

# Southeast Bus Nuts Newsletter

October 2017

## Blast from Bryan

Greetings fellow Bus Nuts, I hope this issue finds you all doing well. OK gang, it's literally just around the corner, our fall rally in Hoboken at one of our favorite "homecoming" spots is upon us. Hope you are planning to join us, and a large number of our Bus Nuts family, at this event, November 9-12th.

Long time 'busers' the **Showmans** have got a great event planned for us to coincide with Veterans Day observances and the locally famous annual Twin Oaks yard sale. Bring some of your own yard sale goodies and let's participate and perhaps generate a little diesel fuel money, or "lipstick" money depending on your preference.

Whew, some of our Bus Nuts have had a tough end to summer, with the arrival of an upset lady named IRMA. Seems this was one of those "BIG ones" that definitely caused a lot of damage and long term power outages. In speaking with **Judy Bukoski**, from Polk City FL, she reported that they had been without power over 10 days...(But as we know know SMART bus owners just cranked up the KWs on their whisper quiet genny, and battened the hatches in luxury). Seriously, we hope all is getting back to normal. Suzanne and I lost a few trees, but nothing compared to many who were devastated. Let's continue to keep those uprooted families in our thoughts and prayers.

By now I am hopeful you have all received your ballots from FMCA regarding proposed bylaw

changes. As you probably know the *hot* issue is concerning allowing "non-motorized" units to participate in the Family MOTOR Coach Association. As a member chapter, our vote is to support the proposed by-laws changes as presented. Hoping you all have the opportunity to vote what you feel is best to continue the growth of the legacy of our parent organization.



**Antique Bus Rally— Several SEBN members attended the recent vintage bus rally and parade out in Evansville, Indiana. See p.4 for story.**

Speaking of FMCA, mark your calendars for the upcoming 97th International Rally in Perry Georgia, scheduled March 15th - 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018. This is a great opportunity for us *southeast* folks to show-up and support our parent association, as well as take in some great education and exhibits with the latest RV gadgets and gizmos. There will be 100's of the newest RVs on exhibit, and plenty of opportunity to enjoy the company of fellow RVer's. It would be a great achievement if our SE Bus Nuts chapter could reserve our own section due to the outstanding attendance we plan to have for

Perry. Please consider making plans to include this event.

Also in the near future is our post-New Year's rally, historically hosted by your officers. This rally is scheduled for Jan 4th-7th at the Sun 'n Fun facility in Lakeland, FL. With Lakeland being a central location to get to almost "everything" Florida in a short drive, we hope you will go ahead and mark this one on your "social" calendar as well. (more details to come).....

Cont'd

See page 5 for information on the Autumn/Veteran's Day Bus Nuts Rally

### **Blast from Bryan (Cont'd)**

As I wrap up, I want to again encourage all of us, as we travel around, to solicit for new members to our own SE Bus Nuts chapter. It's a pleasure to meet new folks with similar interests and travel stories to share, so please make an effort to brag on their bus a little and see if they would be willing to join us fun lovin' folks. Thanks to **Herb Bates** who had a good father/son talk and convinced his son to purchase a beautiful, new (to them) MCI converted coach.....and membership in a pretty nice group of folks we call FMCA and the Southeast Bus Nuts .....attaboy Dad.!!!

Till we meet in Hoboken, safe travels all.....

**Bryan Bowman**, President

### **Secretary's Report**

I have contacted (or attempted to call) SEBN honorary members without an email address to determine their interest in continuing to receive the newsletter and maintaining honorary membership status. This information and discovery was communicated with **Judy Bukoski**, resulting in adjustments to membership numbers.

I will have more to contribute to the next newsletter after Hoboken annual business meeting.

Vicky and I hope to see everyone at the upcoming Autumn rally!

**Ron Daniels**, Secretary

### **Treasurer's Report**

Current chapter treasury balance remains at \$4,622, as reported in the summer newsletter, but it does not include paid Autumn rally reservations of about \$3,120 which are reserved for rally expenses. The event is expected to break even.

**Charlie Bukoski**, Treasurer

### **Showman Family Planning Great Rally!**

With George leading the way, all of the Showmans are joining in the preparations for the upcoming November 8-12 autumn rally at Hoboken, GA. That includes his mother, Bertha, brother John, and sister June Lewis and their families.

