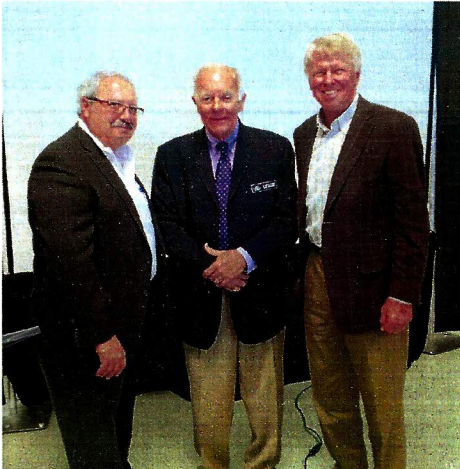


2014 Annual Meeting Highlights



L-R: Mitch Gurunick, MCI; Tom Collins, Museum President; Dale Krapf, Krapf Bus Companies

October 25, 2014 was a good day for the Museum of Bus Transportation and the AACA Museum. Our annual meeting and the Museum's "Trunk and Treat" were combined for a total of nearly 400 visitors. We can only "claim" 59 of the 400 visitors which was about the same as our 2013 meeting number.

The nearly perfect Fall weather was very good to us which was in sharp contrast to 2011 when we had 6 inches of surprise snow-fall...just delightful.

Our industry guest speaker was **Dale Krapf, CEO of Krapf Bus Companies**. The Krapf company is very unique in the industry in that they "do it all" by providing charter, tour, local transit, a contracted transit partnership with SEPTA, para-transit, and school contract services both in Pennsylvania and in several other states. Dale started his nearly 60 minute presentation with an 13 minute video describing the formation of the company by his father George in 1942, then moving through the World War II years, the 50's, 60's, 70s, etc. into the organization it is today.

Dale said that, although he has an interest in the coach and transit operations he "bleeds yellow" and has expanded the school bus operation far beyond the West Chester, Pennsylvania home office into Virginia and, more recently, into Illinois.

The school bus fleet is equipped

with every type of currently available school bus while the charter fleet is comprised of MCIs and Van Hools. The transit fleet is Van Hool and Flyer but over the past few years several pre-owned RTS and Gillig vehicles were used on the West Chester to Downingtown (Route A) service.

Dale described the acquisition of Gregg's Charter Service of Hockessen, DE and Red Lion Bus Company of Red Lion, PA, both operated charters and school vehicles.

In recent years, we have not had so many questions posed to our guest speakers during the question and answer portion of Dale's presentation. It was great to see how much interest there was in his operation.

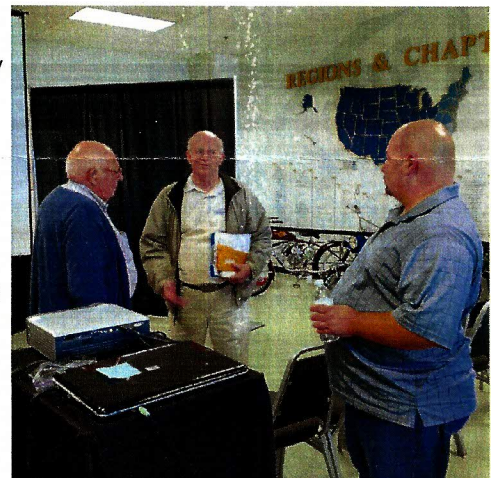
The Krapf organization has been very supportive of our organization including a substantial contribution to our Adopt a Bus program.

This was one of the most interesting operator presentations in recent years and was a great way to start our 2014 annual meeting. Member Bob Garrett presented Dale Krapf with a specially painted "D" Corgi done in the 1982 Krapf livery.

Mitch Gurunick, from MCI addressed the group detailing several new offerings from his firm. He focused his talk on the fine relationship that MCI has had with the Krapf organization over the years. He presented Dale Krapf with a special painting featuring one of Krapf's new "J" models.

