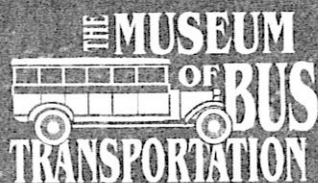


Bus Musings

Winter 2005

Vol. 6, No. 1

The Newsletter of the Museum of Bus Transportation



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From the Dispatch Desk:

We realize it has been several months since you've seen a newsletter from us, due in some part to the fact that we issued the Fall 2004 issue extra early in order to prepare for our annual meeting. We apologize for this, and will now begin normal production.

Here we are in our sixth volume and we felt that it was time for a new look with more data about MOBT members and activities, and less of a slant on historical photos.

Future issues will feature articles by members, including a column by Doug Campbell on model buses.

As we introduce you to this new format you will note that each issue will

Along the Line:

Board Member Don Coffin Resigns

Don Coffin was forced to resign from his post on the Board of Directors. Don cited health reasons but asked that he be allowed to continue as a consultant to the Board. His resignation was accepted at a recent meeting. Tom Moser was elected to fill his position.

Board Member Richard Fullington Out of Action

Dick Fullington, Sr. of Fullington Trailways went through back surgery in August and was able to make a monthly meeting in early November, but suffered a fall later that month breaking his hip. This forced him into the hospital and rehab again. We wish him a speedy recovery.

MOBT Membership Dues Raised to \$25 per year

Since its beginning in 1994, the \$20 dues fee was kept low in order to welcome new members. However, the raise was needed and has been in place since January 1, 2005. All members know that organizations such as ours depend on donations and membership dues.

Museum Receiving Well Deserved Publicity

Most, if not all, of the publications within our industry have carried news and publicity items about the Museum. Both the National Bus Trader and Bus Tours Magazines have more than once promoted the MOBT with full size articles. Bus Ride, Metro, Bus & Motorcoach News, PA Bus Digest, and the Trailways Traveler have published news and items of interest concerning upcoming events. Some are now turning to us for articles and public relations pieces.

The industry, as a whole, now recognizes the worth of our endeavors and pushes for our further success in the years ahead. Trailways representative Bob Beard gave an impromptu speech about the Museum to almost 300 attendees at their 68th anniversary convention in San Diego last year, and as a direct result our membership increased.

Gift Shop Needs You

There are many of us who don't believe we have anything to donate (other

have a sponsor; this issue is sponsored by ABC. When possible, please patronize our sponsors.

Our annual meeting was a success --- fun, fellowship, exchange of ideas and a great fan trip followed by the annual dinner. Speaker Peter Pantuso gave us much insight into the present and future state of the bus industry.

We have many interesting activities coming up in 2005, affording many chances to become involved with your organization.

Here's to a great 2005 for each of you, and for our organization. Feel free to call me at 717-566-7100 (ext. 119) or 215-580-7979 with your thoughts.

Tom Collins

than money) because what we might have probably won't be placed on display or would duplicate something already there. Don't forget the gift shop. This is where we can use the extra toys, models, books, and other items that are around your home. Place an honest and reasonable value on what you donate and MOBT will send you an acknowledgement of your gifts and their actual or estimated value.

Contact Board Member Terry Cosentino if you have questions about donations, grants, endowments, taxes, charities, or any other matter. Terry reminds us that many people name a charitable or non-profit organization in their wills, helping the estate after the donor has passed away. The donor can help themselves if they use one of the many ways to declare their intentions before they pass.

Back on the subject of the gift shop, we are working toward a new and interactive web site where members and others might be able to look over the items we have for sale and order them through the internet.

All Members Invited to MOBT Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings are generally held on the first Tuesday of every month at the Museum at 6:30 PM. All members are invited to join with the officers and directors. Guests who are not members are allowed to attend our annual meeting activities and dinner on the last Saturday in October. It is wise to call ahead to Tom Collins or John Dockendorf a few days before the monthly meeting and ascertain that the date has not been changed (which happens at the last minute every so often).

Fullington 1915 White to Remain with Museum

The Fullington family (Fullington Trailways) has agreed to allow their 1915 White to remain on display at the MOBT for an additional period of time. This vintage bus from the industry's earliest years has been a big hit with visitors. It is the first unit the public sees when they enter the display area.

George Sage Takes a Personal Interest in MOBT

George Sage, former owner of Bonanza Bus lines, made a special visit to the Museum last August. Mr. Sage believes in the aims and endeavors of the Museum and looks forward to becoming more involved with its operations. In fact, he has already been selected as our guest dinner speaker at our next annual meeting.

