many of you at both rallies. When we are at Bryn Mawr Ocean Resort in St Augustine for the winter, we hope many of you can stop by for a visit. Give us a call (804-370-4066, cell), and we will make you a reservation.



**PRESENT and FUTURE: Outgoing SEBN president Ed Fisher, left, with incoming president Bryan Bowman at the recent Autumn rally at Twin Oaks Music Park .**

## Hoboken Rally Report

Some 27 coaches came to the rally, returning to Twin Oaks Music Park in Hoboken after last year in Brunswick. Hosts **Charlie and Judy Bukoski** did a great job planning and organizing the rally despite being on the road for the months leading up to the event!

On Thursday, the evening meal was a Dutch-treat dinner at LL Creek in nearby Waycross. Friday featured more socializing, and dinner that night was a real first: Ms Judy served up tacos with all the trimmings. Very popular choice!

After dinner we all gathered around a huge bonfire that George and John Showman managed. We went around the circle and told tales about summer travels and a few tight spots we inevitably encountered.

Cont'd

See page six for details on the upcoming Post-New Year's Bus Rally

## Rally report (Cont'd)

Saturday's special breakfast was one frequently served up at past Hoboken gatherings: omelets in a bag. It's your basic two beaten eggs with other ingredients of your choosing: diced ham, bacon bits, diced tomato, shredded cheese, chopped green pepper, diced onion, etc. All goes into a zip lock bag, and boiled for 8-10 minutes. **Jack** and **Jackie Campbell** manned the boiling cauldrons.

After breakfast we had our annual meeting and election of new officers. See Ron Daniels' Secretary's Report below for the details. Returning old-timers Bob and Edwinna Lonier were welcomed back, and newcomers **Bill Miller** and **Tisha Howard** were introduced. Bill is from Carlisle, PA and is the new organizer of the annual Arcadia Rally. He reported on his plans to continue this great tradition.

Saturday evening's dinner was a great roast pig BBQ, served up by **Ron Daniels**, with help from **John Showman**. Ron brought a huge smoker and he worked the pit all day Saturday in preparation. The pulled pork was done up Eastern Carolina style, using a vinegar-based sauce and marinade. It was delicious, and so were the traditional sides of baked beans, slaw (by Ed Fisher) and sweet tea. Outstanding!

Entertainment following dinner was provided by **Mike Heron** with an all-inclusive game called "Rumor Has It".

Sunday morning featured toast and coffee, and the inevitable fond adieus. The **Showman Brothers, John and George**, have agreed to host the next Halloween/Autumn Rally, once again in Hoboken! Their Mom, **Bertha**, will supervise!



### **Letter from our Hoboken Hosts**

*It was wonderful to see so many buses and familiar faces at the Hoboken Rally.*

*We would like to personally thank ALL the kitchen helpers that helped with both the Taco Supper as well as the BBQ Pig supper. A special thanks to Ron and his helpers for cooking up one of the most delicious BBQs which was a first, but hopefully not the last, for our group.*

*I would be remiss to not mention the yummy omelet breakfast cooked by the Campbells and Mike Heron. Also a special thanks to John Showman and his crew for organizing the nightly bonfires. Our hats are off to all who participated and helped to make this yet another successful and fun rally.*

*Judy & Charlie Bukoski*

## Secretary's Report

The annual meeting of the Southeast Bus Nuts was convened at Twin Oaks Park on October 29, 2016.

The meeting was called to order by President Ed Fisher, and a quorum was declared by Secretary Daniels. **Perry Watson** said an invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Guests were introduced, and **Bill Miller** and **Trisha Howard** were announced as new members. Bill will be succeeding **Bill** and **Brenda Phelan** as host of the annual Arcadia Rally between Xmas and New Year's, and he gave a report on his plans to continue the event.

The Nominating Committee of Charlie Bukoski and Mike Heron presented their slate for the two year term commencing January 1, 2017:

**Bryan Bowman** for President,  
**Craig Bowen** for Vice President,  
**Charlie Bukoski** for Treasurer, and  
**Ron Daniels** for Secretary

Motion was made by **Linda Karlsson** to accept the nominations, passed unanimously by acclamation.

