



# S★M★A★R★T

## Buc's News

[www.smartrving.org/bucs](http://www.smartrving.org/bucs)



The Florida Buccaneers is a Chapter of the Special Military Active Recreational Travelers Club (SMART)

October 2024

### CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BILL HASTINGS

I would like to express my thanks, again, to the SMART Buccaneer members for their support in making the 41st Annual SMART National a great success. From learning the Charleston, to assisting with the Door Prize give aways you all shined. Thanks again!

The Eastern Region of SMART is working our annual Regional Muster. The Capital Campers are the host chapter for the annual muster. The Capital Campers are working on a site for the muster, however, to date we have not locked down a site. The original date for the muster was scheduled for the April 2025 time frame. However, the timeline is creeping up fast, and the date may have to slip. I have been asked for suggestions for the muster if the Capital Camper can't secure a location. Of course, a muster in the DC area would give us the best opportunity to see all the things the DC area has to offer. Your comments are appreciated.

Joe has outlined the upcoming Veterans Day Muster (below), please note his needs and volunteer. **Also, welcome our newest members - Greg and Nancy Miller - from The Villages to our group!** Thanks again to all who support the National!

### CHAPTER VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JOE FAUBION

Greetings Buccaneers! The 41<sup>st</sup> Annual SMART National Muster is in the history books. The planning staff did a wonderful job and included activities for all. You may remember, we scheduled an overnight for those arriving early at the Striped Pig Distillery in Charleston, SC.



Owner - Pixie

Seven rigs joined us plus two additional couples who dropped by for the happy hour/tasting. The Striped Pig does a great job supporting veterans in the Charleston area and they went out of their way to accommodate us for the evening. We gathered in their bar area for a tasting of their spirits and enjoyed heavy hors d'oeuvres then settled in for the night. We took the opportunity to stock up on some favorites - Black Cherry Bourbon, Watermelon Flavored Vodka, and Spiced Rum! A few bottles

found their way into the Buccaneer basket - won by Kathy Steinbauer! We enjoyed gathering with everyone and may try doing something similar in the future.



Heavy hors d'oeuvres



*Buccaneers*

The Buccaneers provided some entertainment this year - a murder mystery music trivia that was very popular, and a Charleston Dance Class - also popular (we served Mimosas, how could it not be popular).



*Murder Mystery Music Trivia*

Both have been requested for the 2025 National and we're working on a new script for the Murder Mystery Music Trivia.



*Charleston Dance Class*

There were some incredible classes offered on topics important to both RV'ers and veterans from RV safety to Survivor Assistance.



Jeff Gaston – My RV School

Returning this year was the Chapter Fair. The Buccaneer table included the usual items to promote the chapter. Something new we added - a QRL scavenger hunt.

Participants received an answer sheet and had to find six QRL codes hidden in plain sight around the park. The QRL codes brought up pirate riddles. When they answered the six riddles their answer sheet was entered into a drawing for a \$50 Camping World gift card. The winner of the card was Barb St Bernard.



Buccaneer Table - Chapter Fair



Bill Hastings - Buccaneer President

The Buccaneers earned the Outstanding Chapter Award for 2024 - Bill Hastings was presented with the banner.

We're looking forward to the 2025 National in Mineola, TX - registration is already available online.

### Upcoming Musters:

We need your help for our November Veterans Day muster, Nov 8 - 12, 2024, at Palm View Garden, 3331 Gall Blvd, Zephyrhills, FL 33541. If your schedule permits, please join us.

Our chapter will be participating in the Zephyrhills Veterans Day parade again this year and hope to have enough folks to carry the service flags, our SMART banner, plus pass out candy and whatever tchotchkes you may wish to bring. We will again have a float that will need to be decorated ahead of the parade as well as two jets that will need to be assembled. The pictures show the jet frame assembled. If able, please arrive on 7 November to help assemble the jets and decorate the float.



We also look forward to the WWII reenactment hosted by the Zephyrhills Military Museum. There were some great photo opportunities last year and I'm looking forward to more this year. For more information or to register go to the SMART Buccaneer page: <https://smartrving.org/bucs/>.



## Spring Muster

We're communicating with the planners for the Eastern Regional Muster regarding the dates and location. If possible, we are considering scheduling a few days at the same campground for the Murder Mystery Muster - either before or after. As soon as this is nailed down, we will provide more information.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### BIRTHDAYS

Carol MacDonald	Sept 3rd
Ginney Louis	Sept 4th
Jim Taylor	Sept 5th
Tom Louis	Sept 6th
Allen Carter	Sept 12th
Miriam Metz	Sept 20th
Jeff Stephens	Sept 29th

### ANNIVERSARIES

Peterson, Bill and Daphne	Sept 11th
Steinbauer, John and Kathy	Sept 12th

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