WELCOME TO OUR

Southeast Bus Nuts Newsletter



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Noble Thoughts

Fellow Bus Nuts,

As summer begins to wind down and we start looking toward cooler temperatures, changing leaves, and the upcoming fall rally at Lake Aire RV Park in Hollywood, SC, I want to take a moment to say how thankful I am for each of you who make the Southeast Bus Nuts such a special organization. One of the things I have always appreciated about this group is that it is about much more than buses. Yes, we enjoy talking about our coaches, sharing ideas, solving mechanical problems, and showing off the latest improvements to our coaches. But what really makes the SE Bus Nuts special is the friendship and fellowship that comes with being part of this family.

Whether you have been a member for decades or are relatively new to the group, you are an important part of what makes our chapter successful. Many of the friendships formed through the Bus Nuts have lasted far beyond a rally or a weekend together.

I also want to thank everyone who has helped organize our rallies and events. If you didn't notice, we already have the rally schedule booked out till next October!!!
These gatherings don't happen without people willing to step up, make phone calls, prepare meals, organize activities, and simply pitch in wherever needed. Your efforts are appreciated more than you may realize.

I encourage everyone to get those buses out and enjoy the road. Attend a rally if you can, invite another Bus Nut along, and don't hesitate to lend a hand to a fellow member who may need a little help. That's what this organization has always been about.
Most importantly, let's continue to look out for one another and keep the spirit of the Chapter alive for the next generation of members.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming events. Until then, travel safely, enjoy the changing season, and keep those buses rolling!

Safe travels and happy Bus Nutting!



CHAPTER PRESIDENT,
BO NOBLE



Secretary's Report

MINUTES: SPRING RALLY
PALMETTO COVE, CLEVELAND, SC
APRIL 5, 2026 AS FOLLOWS:

President Bo Noble called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm. After the Pledge of Allegiance and invocation by Chaplain and Vice President Jerry Hodge, Kyle and Nancy Brandt were thanked for hosting the rally. For the record, the meeting was held after dinner instead of after breakfast to get to the car show event on time.

The minutes from the Wildwood rally were read. The Secretary's report from Lisa Sawyer was read as follows: We currently have 12 honorary members and 35 regular members on the roster. That is a drop from the last report since dues were due and several nonpaying members were dropped from the roster. A sympathy card was sent out to the family of former long term member Sharon Wilson. Sharon passed away (2/15/2026) after a short illness. She and her late husband Donnie lived in Jacksonville, hosted several rallies in the Charlie Bukoski era, and both were widely respected throughout the chapter. Craig Bowen made a motion to accept the minutes and Secretary's report, seconded by Lou Kirk. There was discussion about the minimum number of members a chapter needs to maintain to be considered a chapter. Camellia Clark looked it up during the discussion and confirmed the minimum membership FRVA requirement is at least 15 family unit memberships. The motion carried unanimously.

Denise Aldridge gave the following Treasurer's Report: Dues are due. The annual report has been filed and paid along with the chapter's IRS Form 990-N (e-Postcard). As of 3/31/2026 the checking account balance was $7798.31, PayPal account balance was $1409.38 for a total of $9207.69 less outstanding amounts of $1009 and $247 for an available balance of $7951.69. A motion was made by Beverly Bowen, seconded by Beth Bryson to approve the Treasurer's report as given. There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

The National Director's Report was given by Denise Aldridge as follows: Lou Kirk confirmed he would continue to serve as the Alternate National Director. No other business to report. A motion was made by Nancy Noble, seconded by George Nixon to accept the National Director's Report as given. There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Upcoming Rallies were discussed. Craig Bowen suggested that the chapter get back to what it used to do which included giving out welcome packets upon arrival to coaches. It was discussed that it is up to the rally host what to do and that we should remember that rally hosts are volunteers.

There was no Old Business to discuss.

Under New Business there was discussion about the upcoming election at the Fall Rally and a request for any volunteers to come forward. There being no objection, a nominating committee was selected to include Jerry Hodge, Renea Mason, and Denise Aldridge.

For the Good of the Order it was shared that Herb Bates had a new address and that a get well card needed to be sent to Norm Scanapico.

The meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm. Respectfully submitted by Denise Aldridge.

Treasurer's Report (cont.)

BY: DENISE ALDRIDGE

The Chapter's current financial report through September 21, 2026 is as follows:

Checking Account	$ 8,388.59
Pay Pal Account	$ 4,281.82
Total	$12,670.41
Less *Outstanding Amounts	($ 398.00)
Available Balance	$12,272.41

*Outstanding amounts include registrations, refunds, cancellation credits, and reimbursements.

SEBN Membership Dues

To easily pay your dues, scan this QR code with your smartphone!