With two weeks to go before our Veteran's Day weekend rally we encourage you to register NOW if you haven't yet signed up!

The theme for the rally is honoring America's servicemen, past and present, and once again the dates are November 8-12 at lovely Twin Oaks Park, near Waycross in Hoboken, GA.



Plan to join **Mike & Jackie Abbey, Herb Bates & Rene Kukon, Howard & Ellen Best, Craig & Beverly Bowen, Bryan & Suzanne Bowman, Charlie & Judy Bukoski, Jack & Jackie Campbell, Jerry & Rosemary Campbell, Kevin & Camellia Clark, Jim & Cindy Conway, Ron Daniels & Vicky Cates, Gerald & Dorothy Ensley, Ed & Anke Fisher, Mike & Carol Heron, Harry & June Lewis, Kirby & Linda Karlsson, Laurier Poirier, George, John & Bertha Showman** and families, **Gordon & Irene Smith**, and **Jim & Cindy Threatt**. Not yet registered but expected to attend: **Richard & Barbara Best, Leonard & Pam Jelkren, Al Kline & Candy Fitzpatrick, Jesús & Donna Orsario, Lowell & Betty Snyder** and several others

According to chapter records, the 2014 and 2016 rallies at Hoboken had registrations of 32 and 27 coaches respectively. This 2017 rally could eclipse these recent records. An interim rally in 2015 in nearby Brunswick, GA attracted 27 coaches.

Special entertainment has been arranged for Saturday night, and the Showmans are keeping it under wraps to build suspense.

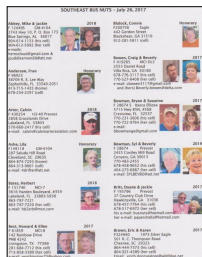
Please go to our website NOW and sign up: [www.sebusnuts.org](http://www.sebusnuts.org) The registration fee is \$195 per coach (two persons). And it covers *four* nights of camping and most meals. Extra nights are available at \$25. each.

See the attached flyer on page six for additional details. And remember the "Big Z" community-wide garage sale will be taking place in the Twin Oaks Campground on that Saturday. Bring stuff to sell, and place it outside your coach! (Hint to the men: there are tons of used tools for sale!)

Hope to see you there!

## New Rosters!

Once again the chapter is indebted to **Linda Karlsson** for editing and publishing the pictorial roster of all SEBN members. The six-page document, which features color photos of most members, was e-mailed this past July 26th. It is recommended that you print out a couple of copies and keep one in your coach conversion as an aid when travelling, attending rallies, etc.



Thanks again, Linda, for doing this big job. It is a document that is well-thumbed and referenced by us all!

## Arcadia Rally update

As mentioned in the last issue of the newsletter, the recent host of the venerable Arcadia Bus Rally, Bill Miller, has announced that he will be unable to run the 2017-18 event. See his official announcement:

<http://www.arcadiarally.com/>

Shortly after this news, an appeal went out on the Bus Conversions BB for volunteers to step up and assume responsibility for the rally. Although there was some supportive comment, to date no one has come forward.

Of course, the SEBN has its own post-New Year's Rally, set for Jan 4-7 in Lakeland, FL, and is unable to be of assistance regarding Arcadia.

If no one comes forward in the next month or so, the Arcadia event is very unlikely to occur. Too bad.

## Recent Rally Attendance/Coaches

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Autumn 2014 (Hoboken)	32
Arcadia (General Meeting) 2015	34
Valentine's 2015 (Myakka City)	13
Spring Rally (St Augustine)	15
Halloween Rally 2015(Brunswick, GA)	28
Arcadia 2016 (General Meeting)	20
Wimauma—Winter meeting 2016	18
Spring Rally 2016 (Palmetto Cove)	33
Halloween (Hoboken) 2106	27
Arcadia Rally 2016 (no general meeting)	18
Post-New Year's Rally 2017 (Titusville)	12
Valentine's Rally 2017	24
Spring 2017 (Mt Airy)	31
Hoboken 2017	?

