

## President's Message

**W**e had a tour to Alamance Community College, Automotive Technology area, on February 22 but then winter intervened. The College was closed on Friday due to snow, so our tour had to be postponed. The tour will be rescheduled and we will let everyone know the new date.

With March we see the start of car show season. This includes our own show on May 16 in Downtown Burlington. Please get out and find sponsors. We will have Sponsor forms at our next meeting and also, have registration flyers that can be distributed when you are attending car events.

Larry and I went to the 84th Annual AACA Convention in Philadelphia earlier in February. We attended seminars, two banquets and won the 1st Annual Pinewood Derby. The Grand Prize was a Lifetime Membership in AACA. Since we are already Life Members, I announced that my car builder, Rick Holmes, and his wife, Debbie, would get the prize.

Rick told me that he knew how to build fast Derby cars and he does!!! We won every race we were in and our times were under 3 seconds. There were 40 entries and this raised over \$1,000.00, with the money going toward the Capital Campaign for AACA's new Headquarters. At the Convention, there is a business meeting and it was announced that an anonymous donor said that they would match up to \$250,000.00 for everything raised by the end of the Convention. During the meeting, they passed the hat and collected almost \$2,000.00 which became almost \$4,000.00 with the matching funds. They have since extended the time to donate and have the donation matched. Remodeling has started on the building and they hope to have it open by the Hershey Fall Meet in October. Our National group hope that by that time the building will be debt free. AACA is the largest Car Club in the world and the Library not only houses literature for our club but 10 other marked clubs (Manufacturer specific). The Library will have the whole 2nd floor in the Headquarters and will have room to expand.

This year, 2020, is an exciting time for our club. We will need to continue to grow and evolve as a club. We have a great history but we also have a bright future. Remember that this year we can host cars that are 1995 and older. For a lot of younger folks, these are there antiques, just as muscle cars, T's and A's may be ours.

We are planning a clean-up and repair day at the Clubhouse for April 18. Please plan to come out and help with Spring Cleaning.

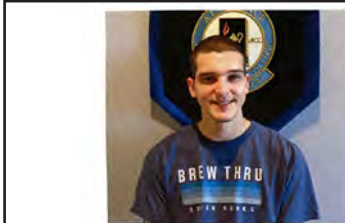
Thanks for all your support of the Club.

*Elizabeth Coble*

## February 2020 Treasurer's Report

**M**any thanks to our members who are starting to work on our spring car show! We now have 5 sponsors and one of those is also a web sponsor. Please contact any businesses you frequent and ask them to be a sponsor. We also have 3 cars registered for our show. Our show provides the income needed to keep our club operating and allows us to provide a scholarship to an ACC auto tech student. Please see the very nice thank-you note from our recent scholarship student!

*Jeannie Johnson*



Dear Ms. Johnson,  
I have been Awarded the Alamance Region Antique Car Club Scholarship. This Scholarship will help cover costs of tuition and books. I would like to thank you for this opportunity to continue my education. I will be graduating June 2020 from the Automotive Technology Program. I hope to one day help someone just as you have done for me.

Sincerely,

*Isaac Krepp*

## 2020 Officers

President:	Elizabeth Coble 336-376-9311
V. President:	Rick Holmes 336-592-6861
Secretary:	Ray Fowler
Treasurer:	Jeannie Johnson 919-563-0184

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Larry Coble, Bob King, Bill Cox,  
Billy Mebane, Herb Klutz

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Show Chairman:	Henry Gaither 336-266-4466
Chief Judge:	Rick Holmes 336-578-5334
Webmaster:	Ed Tulauskas 336-684-8085
Youth Coordinator:	Rick Holmes 336-578-5334

## Next Weak Spark Deadline

April Issue 3/29/20

## Next Club Meeting

March 14, 2020 at 6:30pm  
AACA Clubhouse, Burlington, NC

## Hosts

K&W Cafeteria

## Please Volunteer to Host a Meeting!

See the sign-up sheet to volunteer to host a meeting!