FRVA Director's Report

BY: DENISE ALDRIDGE

FRVA has launched a new website platform called Horizon. You may notice a difference when you log into your FRVA account. Your Southeast Bus Nuts chapter officers were invited to participate in several Teams training sessions to learn how to manage our chapters roster online, navigate membership updates, and post/share rally details. If you have not logged in to your FRVA account, please take a minute to do so and check out the new platform. It will be possible in the future to have our chapter website hosted through FRVA. I am in contact with FRVA and am working with them on the details about migrating over to their hosting platform. They still have some issues they are working through with how each chapter's bank accounts will be linked so I am of the opinion to let them get some of the kinks ironed out before we engage in switching over. Stay tuned.

Additionally, FRVA has started an Ambassador Program. The program is designed to help Ambassadors fully understand FRVA's many benefits so they can confidently share them with prospective members, new members, and longtime members who may have forgotten everything their membership provides. The Benefits Training explains the programs and services in detail. The Ambassador Training covers how to speak with prospective members, use the recruitment kits, request additional material and supplies, and participate in the national event schedule. The schedule allows Ambassadors to see upcoming events in their area where they may be able to help. You can also use your training and materials to hold small, informal gatherings at chapter meetings and talk with members and guests about FRVA. If anyone is interested in becoming a FRVA Ambassador reach out to Wayne Cernie directly at wcernie@frva.com.

FRVA's 114th International Convention & RV Expo will be held in Perry, Georgia March 17-20, 2027 at the Georgia National Fairgrounds. Our chapter has voted to skip our usual spring rally in exchange for a summer June rally. However, there are several Southeast Bus Nuts that have already signed up to go to the FRVA Perry Convention. Earlybird registration is only available until January 20, 2027.

Bittersweet Goodbye and Welcome



It is with great sadness that we share long-time member Mike Heron has resigned his position as newsletter editor. Mike has been a driving force behind our chapter being successful and having the longevity that it continues to thrive on today.

Mike, we are forever grateful for a job well done sir! We wish you the best!

It is with great pleasure we introduce our newest volunteer, Wayne Harris, for stepping up to fill the very important role of newsletter editor. Please take the time to welcome Wayne and thank him. Also, don't forget to send Wayne newsletter material and stories of your travels. We all want to know where you have traveled and what you have been up to :)

Other Bus Nut Travels



Several Bus Nuts met up at the Big Rig Friendly RV Resort in West Columbia, SC to celebrate the 250th year of America's Independence. Festivities were spectacular at the nearby Fort Jackson Army Base including live music, food trucks, a drone light show, and fireworks.



Earlier this year Bus Nuts Lou, Renea, Steve and Harriet traveled abroad starting in Rio De Jenaro, Brazil and headed to the Amazon.

The wheels on the bus of Bus Nut member Dan Aldridge definitely go round and round. Dan has been to Coldwater, MI for the Midwest Rigs & Relics Muster and Meet, Amish Acres, Nappaee, IN for the Random Acts of Camping, and Loudonville, OH for the Flxible & Converted Bus Rally.





Rising Diesel Prices – How RVers are Responding

If you have not signed up for a fuel discount program now is the time more than ever. There are several options such as Open Roads , Mudflap, TCS Fuel Card and Gas Buddy according to AI. How are RVers responding? In a nutshell, shorter routes (cutting out side trips and camping closer to home), longer stays (reducing moving frequency to minimize heavy towing), slower speeds (driving moderate highway speeds to help stretch fuel economy), and well... just sucking it up as a part of total ownership costs.

Palmetto Cove, 2026 Spring Rally

BY: DENISE ALDRIDGE

We returned to Palmetto Cove for our Spring Rally and I must say that it was quite enjoyable. The weather was fantastic and the scenery was stunning. There were 11 coaches in attendance, and our rally hosts Kyle and Nancy Brandt did a great job! In lieu of our usual Dutch treat outing on Thursday evening, we utilized the clubhouse kitchen and made our own personal pizzas. So delicious! The facilities at Palmetto Cove are top notch for hosting rallies. Dinners for Friday and Saturday night included Kyle's crockpot spaghetti and Ray's homecooked pot roast. Once again we ate like royalty.

On a side note, shout out to one of our 50/50 winners, Lou Kirk, for donating his winnings back to the Chapter. Now we just gotta figure out what to spend it on (wink wink). Another fun adventure during the rally took us to a local car show event where rally host Kyle Brandt showed off his gangster dream car, a 1932 Packard. The car show was a fundraiser which also provided lunch for all in attendance. Our Chapter made a $100 donation to each of the two nonprofit groups benefiting from the event.