Secretary Daniels reports 81 members are in the Chapter, comprised of 68 regular members and 13 honorary. He reported that we need to keep in our prayers **Syl Bowman** as he continues to recuperate, and **Howard Best** as he recovers from knee surgery. Daniels also asked the chapter to keep **Cynthia Threatt** in our prayers due to the recent death of her mother.

Treasurer Bukoski presented the Treasurer's Report (see below), and **Anke Fisher** reviewed her FMCA director's report as previously published

The President and Treasurer led a discussion concerning the future of SEBN and gathered ideas on how to make the group more attractive to new and younger FMCA members. Linda Karlsson volunteered to send a letter to new FMCA members in our chapter area to encourage membership.

President Fisher asked for a moment of silence to remember the loss by death of two SEBN members, **Pam Daniels** and **Junior Showman**, followed by a prayer by **Gerald Ensley**.

The meeting adjourned at noon.  
Respectfully submitted, **Ron Daniels**

## Treasurer's Report

**Charlie Bukoski** has reported that the current chapter balance, after payment of all recent Hoboken rally expenses and camping, totals \$7457.

# Hoboken Photos



**Omelets in a Bag—Step one, boil the water. Jack Campbell, center, did this part, as Craig Bowen, Gerald Ensley and Bob Lonier supervise.**



**Omelet step two, add your favorite ingredients. From left, helpers Jackie Campbell and Mike Heron serve Jim Threatt and Norm Scanapico.**

Thanks to **Linda Karlsson** for most of the photos on these three pages!



**Chapter Secretary Ron Daniels, left, shows off his smoker to Manny Montesino and John Showman.**



**The Chapter made use of the newer meeting facilities at Twin Oaks, which were more modern and inviting than the original clubhouse.**



**Early arrivals had a chance to visit before Thursday night's Dutch-treat dinner at a new cafe in Waycross.**



**From left, Darlene and Manny Montecino, Craig Bowen, Ken Siems and Pam Maichuk.**

# More Hoboken Photos



Laurier Poirier shows off the immaculate installation of a DD Series 50 in his MC-7.



Socializing with old friends, from left, Anke Fisher, Ann Watson and Ed Fisher. Herb Bates is joining the party.



The entertainment on Friday was a roaring campfire with bus travel tales. Showman brothers provided firewood.

Chapter treasurer Ron Daniels brought a smoker and a pig, and he served up some delicious East Carolina BBQ. In this photo he is 'pulling' the smoked pork. Lots of folks at the dinner came back for seconds!



Having a taco buffet was a first for our chapter according to longer-term members. Rally host Judy Bukoski, rear, served up delicious ground meat with all the right Mexican spices, and loads of toppings.



Cynthia Threatt, left, and Rally Host Charlie Bukoski, right, lead the pack down the buffet line. The tacos were delicious, especially with the guacamole and jalapeño peppers!



# Still More From Hoboken



George Showman ran the 50-50 drawing on Saturday night at the rally, and who had the winning ticket? None other than his mother, long time member Bertha!



President-elect Bryan Bowman and rally host Judy Bukoski auction off excess rally supplies after dinner on Saturday night. Lots of bargains!



Darlene Montecino reprised her jewelry and locket demonstration for the ladies after lunch on Saturday. This is always a popular session.



Saturday afternoon was the time for a side trip to nearby Okefenokee National Wildlife Preserve. Some brought kayaks, and some rented boats. Above are John Showman at the tiller, with wife Lisa in the bow, and Bill Miller and companion Tisha Howard, amidst.

## For Sale

Occasionally members ask to have some bus-related parts and equipment listed for sale. There is no charge for a listing; just send an e-mail to your editor, [mikeheron@bellsouth.net](mailto:mikeheron@bellsouth.net)

**Motorized handicap boost seat**, to enable a disabled person to get up into the bus from street level. This was Junior Showman's seat, and Bertha would like it to go to a worthy and needy recipient. For details, contact Bertha at ph. 904-553-5208.

**Miter box** and two squirrel cage fans for MCI. Came out of an MC-8. Very clean. \$300. Also, **starter motor** for DD 8v71, less than 100 miles on unit. \$100.00 For info, call Marty Nixon at [nixonmarty@aol.com](mailto:nixonmarty@aol.com) or ph. 404-376-6169.