Mitch also discussed the program that MCI has in place to sell a pre-owned "D" model on e-bay and then donate some of the proceeds to our organization. Bus operators have to bid on the coach before this calendar year is over.

Our 50/50 drawing generated \$114 and the winner, Jonathan Robbins from ABC turned his portion of the winnings back to us - this will be applied to the general account.



Continued On Page 2

From the Board Room

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

J. Thomas Collins, President
Capital Area Transit

**Robert L. Smith, Vice President/
Archives**
Johnson Bus, Inc. (retired)

John Dockendorf, Secretary
PennDOT, Bureau of Public
Transportation (retired)

Edwin P. Wolf, Treasurer
E and B Transportation

Donald R. Barlup
Equipment, Inc.

Jot Bennett
Capitol Bus Company (retired)

Clarence Cornell
ABC Companies, Inc.

Ralph J. Fetrow
Members 1st Credit Union

Jeff Goldwasser
La France

Constantine Mandros
S. Mandros Imported Foods Co.

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Retired

Howard D. Nice
Greyhound Lines, Inc.

Douglas W. Campbell
Charlesmead Pharmacy, Inc.

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Retired Bell Telephone

Terry S. Cosentino
C & C Tax

Walter Earl
Retired Capital Area Transit

David Millhouser
Retired ABC

Thomas Mozer
Retired NJ Transit

Elaine Farrell
Pennsylvania Bus Association
Editor for Bus Musings

It hard to believe that we are at the end of another year and our final newsletter for 2014.

Generally, 2014 has been a good one for your organization. Membership remained stable, bus Artifact donations were up, we acquired 2 additional buses, the 1990 Prevost and the 1956 PD-4501. Our Adopt a Bus program continues to gain support from the membership.

Our two major events, the June Spring Bus Fling and our October Annual Meeting were successful with increased participation at both events.

The full time Executive Director of the AACCA Museum, Mark Lizewskie, attends our monthly board meetings. This keeps our Board informed regarding Museum events and finances particularly since both of these affect our financial bottom line.

The Museum gift shop has been downsized to make room for a collection of 3 Tucker automobiles but the bus portion was not affected and we retain our original floor space. Gift shop sales of bus related items

was slightly ahead of 2013 by the end of October. When we are able to get bus models they sell out rapidly but we've noted a decline in book sales overall.

Ralph Fetrow and Ed Wolf continue to keep a keen eye on our financials.

We've come up short on the fundraising side. One-on-one visits to bus operators and Suppliers did not take place, as planned. Currently, MCI has proposed a program which should produce a significant amount of money for us if it goes as planned.

We are addressing some possible storage problems with our Fullington Building due to some dampness that we have encountered. We have not stored any buses in that facility since early May due to that problem.

Thanks to all of you for your support. Have a Happy Holiday season and a great 2015.

The MBT Board

2014 Annual Meeting *continued from front page*

At the start of the business meeting all in attendance introduced themselves and their industry affiliation.

The minutes from the October 2013 were read and approved by the attendees.

The treasurers report was presented by Ed Wolf and augmented with comments from Ralph Fetrow. Our current assets include checking and savings accounts, investments, and our fleet and building. We continue, however, to operate at a loss; as of the meeting date our loss as of September 30, 2014 was \$38,542. We expect to receive some "year end" contributions which usually cut our losses. The treasurers report was accepted as presented.

Finances were a segway into a recap of the *Adopt a Bus Program*. To date 19 of our fleet of 33 buses have been adopted. Several buses have more than one MBT member adopt them. There were six "at large" donations which are applied through the fleet rather than just one bus.

Our VL-100 Flexible, on the other hand, has three MBT members who have adopted it, and six other buses have had two donors.

A fleet report was given by Fleet Manager Ken McNelis. He focused on his "team" of volunteers – those who worked 3 or more sessions. They were rewarded them by treating them to the annual meeting – at no cost.

We received 93 ballots for Board Members which is about 1/4 of the membership. The three incumbents Bob Smith, John Dockendorf, and Howard Nice were reelected for another 3 year term (2015-2017).