On the Cover: Our "new" GM TDH 3207 being delivered to Myerstown in early fall. The shop staff at the Johnstown property did an excellent restoration on this vehicle. Recently, it was insured and tagged, so it's ready to roll!

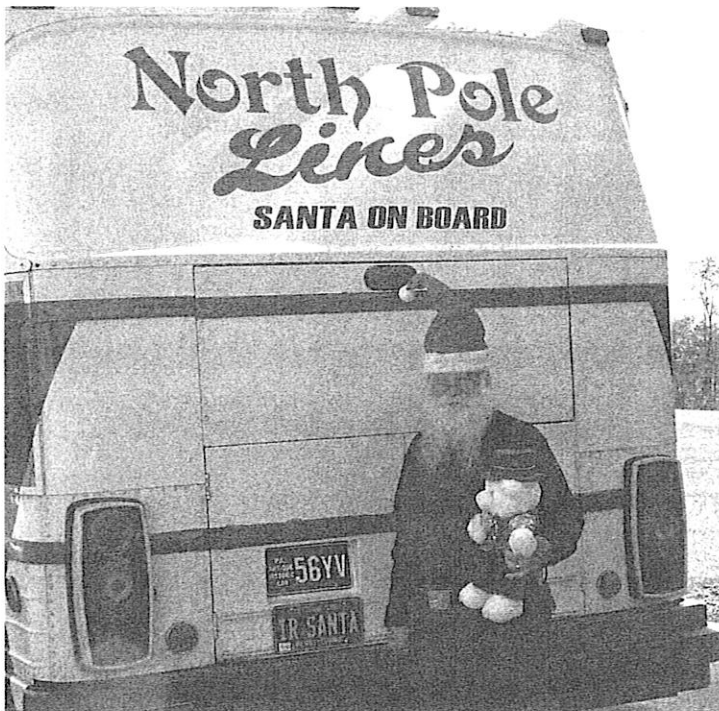
Time on Your Hands? Volunteer at the Museum

There are times we sure could use some volunteer help both at the Museum and at the storage facility in Myerstown -- cleaning crews, mechanics, bus movers, office help, docents and guides. Let us know how you might be able to lend a hand. Give us an idea for the whole year ahead. We will call you if an opportunity arises in which we might be able to use your services.

Work parties at both Hershey and Myerstown happen a few times a year. Seems as if the more we have who are dedicated to the task at hand, the more fun and rewarding the day becomes.

One particular time of the year for your Museum is the eve of the annual Spring Fling, the first Saturday in June. On the prior day, members and workers have to move all the stored equipment outside the hanger and place it on display. The buses need to be cleaned so they will be presentable to visitors. The hanger itself needs to be set up for the bus memorabilia tables at the flea market.

Santa Arrives Early



Since no sleigh or reindeer were seen in the area, it took a while to notice an MC5C with the words **North Pole Lines** and **Santa Aboard** parked in front of the Museum at our annual meet. However, once SANTA stepped off his bus, the secret was out. Dan Lehman, who looks, acts, and dresses the part of SANTA, greeted all and wished them a Merry Christmas. The MOBT added Dan to the Board of Directors, and can now boast of having "Santa" literally on board.

By the way, the North Pole Lines "fleet" consists of an AMG 9635A, a 4905, an MC-8, in addition to the MC-5C.

Plan Ahead to Participate in Spring Fling -- June 4th

Now is the time to inventory your collectibles, set your prices, set aside those items you'll donate to the Museum auction, and be ready for the annual Spring Fling, to order the number of tables that you will need.

Holding the flea market inside the hanger will protect you and your buyers from any adverse weather. Last year started off cloudy and cool, but we had sun before the afternoon. Everyone who set up tables last year did well in their sales. The Museum itself, through items from its stock and donations, also did well. And, that's the name of the game, isn't it? -- A MOBT fundraiser

and a fun get-together of old and new friends, usually the first after a long, hard winter.

Museum's Bus Fleet now Numbers 22 Vehicles

Fleet Manager, Dan Lehman reports that the MOBT now has 22 buses in its fleet. Of these 17, 14 are in excellent condition and ready for display at any time, two are in need of some work, and one will take a bit of restoration.

It remains the Museum's policy to keep at least 11 vehicles on display at Hershey for public viewing and to switch displays every six months to keep the displays fresh.