## Planning on California Travel?

The following is an example of how bad rumors get started. This message appeared earlier this month on the popular Bus Conversions BB:

*"Here is a tale of woe. Several years ago I had been living in Yuma, Arizona and decided to spend some time in Southern Cal at a friend's home near San Diego.*

*"I pulled my bus conversion out onto I-8 westbound for Mexicali...the first leg of the trip. The California state line is about 3 miles from Yuma, and about 3/4 of a mile across the state line a CHP (California Highway Patrolman) pulled me over and told me I couldn't take the two-stroke 8V71 into California...it was against the law to drive it there.*

*"He pointed to the Algodones Exit about 3/4 of a mile up the road and told me to take it and turn around and go back wherever I came from. He said that if I bypassed the exit and tried to continue into California, he would arrest me, put me in jail (on several charges) and my bus would be impounded and sold for scrap. If I could make bail I would be allowed to retrieve my personal belongings, If not they would go to the scrap yard with the bus.*

*"This young man was very serious and said the CARB (California Air Resources Board) had the power and laws to carry this out...and I believed him. Think about it before you buy a two-stroke. I've heard that several other states are considering outlawing them...and NO they are not grandfathered!"*



Relax, SEBN! Although it's true that all commercial vehicles with two-stroke engines are expressly banned from operating in California, the problem here is that the trooper was wrong, and 'motorhomes' with two-stroke engines are exempted, according to the California state CARB statutes. See this excerpt:

<https://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/truckstop/tb/motorhome.htm>

Whew! But the sad day is probably not too far off when our beloved two-strokes in any form are prohibited from entering some states.

## Antique Bus Rally and Parade September 22-24, Evansville Indiana



Several SEBN members journeyed to Evansville to take part in this unusual event, Travelers included **Howard and Ellen Best, Kirby and Linda Karlsson, Andy and Anna Metro, Herb Bates and Reen Kukon, Manny and Darlene Montesino, and George Showman.**

The location was a recently restored art-deco Greyhound Bus Station.

According to info provided by Linda Karlsson, the event was focused on coaches that were at least 25 years old, and was the largest ever North American rally of historic buses.

Herb Bates wrote, "The setting was near a renovated Art Deco Greyhound bus terminal in the older part of the city. A hundred buses were expected, and there were 87 that participated in the parade.

"There were lots of interesting units on display, some back to the early 1900s. The parade was to establish the Guinness World Record for the largest antique bus parade. It was well received as the streets were lined with spectators from start to finish."



### Sudden tire blow-out!

Without question one of the greatest fears we as bus conversion enthusiasts have is blowing a tire at highway speed, especially a steer tire. We have all heard the horror stories of sudden loss of control.

Here is a snap quiz on handling your coach in a tire emergency on the open road: You are cruising at 65 on the Interstate. You hear a load explosion from the right front tire area. Your reaction should be A) hit the brakes; B) take your foot off the accelerator and coast; or



C) hit the accelerator.

To the shock of many, the correct answer according to bus and truck safety experts is C—hit the accelerator! They say a coach will suddenly pull to the side of a steer tire blow-out, and accelerating will neutralize that pull and give you time to get the coach under control.

Our friends in the Prevost Community have occasionally posted this video on their electronic bulletin board. It is eye-opening, and well worth a view:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6I7vkiHi2I8>

Of course, preventing blowouts should be second nature to us Bus Nuts: always check the exterior condition of tires before a trip, always monitor tire pressure—most blowouts are tied to low air pressure and resulting high temperatures, and avoid striking road hazards and potholes.

## For Sale

**From time to time members ask that buses and bus conversion-related equipment be listed for sale. If you have an item, just tell your newsletter editor.**

\*Converted 1988 MC-102 A-3 with DD 8v92 and Allison 740 transmission, with only 102K miles. Tires are one-two years old, batteries are one year old. Air bags, brakes, leveling system and exhaust all new in 2005. All-electric coach with eight house batteries, 4000 watt inverter and 12.5 K diesel generator. Beautiful oak and maple cabinetry, laminate floors. Beautiful FlexSteel furniture, and wired with satellite TV. Price \$55,000. Tow car also available. Call **Jim Conway** at 302-522-1057

\*Rockwell rear end for MCI buses. 4:11 gears. Came out of an MC-12, and may fit MC8 and 9. Asking \$1,000. Contact **Jack Campbell** at 863-206-3838.