President Collins gave a brief "State of the Organization" and he entertained questions from the audience.

After lunch, those who signed up for the bus tour were transported to Chocolate World where they boarded a Hershey Trolley Works Hershey city tour. This is a very popular 70 minute tour of Hershey, Milton Hershey School, and "downtown" Hershey.

2014's annual meeting was a success and we thank the AACAM Staff, Dino Mandros, Krapp Coaches, MCI, and ABC for their support.



Along the Line

FLEET COMMITTEE WORK SESSIONS

Due to some unforeseen health issues, work sessions will be put on hold until early spring. Please check the museum website, facebook postings by Mark Watson or call Ken McNelis (610-203-7998) or Tom Moser (717-343-0058) in January 2015 to find out when spring work sessions will begin.

VOLUNTEER ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



September 20th volunteer work session pictured left to right: John Lenhart, John Stoudt, Ken McNelis, Tom Moser, Jim Kalin, Ed Eiting, and Jim Tay. Terry Cosentino not pictured (took the photo!)

During 2014, 20 of our members volunteered a total of 405 hours of work service to our fleet at the annex and the museum. Seven volunteers deserve special recognition for work session hours including: **Tom Moser 20, Ken McNelis 15, Jim Tay 14, Ed Eiting 6, John Lenhart 4, and Terry Cosentino and John Stoudt with 3 hours.**

Some of our members travel quite a distance to attend the work sessions including: **Mike and Lynn Burshtin** from Richland, NJ; **Ed Eiting** from Virginia Beach, VA; and **Jim Kalin** from Long Island, N.Y. Thank you. We hope the efforts of these members will inspire members who live locally to help us. We would be remiss if we did not acknowledge the excellent mechanical work of our members **Jim Tay and Ed Wolf.** Their help is outstanding.

2015 ADOPT A BUS PROGRAM

We would like to thank the 35 members who participated in the 2014 ADOPT A BUS program. The adoption money amounted to \$12,350. Twenty-eight members adopted a specific bus. In some cases, 2 members adopted the same vehicle. Five members applied their donation to the entire fleet. Two members chose to buy needed pieces of equipment for the annex.

In particular, we would like to thank **Dale Krapf** for a generous donation which was applied to

the entire fleet as well as the \$750 donation from **Lynn and Mike Burshtin** to purchase a commercial power washer and a commercial weed wacker.

With all the generous donations, a total of 16 busses were worked on, 3 that did not run but now run, and the remainder of the fleet was examined for needs.

We ask all members to re-adopt or adopt a bus in 2015 so that we can complete the work needed to have all the fleet repaired, registered, and running.

FLEET REPORT

The annex was winterized and the grass was cut for the last time this year. The **1945 Ford** body work continues in preparation for spring painting. The display at the museum will be changed shortly to remove the **1952 Beaver** and put the **Scenicruiser** and the **Flexible VL-100** on the display floor. Fourteen vehicles have been moved inside the annex for the winter months.

The VL-100 will be lettered and numbered for Trailways by the time you read this.

Our **1945 Aerocoach** was registered for the annual AACA automobile show but, due to bad weather, we chose not to display it.

The last flood damaged buses, our 3301 and 4106, have been restored. The 4106 has been returned to our George Sage Complex.

RECENT DONATIONS

Although all donors are acknowledged individually we wanted to list them, as follows:

Mark Watson; Dino Mandros; Ken McNelis; John Spychalski; John Dockendorf; Tom Collins
Robert Faulkner; Ed Eiting, Lloyd Smith, George Lindsay, Maureen Leo, Harvey Eckhart, Ed Erickson, David Gregg, Tom DeFulvio, Lloyd Bean, James Millar, Gary Frank, Paul Johnson, Janet Miller, Bill Parkin, Howard Nice, Ronald Moore, Gary Krapf, Craig Weiss, Mark Watson, and Mike and Lynn Burshtin.