## Minutes of the February 2020 Meeting

The Alamance Region met at the Burlington K&W for its regular monthly meeting February 8 to honor our lady members for Valentine's Day. Thirty-seven members and no guests attended. Vice President Rick Holmes presided in the absence of President Elizabeth Coble who was attending the AACA National winter meeting at Philadelphia.

Rick announced that we received ten complimentary tickets to attend the Greensboro antique car auction and he has four left for anyone who wants one.

Secretary Jeannie Johnson brought new 2020 membership cards for everyone and copies of up-to-date membership rosters for members to pick up.

A February 14th drive-in to the Greensboro Coliseum area

will be held to benefit the Shriners and a March 14th drive-in to the Petty Garage at Level Cross to benefit the Petty Foundation.

A new motion picture production company has located in the former Copland Textile Mill at Hopedale and they may occasionally want vintage cars for their productions.

Arrangements have been made for our club to tour the Automotive Technology Center at the Alamance Community College Saturday February 22. Our club is very supportive of this automotive training program, and awards a partial scholarship annually to a deserving student in the program.

The evening ended with John Cox conducting a version of the Family Feud TV program with club member volunteers participating.

*Ray Fowler*



## Alternative Fuels – from the rear view mirror!

*“The fuel of the future is going to come from fruit like that sumach out by the road, or from apples, weeds, sawdust – almost anything. There is fuel in every bit of vegetable matter that can be fermented. There’s enough alcohol in one year’s yield of an acre of potatoes to drive the machinery necessary to cultivate the fields for a hundred years.”*

–Henry Ford, New York Times, 1925

*“Using alcohol in an ordinary Ford car, we are able to get 15 per cent more power than with the present gasoline, although the mileage covered was not quite so high. However, that is a matter of consumption which can be adjusted and regulated. Where government made its mistake was that it went on the theory that an alcohol of very high proof was needed. It began at 180-proof and went up. We began with 180-proof and went down. We found 160-proof to work better than most any other grade. That combination of spirit and water seems to burn best in a gasoline engine. The raw materials we have used in the laboratories in producing alcohol cheaply are various kinds of grains and vegetable substances. Tests were made with corn and wheat. Then we tried potatoes, grapes, cherries, peaches, currants, strawberries, and many other kinds of small fruits. Carrots, turnips, beets, sugar cane and wood were also used. We also found that the waste from canneries*

*– such as apple peels and cherry pits; the waste from sugar factories and vegetable tops, usually thrown away on the farm, were surprisingly high in alcohol value. One of the best materials we found were cornstalks. These, ground up, mashed and boiled, produced a very high percentage. An acre of cornstalks will produce 100 gallons of alcohol – some cornstalks would produce 50 per cent more. Then the distiller can turn around and sell his waste back to the farmer for cattle food. Nothing has been taken from it but the alcohol – all the nitrogenous matter is still there, to go back to the soil as fertilizer.”*

–Henry Ford, wire article, 1916

Henry may have been just a bit optimistic about the energy content of a year's harvest of potatoes, but he was definitely far sighted enough to imagine what the alternative fuel landscape looks like in the year 2020! I would be remiss if I did not point out that the Model T did not have any rubber parts in the fuel system that the alcohol would deteriorate, leaving the driver stranded by the roadside. And although he seems to have been very familiar with the distillation of spirits, Henry was a lifelong teetotaler!

Courtesy of: *Rick Holmes*

## My Life Through...T-Shirts



know many of you are saying what the heck is he going to be talking about now? Well, I'm going to be talking about my adventures through T-shirts...

I have a lot of T-shirts; I mean A LOT! I have T-shirts from the very early 1980's until last year's Hot Rod Power Tour. My T-shirts are from different activities...military related, places we lived and/or visited, different non-car events, some brought to me from family and friends of places they visited but the huge majority are car shirts. The car shirts can be broken down into two categories...those for a specific make and/or model (Ford, Mustang, Shelby or a combination thereof) and car events.

As you may remember back in the day almost every car event was accompanied by a specific event T-shirt. Sometimes it was included in the price of registration and other times the official event T-shirts were sold by a designated vendor at the show. Back in the day I drove to every car show within a hundred fifty miles (sometimes more) of my home. It did not matter what or who sponsored the show; if there was an early Mustang category I went. My wife will tell you she was often what I call a "car show widow" almost every Saturday. Luckily for me she tolerated it very well though the work was saved for me to do on Sunday...