**Heavy-duty 50 amp shore cord**. 4 wire, 25 feet in length, with molded male plug. Contact [grammie\\_60@bellsouth.net](mailto:grammie_60@bellsouth.net) \$25.00 Also two standard side mirrors, black, for MCI MC-8-9-102 \$20.00 for the pair.

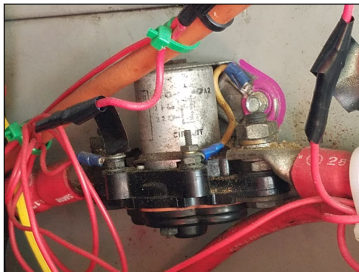
## House and Start Batteries

Some SEBN members ascribe to the late Don Hoffman's theory of having only *one* set of batteries for both starting the bus and providing power for the 'house' via inverter, 12 v accessories, etc. This set-up relies on having a generator and its separate start battery to slap a charge on this one unified battery bank in the event of a deep discharge. Most members who have this arrangement have been satisfied, and fewer batteries certainly saves weight and money.

Most of us, however, keep plugging on with separate battery banks for the coach and for the house.

I had a bit of surprise this week when my 6-year old start batteries died (not unexpected). Like most of us, I have always used two 8-D sized batteries. Some time ago former member Bill Langdon recommended having the capability of temporarily latching the house and start banks together with a

toggle switch on the dash. It triggers a solenoid that connects both banks. That way I could share the charge from the bus alternator going down the road, and in this case, I could flip the switch and join the two banks to start the bus and get to the battery dealer for new 8-Ds. And it worked like a charm.



**The solenoid that connects both battery banks.**

And speaking of those large, heavy 8-Ds, I have had excellent luck at the Interstate dealer buying 'blemished' batteries at a substantial discount. Check the math: the regular price for new 8-Ds off the shelf is \$207.00 each, with a six-month warranty. But 'blems' are only \$69.00 with a three-month warranty! I asked about how old these usually are, and was told they at least three months old but not more than a year, and may have a marred casing, a slight gash, or discoloration, etc.

The bank of 8-Ds that just died, a six-year run, were also Interstate 'blems', and I have every expectation that the new ones will do just as well. At that price I couldn't pass them up!

MH

## Post-New Years Rally Info

Here are the plans for the Post-New Years Rally (following the Arcadia event), which will be hosted by chapter officers. Arrangements to date have been made by **Ed Fisher**, president.

**Place:** **The Great Outdoors** Titusville FL

**Dates:** Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and then depart on Sunday. It runs January 5th thru 8th. Rally fee: \$175.00, *including* 3 nights camping. Extra nights are \$30.00 Registration is open now, and several early birds have signed up (see our website!). For more detail, see p. 8.

**Schedule:**

**Thursday PM:** Fully catered dinner in the Pavilion. Bring your drinks and we will probably ask for pot luck deserts. Food will be pulled pork barbeque, bone-in chicken barbeque, and three side dishes. This way, no work needed on starting day.

**Friday AM:** breakfast biscuits and coffee and juice

**Friday PM:** covered dish dinner, with chapter furnishing fried chicken for the meat, in the Pavilion.

**Saturday AM:** Pancake breakfast. Business meeting at 10:00 AM

**Saturday PM:** Dinner in a private dining room at the extremely popular Dixie Crossroads restaurant. Their Rock Shrimp are unique. (Entertainment afterward not included in rally fee.)

**Sunday AM:**

donuts, coffee, and juice for breakfast.

Campsites are 30 amp electricity and water. Dump station adjacent. There are 23 sites with hook-ups, but we got in about 30 coaches last rally there by sharing electric and water.



**Nearby is the Kennedy Space Center and the US Astronaut Hall of Fame.**

The Great Outdoors does offer 50 amp full hook-up sites (for more money), but they are not in the rally section. These could be used for overflow (with camping reservations) and for those who must have sewer and 50 amps. The meeting tent no longer exists, but the slab is still there. We can make a quadrangle with three coaches to provide a nice awning shelter.