\*Eagle Model 05, fully converted by BB Coach of California in 2001, includes 14 kW gen, large holding tanks, DD 8v71 with Allison 5-speed, awnings, and a 14" roof raise. Asking \$12,000. Contact **Luther or Debbie Delp** at [DDNiteOwl@aol.com](mailto:DDNiteOwl@aol.com) or ph 904-641-0392 in Jacksonville.

\*Heavy-duty 50 amp shore cord. 4 wire, 25 feet in length, with molded male plug. Asking \$30. Contact [grammie\\_60@bellsouth.net](mailto:grammie_60@bellsouth.net)



Theme of this Rally will be **Thank you to our Veterans...** Red, White and Blue...Bring pics of yourself or family members that have served in our military (Past and Present). Show your pride for our Veterans our country and our flag

**All coaches should display an American flag at this rally.**

**Twin Oaks Music Park, Hoboken, GA**

### **WEDNESDAY, Nov. 8th**

Wednesday evening early arrivals....Bring hors d'oeuvres and beverages to share around the fire. Telling funny or interesting stories of RV related experiences. Bring your own chairs for around the fire ring.

### **THURSDAY**

Thursday morning coffee and doughnuts

Self exploring the local area, Downtown Waycross, Coast, or countryside

Thursday afternoon...Bocce ball and corn hole tournaments

Thursday Night out ...Dutch treat at local restaurant ...Where TBD

### **FRIDAY**

Friday morning breakfast casseroles

Business meeting after breakfast

Okefenokee Swamp..... Boat rides, alligator viewing, Nature Center, railroad, nature program.

Friday night ...'Soup Nazi night' ... soup wars between the Showman Siblings....vote for the best!

Patriotic music during dinner

Y'all can bring crackers, cornbread or veteran-themed dessert or whatever you might like with soups.

Meet around campfire after dinner

### **SATURDAY**

Saturday morning pancakes and sausage

Saturday Day ..local flea market at Twin Oaks campground.

Saturday afternoon...golf cart races

Saturday night, catered dinner: grilled pork chops or southern fried chicken

Silent auction and door prizes.

Entertainment after dinner

*Misc Info:*

*Bring stuff to sell at your coach (Crafts, bus and RV related stuff, and other treasures)*

- Save the dates! -



Campground & aviation museum

## Post-New Year's Rally

Your chapter officers have reserved the camping facility on the Sun 'n Fun grounds at Lakeland-Linder Airport in Lakeland FL. The dates are **January 4-7, 2018**.

Stay tuned for additional info and registration pricing.

## Winter 2018 Rally

?

Chapter President **Bryan Bowman** and VP **Craig Bowen** are currently recruiting a rally host for this annual winter/Valentine's weekend event.

Locations and timing will be discussed at the Hoboken rally.

Stay tuned as details develop.

Member **Marty Nixon** is in negotiations for the SEBN to venture to the upscale Hilton Head Motorcoach Resort for the annual Spring Rally.

Projected dates are **May 17-20**, which is the weekend *after* Mother's Day weekend. Watch this space for further details. This marvelous resort is only one mile from the ocean, and includes a fantastic pool, manicured grounds, and well-equipped clubhouse.

## Spring 2018 Rally



## **Southeast Bus Nuts Leadership**

### Chapter Officers

President— Bryan Bowman [bbowmanga@gmail.com](mailto:bbowmanga@gmail.com)  
Vice-President—Craig Bowen [CBowen3117@gmail.com](mailto:CBowen3117@gmail.com)  
Treasurer— Charlie Bukoski [chasjudy@bukoski.net](mailto:chasjudy@bukoski.net)  
Secretary—Ron Daniels [ncrealauctions@frontier.com](mailto:ncrealauctions@frontier.com)  
FMCA Nat'l Dir –George Showman [gshowman@aol.com](mailto:gshowman@aol.com)

## **Advisory Committee:**

*(in addition to Chapter Officers)*

Judy Bukoski  
Ed Fisher  
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, Charlie Bukoski and Ed Fisher. (\* 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  
c/o Bryan Bowman, President  
5715 Hwy 85 N, Crestview, FL  
32536