My collection of car T-shirts is very interesting. One show I attended would put the date for their following year's show on the back of the shirt...a smart move getting the date

out a year in advance. The coolest shirts you could tell someone took their time to design and make sure there was a totally different shirt the next year. These shirts were often snapped up by attendees so fast that if you did not arrive early they would be gone. Some of my shirts look new because they were put up when I got home and never made it out of the stack while others are very well enjoyed and are pretty faded.

My wife often "encourages" me to go through my T-shirts and unceremoniously retire those that have been very well enjoyed...as in full of holes and/or so thin I might as well not even have on a shirt. Somehow when I see those shirts it immediately takes me back in time; remembering the particular event and more importantly the people who were there...some of whom are no longer with us. I really try to comply but more often than not I fail miserably so the whole stack heads back to the closet shelves.... I'm just not ready to let them go...yet.

One day I'm sure someone will go through my T-shirts (and other totally useless stuff I refuse to let go) and decide what gets donated and what heads to the big dumpster in the sky. But for now they will stay, mostly living a quiet life in my closet, but bringing back the memories of times past every time I go through them...again!

See you on the road!

*Henry Gaither, Jr.*

### Upcoming Events

<b>March 14</b>	Petty's Garage Cruise-In, Level Cross, NC
<b>March 21</b>	Rotary Reads Car Show, Holly Hill Mall
<b>March 28</b>	Cruise-In, Holly Hill Mall - 4 to 8 pm
<b>April 4</b>	National AACA Car Show, Charlotte Auto Fair, Charlotte Motor Speedway, Concord, NC
<b>April 18</b>	Benefit Car/Truck Show for Firefighter/Paramedic Eddie Thomas, Holly Hill Mall, 9 am to 3 pm
<b>April 25</b>	Mebane Dogwood Festival Car Show, Mebane Sun Trust (Trust) Parking Lot, Downtown Mebane, 10 am to 3 pm

# Antique Auto Show

49th Annual  
Alamance  
Region

At the Historic Railroad Depot In Downtown Burlington  
200 South Main Street Burlington, NC 27215



Owner: Billy Mebane



**Saturday May 16, 2020**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Club or Region \_\_\_\_\_ AACA # \_\_\_\_\_ Will You Help Judge? \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Entry	Year	Make	Model	Class
1	_____	_____	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	_____
3	_____	_____	_____	_____

I agree to abide by all rules of the show and understand that I am responsible for my vehicle(s) and the actions of persons accompanying me to this activity. I agree to release from liability all tenants and/or businesses located on/and/or within the property known as The City of Burlington, Alamance Region Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA), and any employee, members and/or volunteers and any other person or persons connected with the aforementioned organizations from any loss, damage, and/or injuries incurred as a result of participation in this activity.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Pre-registration by May 9, 2020: \$15.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Day of Show Registration: \$25.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Flea Market Spaces: \$10.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Car Corral Spaces (cars for sale): \$10.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration: 8:00 to 11am, Awards at 3pm, *Rain or shine.*

We encourage pre-registration. Participants can mail check with registration form or pre-register on the club website: [www.alamance.aaca.com](http://www.alamance.aaca.com)  
Pre-registration deadline is Friday, May 10, 2019.

Make checks payable to: Alamance Region, Inc., AACA  
Mail to: Elizabeth Coble, President  
PO Box 565, Mebane, NC 27302  
Phone: 336-263-4268

**\*All vehicles must be 25 years old (1995 or older) to be judged. Antique Vehicles will be judged per AACA criteria using AACA classifications. Antique Vehicles will receive a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place trophy in each class if they meet the AACA point requirements. Modified Vehicles will be judged on workmanship, quality, and condition. The Top 25 Non-AACA Vehicles will be awarded a trophy.**

**\*\*ALL Vehicles MUST have Fire Extinguishers!\*\***

**Mark Greeson, President**

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