# Arcadia Rally



December 29th - January  
1st, 2016/2017

Turner Agri-Civic Center,  
2250 NE Roan Ave, Arcadia,  
FL 34266

EARLY ARRIVALS begin De-  
cember 26, 2016 (but we may  
put you to work) lol

Rally Fee of **\$95.00** (includes two dinners, morning coffee/donuts, ice cream social, all seminars and entertainment for two persons). If you plan on attending and it is after December 15, PLEASE EMAIL [Bill3@CarlisleEvents.com](mailto:Bill3@CarlisleEvents.com) so that the caterer can be notified, and this will insure there is enough food. No payments will be accepted after December 15 EXCEPT AT THE RALLY GROUNDS UPON YOUR ARRIVAL

To sign up: <http://www.arcadiarally.com/id7.html>

My name is Bill Miller and I am your new co-host of the world famous Arcadia Bus Rally. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Paula and Jack and Brenda and Bill for the creation and evolution of this fantastic and now historical event. I am honored and excited to be a part of the Arcadia Rally's very bright future. I have been in the event promotion business all of my life. Our family business based in Carlisle, PA started 43 years ago and currently produces 11 events, 5 collector car auctions and 2 coach rallies. I have been a vintage coach owner since 1999 and currently own a 1993 Liberty.

As for the Arcadia Rally please believe me that my intention is to keep as much as possible, exactly like what you have enjoyed and participated in over the last 16 years. I do have a few ideas that will come in time; however I greatly appreciate this event's rich and successful past. The registration price will remain the same. The location is not going to change. We will have some great food, fantastic entertainment, some informative seminars and maybe even a few new additions and surprises.

# - Save the dates! -

Mark your calendars for the weekend *after* New Years Eve, January 5th-8th.

We have reserved the rally park at The Great Outdoors Resort in Titusville for this fun event. We had a great Valentine's rally there in 2011.

Register via our SEBN website :  
[www.sebusnuts.org](http://www.sebusnuts.org)  
SEBN Chapter Officers are hosts.

## Post-New Year's Rally



## Winter Rally



**Manny and Darlene Montesino** are hosting this rally, February 16-19. This is in a classy park right off I-75 in Ocala. Features a newly remodeled clubhouse! To volunteer, drop an e-mail to:

[darlenemarie02@gmail.com](mailto:darlenemarie02@gmail.com)

For more on the park, visit their website:

[www.ocalasunrvresort.com](http://www.ocalasunrvresort.com)

**John and Tara Mellis** have agreed to host the next Spring Rally, and they aim to take us to Mayberry Campground in Mt Airy, NC. This is the small town that gave birth to the famous Andy Griffith Series. John hopes to link our rally to one with lots of Eagles from the international group. Rally dates: May 11-14, 2017

[www.mayberrycampground.com](http://www.mayberrycampground.com)

## Spring Rally



## **Southeast Bus Nuts Leadership**

### Chapter Officers through December 31, 2016:

President— Ed Fisher aandedfisher@gmail.com  
VP—Bryan Bowman bbowmanga@gmail.com  
Treasurer— Charlie Bukoski chasjudy@bukoski.net  
Secretary—Ron Daniels ncrealauctions@frontier.com  
FMCA Nat'l Dir -Anke Fisher aandedfisher@gmail.com

## **Advisory Committee:**

*(in addition to Chapter Officers)*

Judy Bukoski  
Mike Heron  
Beverly Bowman, Chaplain

Past Chapter Presidents: Art Hempen, Gene Brotherton\*, Russ Drummond\*, Howard Best, Mike Jackson\*, Lewie Hinman\*, Bill Zibell, Andy Metro, Ray Stiltner, Gerald Ensley, Jack Campbell, Mike Heron, Duane Britt, and Charlie Bukoski. (\* denotes deceased)

Visit our website:

[www.sebusnuts.org](http://www.sebusnuts.org)

This newsletter is now posted on the above website, FYI.

Newsletter Editor: Mike Heron

Please send stories, updates and photos to:

[mikeheron@bellsouth.net](mailto:mikeheron@bellsouth.net)

Southeast Bus Nuts  
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