This amounted to \$2,500, all applied to our general fund. All have been individually acknowledged but we wanted the membership to be aware of their contributions.

TRAINING SESSION

Other than the full time administrative staff, the AACA Museum relies on a volunteer staff of over 40. These volunteers act as docents, covering the three floors of the Museum. This group is mainly "car oriented" with the Museum relying on a handful of MBT members who are able to allocate some of their time each week, to "work the floor."

The Museum staff asked us to "cross train" their car docents so that they would all have some basic knowledge of buses without going into specifics about engines, drive trains, etc. The attached photos show two bus training sessions given by our President Tom Collins with assistance by Tom Moser. Over 40 persons attended two "bus class" sessions. They were very interested in the Trailways "Five Star" service; we tie this in when addressing the public on the Golden Eagle. Our Scenicruiser arrived just two weeks prior to these classes and this, too, brought a lot of interest and questions.



The outdoor picture shows our VL-100, before lettering which was outside the Museum. The story of these buses tied in with the Scenicruiser, i.e. Trailways initial response to the Scenic. It was suggested that we run this class once a year or more often as new guides come on staff.

Continued on Page 4

Along the Line

SCENICRUISER UPDATE

We were so pleased to receive a **Scenicruiser**, as was the Museum in general. Our docents, and those on the "car" side, consistently received inquiries from our visitors asking why we did not have "one of those double deck buses that Greyhound used to have."

Thanks to ABC and our board member Clancy Cornell, we received 4501-932 from their Florida office. Flat bedded to us, it was immediately placed on the floor for what was anticipated as a loan for about 3 to 6 months. We recently received a letter from Dane Cornell, CEO of ABC, indicating their desire to donate it to us.

There were several requests from Mr. Cornell including having the bus inside at all times which can easily be accommodated. It will be joining our Golden Eagle as part of our permanent display in the Museum. We will use it to tell "the story" of the Scenic and the fact that it was sold only to Greyhound when new. After the coach is appraised we should be receiving title of the coach in early 2015.



The accompanying photo shows industry notable Dave Millhouser when he visited the Museum recently. He drove Scenics in his early career after the Scenics were retired from the Greyhound fleet.

We plan to feature Scenics at our June 6, 2015 Spring Fling. Acquiring the Scenic was perhaps the highlight of 2014 for the MBT!

MUSEUM DISPLAY CASE

The museum would like to thank the following members for offering items in our display case over the next year: **Walter Earl, Stan Lubowicki, and Art Zinn.** **Walter Earl** has his collection of models in the case now. **Stan Lubowicki** will be displaying New York Transit items around the spring fling and Art Zinn may display his collection of Roberts miniatures over the fall or winter months. Each display will be featured for approximately 6 months. Thank you for your continued support.

RECENT RETIREMENT OF MBT MEMBERS

Industry leaders **John Dockendorf** from Penn-DOT, **Arman Grecco** from Lehigh and Transportation Authority, **Hugh Mose** from Centre Area Transit Authority, and **Walter Earl** from Capital Area Transit recently retired with a combined 175 years of service! All of them have, and continue, to support the MBT. Congratulations!

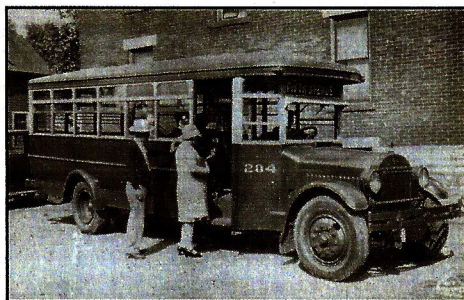
JIM LEHRER DONATES Flxible

We are looking forward to early 2015 and to receiving Jim Lehrer Flxible. Bruce Sankey, editor of Bus and Motorcoach News, interviewed Jim in a recent issue. The focus of the article was an interesting story on when he acquired the Flx and his love for the motorcoach industry over the years. MBT was mentioned in the article several times.