The most recent acquisitions were the GMC 3207 transit bus donated by the Cambria County Transit Authority, and a 1987 MC-9 intercity coach from TransBridge Lines, Inc.

Two vehicles we are most interested in acquiring are an ACF IC-41 and a Ford Transit. By the time you read this we may have the ACF.

Annual Meeting Once Again a Success as a Fundraiser

Bus Day at the Museum of Bus Transportation last October 23rd brought a crowd of nearly 100.

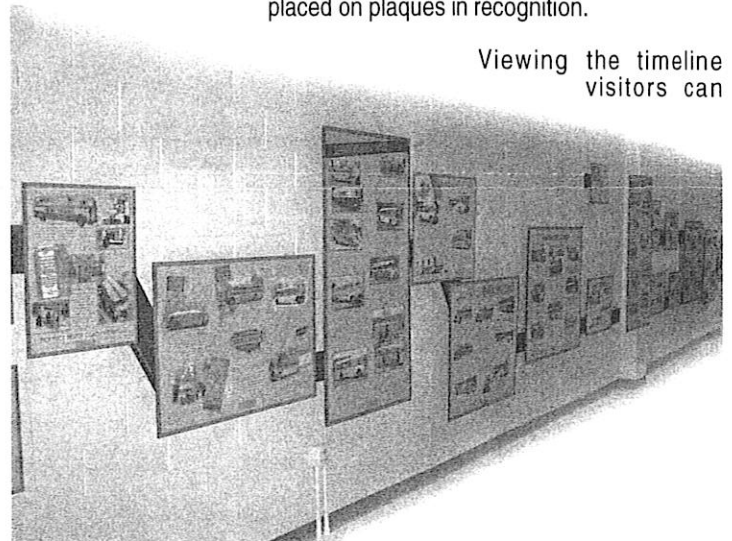
There were seven buses in front of the Museum open for walk-throughs. These were in addition to the vehicles on the display floor. Tours of Capitol Area Transit facility and the bus and train intermodal station proved popular, along with the buffet dinner on the display floor. Peter Pantuso, President of the American Bus Association was the guest speaker, and his presentation of today's industry and its future interested all who attended.

The Annual Meeting is a fundraiser for the Museum and donations over and above the requested \$25 per guest helped raise additional monies. John Andrews from MCI contributed \$500 to the cost of the meal.

Industry "Timeline" Continues Through the '40's

Board of Director Bob Smith has continued the push to develop this impressive timeline. Individuals and companies purchase panels, and their names are placed on plaques in recognition.

Viewing the timeline
visitors can



learn of developments within the bus industry, which formatted the network and bus systems we have today, as well as other aspects that have had major impacts on the industry over the years.

Website

The website will be updated and streamlined, including new graphics, an outline of upcoming activities, and vehicles currently on display.

2005 MOBT EVENTS

Saturday, April 9 "Trailways Day"

MOBT Museum
Hershey, PA
717-566-7100 (ext. 119)
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Special displays of Trailways archives and vehicles

Friday, June 3 Clean-up Work Day

Myerstown Facility
(Call T. Collins if you can volunteer)

Saturday, June 4 "Spring Bus Fling"

Myerstown Facility
8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

Flea Market, Bus Display, Food Available, Shuttle to Museum.

Registration Fee: \$10 (donation to MOBT-vendors only)

Please bring your own tables for display area. No advance reservation necessary.

Saturday, June 25 10th Annual Museum Expo

AACA & MOBT Museum
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
(Museum open - Normal fees apply)

Cars, Trucks and Buses on Display. Food Available.

Saturday, October 29 Annual Meeting

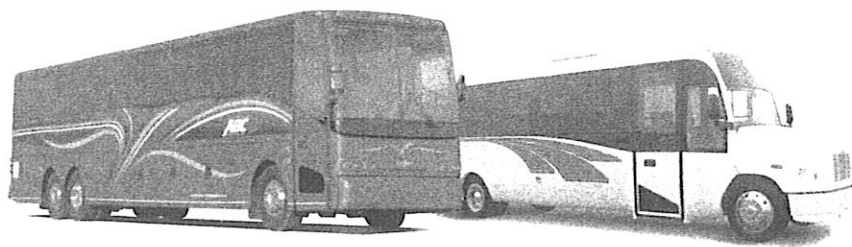
MOBT Museum
9:00 AM – 8:00 PM

*Displays, Business Meeting, Fan Trip, Dinner
Registration: \$25 (Details in future newsletters)*

JOIN US, IF YOU CAN, AT ANY OR ALL EVENTS!

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