

ELECTIONS FOR BOARD POSITIONS A SUCCESS

One of the most important duties that all members of the Museum of Bus Transportation have is to vote for members of the Board of Directors each year. Many non-profit organizations have their Board Members appointed, but the MBT has, from its beginnings, had the membership vote each year on whom they would like to see making decisions about your museum. It is the Board, elected by the membership who then decides who will be in the Executive Positions. This happens each year, and this year we had a great slate of candidates for the positions that were open.

This year, David Schmidt, Mark Szyperski, David Millhouser, John Oakman, Becky Tollens, and Elizabeth Deffer were elected to the open Board of Director Positions. However, due to the resignations of former Board Members, Jeff Goldwasser and Doug Campbell, Don Barlup was requested by the Board to fill the remaining portion of Mr. Goldwasser's term, and Jimmy Hall was requested by the Board to fill the remaining portion of Mr. Campbell's term.

Schmidt, Szyperski, Millhouser and Oakman had been already completed one term, and were requesting a second term on the Board. All were voted back in. Mr. Barlup also previously had held a position on the Board of Directors. New to the Board will be Ms. Tollens, Ms. Deffer and Mr. Hall.

Becky Tollens has been very active in the Museum for many years, most recently as a member of the Advisors to the Board and the Chair of the Events Committee. She has also assisted on the Fleet Committee and represented the Museum of Bus Transportation at many outside events. When she is not spending all that time volunteering with the Museum, Becky is a Travel Agent for her full-time career.



Elizabeth Deffer is new to the Board of Directors. She is the Principal at Infanti Bus & Coach Upholstery. Her company donated the complete interior upholstery and refurbishing services for the interior of the Museum's 1945 Aerocoach, better known as the Baran's Transit Line. Elizabeth is looking forward to assisting the Museum with its ongoing Educational Services, and is bi-lingual in English and Spanish.



Jimmy Hall is the owner of Venture Tours out of Virginia Beach, VA, and has been in business for 20 years. However, Jimmy has been around buses since he was 5 years old. He is currently in the process of restoring a small fleet of coaches. He has restored two 1993 and 1994 Eagles that are completely restored, and has a currently restored 1991 H560 Prevost in running fleet condition. Jimmy also has 3 GMC Scenicruisers, one that he has invested over \$80,000 in restoring.

Welcome to the Board of Directors, and thank you for your time!

Annual Meeting Wrap-Up

This year's Annual Meeting was held on the bus floor of the Museum on Saturday, November 3.

The morning's business meeting was opened by Board Chair, David Schmidt. The meeting included updates on the finances of the Museum, volunteer recognition, an update on next year's Spring Fling and finally the results of the board election.

Also during the meeting, outgoing Treasurer, Ed Wolf and his wife, Vickie, were honored for their service to the Museum. Ed received an award for his dedicated service as Treasurer from 1995-2018. Both Ed and Vickie received Award of Merit plaques for their exceptional service to the Museum.

After lunch was served from Isaac's, the afternoon presentation began. This year's presentation marked the debut of the Freedom Riders exhibit. This exhibit will remain at the Museum through the end of

February 2019. Our speaker for this year was Mr. Pete Conroy. Pete is from the Freedom Riders Park in Anniston, AL. The presentation given by Pete was very moving and informative. You can view the speech at: <https://youtu.be/JPWlt2Kav98>. The speech featured an audio recording of Mr. Hank Thomas, who was one of the Freedom Riders on that Mother's Day in 1961 in Anniston, AL when the Greyhound bus was stopped. He gives his first-hand account of the events of that day. Many of the members of the audience were visibly moved by the presentation by Mr. Conroy.

The Event Committee was able to raise nearly \$4400 in donations to help cover costs of the Annual Meeting.