1926 MACK

One of the docents said he received this photo from a visitor one recent Sunday afternoon. The docent said he would turn it over to us so we were pleased to find it on the desk in our administrative office the very next day.

Tracing it to be a **Mack AB, Bus #204** of the Columbus Railway, Power and Light Company. The photo was taken in Columbus in mid-



1927. It will be added to our collection of Mack photos which range from the early 1900's up to 1960.

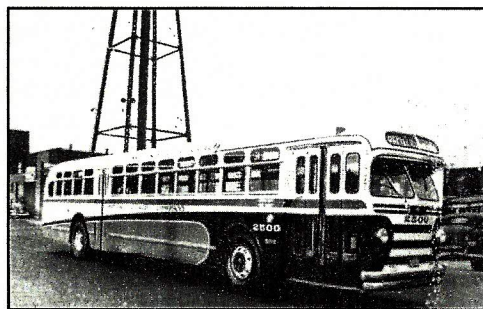
GM Model TD-5401

Another interesting photo which we came across since our last issue is this 1946 picture of the rare TD-4501-EXP-204.

It operated in New York City, for Fifth Avenue Coach, from 1942 to 1946. It then was transferred to Chicago Motor Coach Co. until GM rebuilt it.

This photo, we learned, was taken at the CMCC Keefe garage. It is interesting to note that it

seated 54 which is about the same as a low floor (60 foot) articulated bus seats today!



UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

2014 Board Meetings
December 2

Spring Bus Fling
Saturday
June 6, 2015

2014 Board Meetings
January 6
February 3
March 3
April 7
May 5
June 2
July 7
August 4
September 1
October 6
November 3
December 1

Annual Meeting
October 31, 2015

Regular Board meetings are held at the AACA Museum in Hershey at 6:30 pm and are open to all members.

All you need is One!

- New Van Hool Motorcoaches & Transit Buses
 - GCA M1235 Mid-Size Coach
- Pre-Owned Coaches • Financing
 - ABC Coach & Transit Parts
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www.abc-companies.com

Model Bus Musings by Doug Campbell

Model bus fun on all levels.....open top, high back, and single deck!

This month I'll start with a little model from back in the 1950's era that retailed, according to the original price label under the case, for just 82 cents! It's a 4 1/2 inch long plastic, brightly chrome plated replica of the then current **GREYHOUND Scenicruiser**, and a great reminder for all our members to come and see your museum's wonderful new REAL Scenicruiser on display at Hershey, as a recent gift from ABC Bus! This neat little model bus has a friction motor, full interior, and was made in Hong Kong. It was distributed on the toy market here in the USA by F.J.Strauss Co., under their trademark as "Straco" toys. It has windows and a GREYHOUND logo is on the sides in red letters with the white "dog" trademark, too. On the black plastic chassis is lettered "Blue-Box-made in Hong Kong", a popular toy brand of the 1950's-60's era. The model was sold in a nice clear plastic display box with base. ▼



The next model I'm reviewing this month might just be the very **FINEST** model bus I've ever seen! The details and quality are amazing! This 1/43 "**BIG BUS TOURS**" (Ankal-

AK real prototype) open-top London sightseeing bus was sent to me by a friend, who, I believe, located it on e-bay in China. Every interior detail is there, along with a detailed chassis, and rear engine. The graphics are exact and even the rear section of the top roof is removable as it snaps into the side railings and packed separate in the model's box. A laminated photo card included with my model indi-

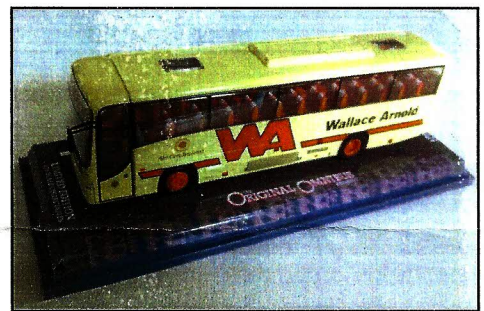


cates it is No. 125 of 500 produced, and this model is seemingly a promotional model sold through "Big Bus Tours" own souvenir shops, as this is a world-wide bus tour company. The model bus measures 12 inches in length.