The highlight of the rally though was having our game connoisseur, Mike Heron, grace us with his presence. We have been deeply missing Mike at our rallies. Nonetheless, in true Mike fashion, he delivered another successful rally of game nights and entertainment just as he always has for decades. From trying to flip ping pong balls into red solo cups with one hand behind our backs (I think he would have blindfolded us if he could have gotten away with it) to random trivia questions, everyone had a blast laughing and learning and getting to know their fellow members just a little bit more. Unfortunately, little did we know that this would be Mike's last rally attendance. The wheels on the bus will no longer go round and round. Mike and his lovely wife Carol have had to make the hard decision to sell their bus and end their time on the road traveling. I know I speak for so many Southeast Bus Nuts when I say that going forward, rallies just won't be the same. But you never know when our paths may cross. If you get a chance, reach out to Mike and Carol and if you are in their neighborhood give them a call. Maybe they can meet up for a meal and a bit of socializing. Mike and Carol, from the bottom of my heart, I just want to say that I am grateful to have met you both and hope that the next chapter of your lives continues to be filled with love and happiness. We are still in need of a volunteer to fill the role of game connoisseur. Please contact our President, Bo Noble, if you are interested in being our game/entertainment emcee.

Rally Photos

Palmetto Cove Rally



VIEW OF CAMPGROUND FROM CEASARS HEAD

NANCY & BO NOBLE, CLAIREVON & GEORGE NIXON, RENEA & LOU KIRK





RENEA KIRK & KEVIN CLARK PLAYING PING PONG CUP GAME

WINNER AT PING PONG CUP GAME BO NOBLE WITH MIKE HERON



Future Rallies

SAVE THESE DATES!

Fall Rally 2026

October 22-25, 2026 at Lake Aire RV Park & Campground, South Carolina
Wayne Harris will be our rally host and he put together a fantastic itinerary for us to enjoy. Registration has closed for this rally. We have 11 coaches registered to attend. If you missed registration and would like to attend please reach out to Treasurer, Denise Aldridge at 407-466-4431. No guarantees but I will do my best to get you a space if any are still available.

Post New Year's Rally 2027

December 31, 2026 – January 3, 2027 at The Surf RV Resort, Palmetto, Florida
Wayne Harris will be hosting this rally and registration will be in two parts. Members who would like to attend this rally can call the campground directly at 941-900-4240. The rally rate is $99 per night plus tax and fees. Be sure to let them know you are with the Southeast Bus Nuts so they can book your site near the clubhouse and alongside fellow bus nuts. The sooner you can book your site the better. A rally fee registration notice will be sent out once the itinerary is finalized to cover food and miscellaneous expenses and will also be posted on the website. Feel free to call Treasurer Denise Aldridge at 407-466-4431 if you have any questions.

Spring Rally 2027

The Chapter voted to forego a spring rally in 2027 and instead have an early summer rally. So, if you are itching to still go somewhere in the spring, you might consider attending the FRVA 114th International Convention & RV Expo being held in Perry, Georgia March 17-20, 2027 at the Georgia National Fairgrounds. There are several Southeast Bus Nuts that have already signed up to go to the FRVA Perry Convention. Earlybird registration is only available until January 20, 2027.

Summer Rally 2027

This rally will be held at the Cherokee/Great Smokies KOA Holiday Campground in Cherokee, North Carolina either May 20-23, 2027 or June 3-6, 2027. We are still finalizing the details because there will definitely be a steam engine train ride involved. But hold these dates on your calendars until we can confirm which dates can accommodate our rally and train ride.

Fall Rally 2027

Tentatively set for October 27 - Nov 1, 2027 at St. Cloud Estates in Hillsville, Virginia hosted by Lou and Renea. Save the date!!! This will NOT be your typical rally experience. As you can see, it is already planned to be a 6-day rally (Wednesday – Monday).

Post New Year's Rally 2028

You might be thinking….What? We are already scheduling rallies for 2028? Well…yes we are. We have been invited back to Camp Margaritaville RV Resort & Cabana Cabins located in Auburndale, Florida for 2028. Nothing is booked as of yet, but it looks promising if the membership is open to returning to this previous rally site. More details to come after the Fall Rally next month. Stay tuned.

Call chapter treasurer Denise Aldridge for further information:
407-466-4431

Southeast Bus Nuts Leadership

CHAPTER OFFICERS (THROUGH DEC. 31, 2026)

President - Bo Noble	bonoble@outlook.com
Vice-President - Jerry Hodge	jandphodge1@gmail.com
Treasurer - Denise Aldridge	denisea2@cfl.rr.com
Secretary - Lisa Sawyer	lisaasawyer@yahoo.com
FRVA Nat'l Director - Denise Aldridge	denisea2@cfl.rr.com

2025-26 Advisory Committee

(IN ADDITION TO CHAPTER OFFICERS)

Jerry Hodge, Chaplain
Mike Heron

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*, Ed Fisher, Bryan Bowman, Craig Bowen, Manny Montesino and Denise Aldridge (*denotes deceased)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
WAYNE HARRIS

Please send stories, updates and photos to: Wayne Harris: newsletter@sebusnuts.com

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