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The View from My Window by Mark L. Szyperski, Editor



As I sit here looking out my window and writing, I realize that it has already been two years that I've had the honor of bringing you this newsletter. I've had

great help from the writers you'll see in this and in past editions, and especially from our great "arranger", Mary Meszaros, who is the magic woman behind how this whole newsletter always looks so good. It's amazing how fast time does fly when you are having fun!

I do want to take a moment to thank you also for your vote to place me back on the Board of Directors for another 3 years. I am looking forward to serving you as I can. I do want to let you know that I did choose to step down after 2 years as the Board Vice-Chair. However, I will still be here behind the keyboard as well as serving on the Board in whatever capacity that is needed. I just needed more time to focus on my family and my business, and just can't continue to give the Board Vice-Chair the time that is needed to serve correctly in that capacity.

It was so great to have so many talented people run for the Board of Director's positions. Congratulations to all who were elected, and a very special welcome to our

newest members, Ms. Becky Tollens, Ms. Elizabeth Deffer, and Mr. Jimmy Hall. More information on these members, and the elections are in this edition of Bus Musings. It is so good to have their talents on your Board of Directors!

We have an amazing exhibit on display from now until the end of February. It's about the Freedom Riders, and the importance that the bus industry played as part of Civil Rights History. If you have not had the opportunity to see the exhibit, I think you will find it one of the most moving exhibits we've had in a long time. If you cannot make it to your Museum to see the exhibit in person, please take a moment to go to our website and see it there as well as watch the video of our guest speaker, Mr. W Pete Conroy.

I do want to send my very best wishes to you and yours to have a great and safe holiday season and ask that you make plans now to join us June 1, 2019 for our Annual Spring Fling Open House!

Bob Faulkner Manuscript

The Museum of Bus Transportation's website is truly becoming a repository of historical information. The Museum attempts to publish and save for future research and reference as many materials that may have historical value as possible. One example of this is a handwritten manuscript donated by Mr. Bob Faulkner. We have it posted on our website, in the "Resource Links and Materials," in the "About" section. (<https://busmuseum.org/about/resource-links/>)

Mr. Faulkner writes from his start as a mechanic's assistant in 1954 and covers events in the bus industry through his retirement in 1990. His notes include times when he set up a "Sting" because one of his mechanics was selling fuel at night to truck drivers and pocketing the money. It is an interesting 1st person review of some of the happenings in the bus industry at that time.

The Museum of Bus Transportation continues to collect information on family-owned bus companies and other information for its resource page. The Museum has noticed an increased interest in people visiting the website for information, including a group of home-schoolers who are using the Museum's site for transportation history.

The Museum has now posted all of the early editions of Bus and Motorcoach News, as well as hundreds of pictures and even TV advertisements that aired back in the day. Take a moment and see what has been added to the site!

Spring Fling 2019

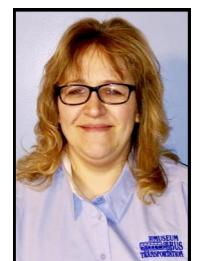
Mark your calendars, Spring Fling 2019 will take place on Friday, May 31 and Saturday, June 1.

Next year's theme will be a transit theme and the 60th anniversary of the fishbowl.

The event team will be looking to pair up visiting buses with buses in our fleet. If you have a transit bus or a fishbowl that you will be bringing to Spring Fling, reach out to event chair, Becky Tollens at events@busmuseum.org with your details.

Spring Fling will begin with the arrival of visiting buses and vendors on Friday and a dinner in the evening. Saturday's events start at 8 am and will again feature the third annual parade of buses.

Watch for more details on the Spring Fling on our Facebook page, website, www.busmuseum.org, and future issues of the musings.