Another friend recently brought me back from the "**80M Bus Model Shop**" in China this charming 2 1/2 inch long plastic "pull-back motor" version of the bus above, also a Big Bus Tours exclusive promotional model. Even this tiny little model is full of exacting details, and again models Big Bus Tours real Ankal coaches, used worldwide. These seemingly are sold only in Hong Kong I'm told, by Big Bus Tours souvenir shops. Model is made in China by Cars Workshop.

Finally this month, another bus seen in Great Britain, a die-cast 1:76 scale **Plaxton Paragon coach**, in the cream/orange/black/brown colors of Wallace Arnold, a popular British operator of coach holidays. The Shearings" logo on the front was merged with Wallace Arnold in March, 2005, both before any decision was made to give a common brand. Both logos appeared on the coaches; this one representing fleet No. 575 that was recently transferred to the British "National Holidays"



fleet, and renumbered now as "928". This model is by CORGI/Original Omnibus Company, and was made in China in 2008. This model is numbered #205 of 1,300 produced!

Happy Collecting!

New Feature Coming: Getting To Know the MBT Fleet

One of our MBT members suggested we begin to feature a bus from our own fleet in each issue of the Musings. We thought this was an excellent idea and will start it with this issue.

1945 Aerocoach Model P-45/37, Serial Number 4537-1046

This bus was donated to us in 2002 by the late John Baran, president and owner of Baran's Transit Lines of Beaver Meadows, Pa.

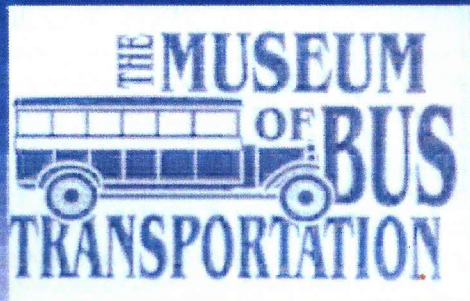
John owned this coach, a popular model in Aerocoach's Mastercraft series, most of its revenue life and treated it as if it were his own automobile. The original owner was Robert Merrell, from White House, N.J.

The coach was mainly used in charter and special services, as recently as the late 1990's when John would take it to New York City or Philadelphia on school charters. It would, from time to time, appear on the 2 regular routes in the Hazleton area that Baran's operated.

When we received the coach it was still in its original red and white paint. At our 2003 annual meeting, board member Clancy Cornell offered to have ABC's Camden, N.J. facility repaint the bus and apply new lettering. Today it is one of only a handful of "seated" Aerocoaches that we are aware of.



This bus was adopted by Bob Quinn of Quinn's Transit Lines.



presents

2015 Spring Fling

A Bus and Motorcoach Show

June 6, 2015 in Hershey, PA

DATE

Saturday, June 6, 2015

LOCATION

Antique Automobile Museum
Campus (indoors and outside),
Rt. 39, Hershey, PA

TIMES

8:00 am—4:00 pm

ADMISSION

Free to MBT members.
Regular admission will be
reduced to only \$7 for non-
MBT members from \$12!

NEED AN OVERNIGHT ROOM?

Hampton Inn and Suites (1/2
block north of Museum). Spe-
cial group rate of \$149...Men-
tion event #591. Cut-off for
reservations is May, 2015,
717-566-3369.

FEATURING

MODES OF BUS TRANSPOR- TATION

Intercity, transit, school bus,
motorcoach conversions.