Becky Tollens, Event Chair and
MOBT Board Member

Fleet Report by Ken McNelis

The volunteers were able to complete the following tasks at the last two work sessions of 2018 and a special mechanics only session in October:

- 1) Repair the right rear radiator and hoses on our MC5C
- 2) Repair the rear axle bearings and power steering on our 4106
- 3) Get the Golden Eagle running, repair the reverse solenoid, air leaks, and the first step on the entrance door
- 4) Repair/replace the front air bags, leveling plates, and air leaks on the TDM-4515
- 5) Put all necessary vehicles and equipment inside the Annex building for winter storage
- 6) Install all new fluorescent and incandescent lights in the pit work area
- 7) Disconnect all batteries on all buses for the winter
- 8) Check antifreeze levels on all buses
- 9) Winterize the Annex Building

The Fleet Committee would not be able to get as much done as it has without our volunteers. Remember, you are always welcome to stop by and help! You don't need a CDL or Mechanic's license. Lots of tasks that always need completing!

WORK SESSIONS

The dates for 2019 Work Sessions are not yet set, so keep a watch for dates for next year's work sessions. Dates will be published on our website, Facebook page and in future editions of the Musings.

The Fleet Committee plans to resume sessions in March or April, as the weather permits, to start to get ready for the Spring Fling Open House, in June. Volunteers are always welcome at all work sessions. Make any that you can, and plan to set some time aside the week before June 1st, when we really can use the help getting everything ready for Spring Fling!

DONATIONS ACKNOWLEDGED

Thank you to the following individuals and companies for their donation of needed parts and repairs for our Fleet.

Talmage Lewis (Lewis Bus Line/Sales, Augusta, GA) for the donation of a reverse solenoid for the Golden Eagle.

Ken McNelis for the donation of a dash power switch and the shifting solenoid (F-N-R) for the automatic transmission for our CAT 4523.

Matt Herr and Executive Coach, Lancaster, Pa, for the time and equipment to replace the front air bags, install leveling plates,

and repair the air leaks on the Forrest Gump Bus (TDM-4515).

Michael Baran for the donation of a work bench with a press and various other parts for our GM PD 4104 and 4106.

Michael Hepler for the donation of mechanical and cleaning supplies.

These donations, no matter the size are all so important in keeping the work we are doing with the Fleet. Thanks to all of the above, and others who donate unused tools, parts or other supplies to the Museum of Bus Transportation!

ANNUAL MEETING VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

The success of any Museum depends on how committed its members are to the goals of that Museum. Our goal is the preservation of the vehicles that make up the Bus Industry.

Without the efforts of those members who go beyond just paying of dues, who commit volunteer time to help us maintain these buses, we would not be here.

Just a few years ago, the Fleet Committee volunteers were Tom Mozer and Ken McNelis on any given Work Session.

We are happy to report that this year we have had 22 volunteers

for a total of 2,240 hours. Ten were new volunteers for this year. Our Work Sessions have grown from just two to an average of eight to ten volunteers per session.

This year seventeen volunteers met or exceeded the MBT Board Requirements for Recognition at the Annual Meeting.

The Honorees are: Michael Baran, Lynn Burshtin, Michael Burshtin, Ralph Ciccone, Terry Cosentino, Walter Earl, Michael Hepler, Paul Johnson, Ken McNelis, Tom Mozer, Howard Nice, Jim Kalin, Robert Smith, Angel Tollens, Becky Tollens, Mark Watson, and Ed Wolf.

Seven of these volunteers gave a combined total of 1,129 hours this year: Lynn Burshtin, Michael Burshtin, Michael Hepler, Ken McNelis Tom Mozer, Angel Tollens, and Becky Tollens.

Two of these volunteers have accrued a total of 287 hours each this year, giving each of them a lifetime total of 542 hours to date. They are Angel and Becky Tollens.

Thank you all for your service and dedication.. If you would like to volunteer, please contact, Fleet Manager, Ken McNelis at (610)203-7998.



My Favorite Bus by Anthony Blake

PENNING DUTCH TREAT BUS

What does the Amish Country of the Pennsylvania Dutch have in common with a vintage bus? Well, it's not just any bus, but it is a special bus, which I hold dear. It's the 1947 General Motors Silversides. I am not that old, but as a kid I rode the Silversides in the year of 1960. My Godmother, Ms. Laura Coleman, had planned a trip to the Amish Country. She chartered a bus and it happened to be the Silversides. How did I know? I had seen numerous pictures of the Silversides and I thought, "Look, I am travelling on a history bus meaning *vintage*." It was a warm splendid spring day when I actually travelled on a Silversides. The bus was not a Greyhound nor Trailways. The Silversides bus had no markings nor Company name, but it was sleek and solid silver with red trim. However, it did resemble a Trailways version. There was

no restroom aboard, but it was comfortable with reclining seats to relax. I enjoyed having the opportunity to travel on a historic Silversides that day. My heart was full of devotion, heritage, honor and privilege in being part of that vintage bus. However, my life is part of the vintage bus of the Silversides, as my nameplate is on the General Motors Greyhound Bus Silversides at the Greyhound Bus Museum in Hibbing, Minnesota. "The Silversides that resides with a background of memories on the open highway and with a thought of the Great Silversides way."

Anthony Blake, member & contributor to MOBT



Curator's Corner, The Freedom Riders, by Angel Tollens



On Saturday November 3, 2018, the Museum hosted its Annual Meeting. The special guest speaker was W. Peter Conroy of the Freedom Riders museum in Anniston, Alabama. The backdrop was an exhibit of numerous historical pictures as well as featuring our Flxible VL-100 and GM PD-4104 motorcoaches. The photo exhibit portion features numerous archival prints from numerous news and media outlets. Two of the most powerful photographs feature the aftermath of the attack of a Greyhound bus by segregationist rioters on Mother's Day 1961.

The exhibit was put into motion at the strategic planning meeting on March 10, 2018. It took life as a Civil Rights display and was narrowed to the Freedom Riders protestors of 1961. The evening after Spring Fling in June, The initial part of the exhibit (the buses) were moved into the lower level of the museum. It's at this point where

numerous people must be thanked for their efforts to get this job done: Stan Holter, Ross Gabrick and Emerson Zentz from The Bus Boys organization in Bloomington, MN. Jon Beckstrom the Operations Manager of the Greyhound Museum in Hibbing, MN along with Michael Hepler, Bob Smith, Angel and Becky Tollens and Mark Watson all from The Museum of Bus Transportation. Because the VL-100 experienced a malfunction with the reverse solenoid, the bus had to be pushed by hand to its static display pose. Along with parking the remainder of the exhibit on the lower level it was a 2 hour job which normally would have been completed within 1.5 hrs. Of course, we must mention that it was due to our Guest Speaker, Mr. W. Peter Conroy, who was so instrumental in getting us a good amount of the materials on display.



W. Peter Conroy
(Standing) with
Museum Member
Paul Allen seated
behind the wheel
PD-4104

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Photographs were staged in preparation for the grand opening of the exhibit on Friday November 2nd. On hand to assemble and stage the display were Jon Beckstrom, Angel and Becky Tollens and Mark Watson. The buses on the exhibit floor were all cleaned and various other display cases were moved around to facilitate the exhibit floor for museum guests. The actual presentation was both exciting, insightful and emotional. At one point Mr. Conroy asked those in attendance if they had any personal memories of the Mother's Day attack upon the Freedom Riders. Numerous guests recalled the horror of seeing a burning bus and innocent people laying on the grass with obvious smoke inhalation trauma. There were 2 FBI Agents on board that bus and were under orders only to observe and report what happens. Little did they know that the bus would be fire bombed by segregationists as it attempted to travel down the highway. It was a tumultuous time in modern history the MBT Board and AACA Board feel that the display was handled with dignity and grace.



To coincide with Black History Month, The Freedom Riders exhibit is scheduled to be displayed until the end of February 2019. The latest exhibit that we're currently working on is the Transit Bus theme and the 60th anniversary of the GM 5300 / 4500 Series New Look buses, also known as the fishbowl.