FOOD AND BEVERAGES AVAILABLE

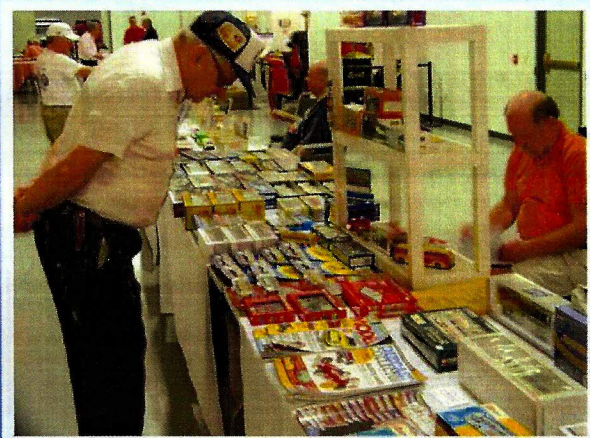
Special food court will be open in
the Museum

BUS STUFF TO PURCHASE!

Tables of bus and transportation
artifacts for
purchase!

VIEW THE MUSE- UM'S RESTORED FLEET!

A Shuttle bus will run
every hour between
the Museum and
MBT's storage Annex
to view the MBT fleet.
Donations will be ac-
cepted for the shuttle bus to off-
set costs. Shuttle bus provided
by **Wolf's Bus Lines, York
Springs, PA.**





2015 Adopt A Bus Program

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

Thank you for your interest in adopting a bus in 2015. We appreciate your support in interest in keeping the MBT fleet healthy!

Please select Option #1 or #2 below and indicate if you would like to adopt one bus or the entire fleet:

OPTION #1: Enclosed is my donation of \$300.00.

I would like to adopt bus _____ (funds will be used for storage and maintenance expenses for this particular unit)

OR

I would like to spread my donation of \$300 over the entire fleet.

OPTION #2: I pledge \$25 per month for 12 months for a total of \$300.

I would like to adopt bus _____

OR

I would like to spread my donation over the entire fleet

GUIDELINES:

- By adopting a particular bus selected above, your name will be displayed on the description plaque if the bus is in the Museum or on the windshield if the bus is stored.
- If you choose to spread your donation over the entire fleet, your name will be placed on a special plaque which will be placed on the wall of the Museum near the buses.
- The Adopt a Bus Program support is for one fiscal year.
- The Museum of Bus Transportation is a 501(c)3 organization; your fee may be used as a tax deduction.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and continued support of the MBT!

Please mail completed form and check made out to the Museum of Bus Transportation to:

Museum of Bus Transportation
161 Museum Drive
Hershey, PA 17033

Museum of Bus Transportation
161 Museum Drive
Hershey, PA 17033



FALL 2014 Bus Musings

3719834645 COOB



Wanted!!

■ Would the member who bought the Red/Black GM Motor Coach with plastic front nose plate from Ken McNelis at the Annex during the 2014 Spring

Fling, please contact him at 610-203-7998. ■ Is there any member who might have an original 38 3/4" Greyhound Roll Sign for a PD-4501

Scenicruiser? 4104 sign will not fit. Please call Ken McNelis at 610-203-7998 for sale or loan to the Museum.

My Favorite Bus by R.S. Briggs

While the GM "deck" (aka buffalo) was not the choice of most Trailways operators, a few of us including Carolina Coach, Adirondack, Martz, Pine Hill, and a few others that I can't recall, chose to stay with GM and offer customers "12 front seats" and a Scenicruiser type appearance.

We were known as Empire Trailways and always had GM buses so we were pleased when GM stretched the 35 foot 4107 to a full 40 foot coach. The attached photo shows our coach WN - 6801 (4903-157) at the GM plant in June of 1968.

Most GMs delivered to Trailways affiliates were painted in this livery. Some thought there was too much white in the scheme but I rather liked it.

These coaches, while tricky at times to shift,



were very popular with our customers on line runs and charters. Established tour customers asked for these coaches which was often difficult because we used them on pool runs originating in Buffalo.

I think these were neat coaches and feel that if GM would have developed an update of these "decks" as they did with the "Titan II" which was a basic deck upgraded there would have surely been less MCI and Eagles purchased, especially for line operators.

At any rate, I respected this coach, and it was my favorite intercity coach.