We look forward to seeing you at our next big event Spring Fling 2019. The welcome dinner for Vendors and Bus Exhibitors will take place on Friday evening May 31 and then Spring Fling opens on Saturday June 1st.

BUSES IN AMERICAN HISTORY
THE FREEDOM RIDERS

The Museum of Bus Transportation is proud to be able to provide this exhibit on THE FREEDOM RIDERS and how buses played an important role in the history of the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s. The two buses in the display are actual models that were in use during this turbulent time in the United States. There were segregationists in the South who created rules about the use of Transportation Systems in the South. These rules included where one could ride on the bus, which restrooms to use, which waiting rooms to use, even which water fountains to use. Groups of people from the North decided to test these rules and the Freedom Riders movement was started. One bus in particular left from the north and headed south. The bus was met by an angry mob at the bus station in Anniston, AL where tires were slashed and windows broken. Upon leaving Anniston, the bus was followed by the mob to a site just outside of town, where the driver stopped to change the tire. The crowd set the bus on fire and attacked the passengers as they departed. The incident served to strengthen the resolve for the civil rights movement.



Angel Tollens, MOBT Curator

Model Bus Musings by Doug Campbell

My wife, Joan, and I just returned after spending a week over the Thanksgiving holiday visiting a cousin in Southern California. This trip was warm weather and many interesting BUSES too! We were staying just 3 blocks down the street from DISNEYLAND, "the happiest place on earth!" It's a place we have visited many times in the past, but did not get into again this trip, however I thought it might be fun to review some model Disney buses as the REAL Disney parks have HUGE bus fleets, including coaches for tourist shuttles and many "crew" buses to carry their thousands of employees around. Also, all the Disney buses are covered in bright graphics and colors!



First, here's two of a fleet of ANNUAL DISNEY "Matchbox" MCI coaches. One has been issued each year since about 2007 or so, and earlier releases had "Disneyland" (California) graphics on one side, and "Walt Disney World" (Florida) on the other (both on roof). Then a few years ago all the labels on the model changed to only lettered "Disney Parks." These models are sold exclusively at the shops inside Disneyland and Disney World each year along with a corresponding "Matchbox" model plane, are made in China, and licensed on bottom of the model by Motor Coach Industries. Around 2007, "Matchbox" released a few other "comic character" versions of this fully die-cast, 6" long motor coach, but by around 2008 or so ONLY Disney seems to use this casting each year for its exclusive model. The bus has windows only running about halfway back and labels applied all graphics, but now they are fully tampo-printed onto the model bus! I own the complete collection through the years, and could never figure why Matchbox/Mattel never added the rest of the windows and tried to market the bus to bus companies for their advertising. It's always been kind of an "unknown" "Matchbox" casting to most collectors!



This unusual 5" long model bus is made of plastic and is sold ONLY in the shops at Tokyo Disney Resort in Japan. It is a model of the bus used at that park, except this kind of fascinating replica has a huge figure of Mickey Mouse that goes up and down and it actually "pops" out of the bus as its rolls along as you "click" it down in place.

The actual coaches at Tokyo Disney have that distinctive Mickey shaped window on the sides, and many die-cast, and plastic model versions are sold exclusively at that park. Lots of Mickey shaped icons appear all over this little toy bus and all graphics are tampo-printed directly onto the model. The bus is called the "Disney Resort Cruiser" and friends have brought me various models when visiting Japan and I am sure they turn up on E-Bay. This model bus is made in Vietnam.

Still another souvenir model bus from Disney, this one sold recently at the American Disney Resorts' shops. It's a Disney Transport Bus in die-cast metal about 3 1/2" long with a colorful figure of Mickey leaning



out of the driver's window, and a huge figure of Goofy leaning out of a right side window. This a few years ago was a typical graphics design seen on many Disney transport buses in the parks....and with realistic rubber tires, again this little bus was sold only at Disney Park shops. What fun!



Way back in 1976, this nice little die-cast replica of a CROWN school bus was sold at Toys-R-Us (remember those stores?) nationwide. It was made in Hong Kong by Zee Toys, Inc. and was part of their 1970's era "Windracers" series of models in tiny scale at 3" long. It was a most realistic and detailed model for its time. A bus not often made in miniature and labelled for Valley District Schools, probably of California origin, as Zee Toys offices were located in Long Beach, CA at that time. Very well cast with tiny "School Bus" labels at front and rear, this sometimes turns up at toy collectors shows, or possibly on E-Bay, considering it is now about 40 years ago when it was sold! Chrome bumpers front and rear complete the model.

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Just a few weeks ago, Iconic Models (IDReplicas.com) released this 1:87 scale (6" long) fully die-cast replica of this MCI D4505 in these wonderful old graphics of Carl R. Bieber Tourways of Kutztown, PA. The model has full interior, side mirrors, and wonderful graphics/paint details. If you are not familiar with Iconic Replicas, they have released an extensive line of 1:87 scale buses for bus companies all over America and some foreign nations. They recently had a nice article about the company in National Bus Trader. Jeff Silver runs the firm, trading at Retail as Awesome Diecast (bus available thru awesomediecast.com), and his manufacturing division known as Industrial Diecast Design, all based in Florida, with production in China. Each of his little models are such accurate models of the real coaches, and of excellent quality.

Finally this issue, when my wife Joan and I were touring ITALY just a few years ago, I found this exact replica of the transit buses we rode around Rome, Italy in a model shop. In 1/43rd scale, fully die-cast, it models the Iveco IRIBUS CITYCLASS A METANO "Roma" coaches in truly real details! The model is made in Italy by a small family-run model firm called "Old Cars" (Vercelli, Italy is the town location of the factory). I have a number of "Old Cars" models in my collection, but they are hard to find even in Italian model shops it seems. They are often used as promotional models, such as maybe this one could be for Iveco/IRIBUS, the bus manufacturer. All interior details are there, wipers, mirrors, great wheels, and rubber tires. These graphics are currently still seen I believe on the streets all over Rome, and all graphics are wonderfully tampon printed onto the model...a model of Italian perfection! This model is 11" long.



Back to Japan, from Tomy Tec models, is this fully detailed IZUZU BXD50 Japanese "school bus" in "Yatsugatake Kogan" graphics in bright yellow plastic in exact HO (1:87) scale. The details make this tiny 5" long replica almost real enough to drive! It models an actual Japanese bus pictured on the back of its box, has rubber tires, windows, full interior, and side mirrors, and comes packaged in a nice clear display case. The tiny IZUZU logo on the hood is even clearly readable. This model is so full of miniature details!

Happy Collecting!

Doug Campbell is a Member of the Museum of Bus Transportation Board of Directors. He has been a regular contributor to Bus Musings.



Museum of Bus Transportation
161 Museum Drive
Hershey, PA 17033

Fall 2018 Bus Musings

Gift Giving? Check out our On Line Gift Shop!

During this season of exchanging gifts, don't forget to check out our Museum of Bus Transportation gift ideas on the website! By going to <https://busmuseum.org/store-2/> you can find any number of bus related memorabilia that we have displayed on that page. You will see that the Museum's website has really expanded with gift shop offerings that can be ordered from your home. Since the bus enthusiast has a hobby that is often difficult to find items for, here is a great place to shop for the enthusiast, or for yourself!

Also on the website, should you prefer a shirt, or computer bag, hat or other item that has the Museum of Bus Transportation logo proudly displayed, you can go to <https://www.companycasuals.com/BusMuseum/start.jsp>.

Here you can choose an item and have it sent directly to your home. All types of apparel and gift ideas are at that link, as well. A great place to find additional gifts for that bus enthusiast in your life!

Go shopping from your home this evening!

