

President's Message

WOW, WOW, WOW! What a great turnout for our April Meeting. Thanks to everyone who came, those who drove their old cars, and those who brought all the delicious desserts. Also thanks to the Klutz family for the set up, cooking the hot dogs and providing a great meeting place. Also thanks to my son-in-law, Kevin Hill, for stirring the chili when he should have been out meeting everyone. Again, we are glad we could celebrate Herb's 82nd birthday and Floyd Smith's 90th birthday. I had comments that this meeting was a lot of fun. I am so glad everyone enjoyed themselves.

We want to welcome Chris and Leanna Snell and their children and Mark and Tori Terry to our membership. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming meetings.

We discussed our Car Show that we have scheduled for August 28, 2021. With the Governor raising the limits on outdoor and indoor gatherings this past week, we should be able to apply for our permits with the City of Burlington very soon. Please be sure to start getting sponsors for the show. There are two levels - for a \$100 donation the sponsor is listed on pre-show posters and in the newspaper ad that we normally place. For \$200 they get the pre-



show advertising and also are placed on our website and in our newsletter for a year. Be sure to check out our website at alamance.aaca.com. Rick Holmes has done a lot of updating.

Our next meeting will be on May 15 with the Great American Iron Poker Run. Meet at the back of Dunham's at Holly Hill Mall between 1:00 and 1:30. You will be given your instructions and directions at that time. You will collect a playing card at each stop and we will wind up at Homeland Creamery, Julian, NC (Hwy 62) eating ice cream. The winner will receive \$50 cash. Remember, you can drive your old car or your new car to any of our activities.

I look forward to seeing you on May 15!

Upcoming Car Shows:

- May 1** - Car Show Holly Hill Mall to Benefit Living Free Ministries
- May 8** - New Bern, NC - NC Region Spring Meet (Must Pre-register)
- May 22** - 3 Rivers Chapter - Eden, NC

Cruise Ins:

- 2nd Saturday Night each month** - 4 to 8 pm - Northern Tool
- 3rd Saturday Night each month** - 4 to 9 pm - Graham - Downtown
- 4th Saturday Night each month** - 4 to 9 pm - Holly Hill Mall

June 5 - Display only - Hawfield's Civitan Club Outdoor Fair on the Field - 9 to 2 -
At the Ballfields at Hawfield's Presbyterian Church

Elizabeth Coble

May 2021 Treasurer's Report

I am starting to receive sponsor money from our members! Thanks to those who are working hard to get sponsors for our August car show. This is what keeps our club going. We need help from all our members because we had to cancel our show last year. If you need sponsor forms, I will be glad to email or mail those to you. Just let me know at kygeniej@mebtel.net or 336-213-0799.

Jeannie Johnson

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Next Weak Spark Deadline

June Issue 5/29/21

Next Club Meeting

Saturday, May 15
Great American Iron
Poker Run
1 PM
Dunham Sporting Goods
Holly Hill Mall
Burlington, NC

April 17, 2021 Secretary's Minutes

The April meeting of the Alamance Region AACA was held at the Scout Hut behind Shiloh Presbyterian Church on Grand Oaks Blvd. at noon on April 17, 2021. There were 34 members and 8 guests present.

Following a hotdog lunch, President Elizabeth Coble called the meeting to order. She recognized Floyd Smith on his 90th birthday and Herb Kluttz on his 82nd birthday today. She thanked Herb for securing the Scout Hut for the meeting, getting the chips, providing the grill and cooking the hotdogs. She noted that the meal was purchased at Steve's Garden Market, one of our car show sponsors. She thanked the members for bringing desserts.

Elizabeth reported that Richard and Judy Holmes received the Senior National Award for their Model A Truck and the Cobles received the DPC Certified designation for their 1986 Ford Pickup at the AACA Southeastern Spring Nationals on April 9-10, 2021, in Charlotte.

Our 49th annual car show is now scheduled for August 28, 2021, in downtown Burlington at the Depot. The location is subject to change since it is not certain that the city will be allowed to have events of that size because of the pandemic. Elizabeth urged members to start getting sponsors for our show. She reported that the dash plaques and trophies will not have a date on them in the unlikely event that our show will have to be cancelled for this year. Floyd Smith suggested that Lambs Chapel in Burlington might be a possible alternative location for our car show. Mike Blalock is a member of that church and will investigate that possibility.

Rick Holmes reported that he has updated our website and the registration form for the show is now on it. He urged everyone to register for the show since that makes our day of show registration run much faster. Pre-registration costs \$15 and day of show registration is \$25. If you pre-register, you do not have to pay until the day of the show. He also reported that there is a new section on the website for members only and members will need a password to go to that site.

Elizabeth recognized the visitors present: Mark and Tori Terry (who joined our club following the meeting), Mickey and Jason Kluttz (Herb and Barbara's son and grandson), Donnie Nance, Kevin Hill (Coble's son-in-law), Charlotte Rogers (Floyd and Elsie Smith's daughter) and former member, Pat Tulauskas. She reported that we have new members, Christopher and Leanna Snell. Christopher is Earl Ewing's grandson and the owner of Earl's Ford Rancho pictured on our clubhouse wall.

Jeannie Johnson, treasurer, said she had sponsor forms available and urged members to start selling sponsorships. Sponsors are essential for the operation of our club. Rick Holmes asked the members to let the sponsors know about the possible change of location for the show. In the event that the show must be cancelled, the sponsors will get a refund.

Henry Gaither announced the Great American Iron Poker Run to be held on May 15. The starting place will be at 1 pm at Dunham Sporting Goods parking lot where each car will receive a playing card. From there each car will visit 4 American made car dealerships to pick up a card and finish the run at Homeland Creamery in Julian. There you can keep the poker hand you have or trade some or all of your cards for another hand. The best poker hand wins \$50.

Elizabeth reported that there will be a car show for the benefit of Living Free Ministries on May 1 at Holly Hill Mall. The entry fee is \$20 per car. The judging will be from 11 am – 12 pm and awards will be presented at 2 pm. The NC Region Spring Meet will be in New Bern on May 8. On June 5 there is the 2021 Outdoor Fair on the Field at the Hawfields Community Park at the ball fields, 2115 NC Hwy 119S in Mebane. The fair runs from 8 am to 2 pm and is hosted by the Hawfields Civitan Club.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Jeannie Johnson
Acting Secretary

Alamance Region Website Updates

We have made a few updates to our website in the last month to improve communications and provide information for registering for our annual show, as well as a few other goodies.

There is a Members Only page link at the top of the main page. It is password protected (pw= Alamance) just to keep our contact information somewhat private! Some of the items on the Members Only page are:

- Our Membership Roster and contact information
- A list of Maintenance items that need to be attended to, with a sign up column
- Our Alamance Region By Laws
- Car Show Sponsor Invoice – you can print your own copies from here

Things that are not quite finished yet are the links for Car Show Playbook, examples of the Sponsor benefits, and

a list of our Car Show Assignments. These areas will be fleshed out in the next few weeks.

Back on the Main Page, there is a notice about our upcoming 2021 Antique Auto Show on August 28. There are links to the re-re-updated Car Show Flyer, the new Judging Classes, and the Online Registration page. The Registration page is live now, so please make sure to tell all of your friends about saving a few dollars by registering online instead of the day of the show!

If you have ideas for additional content for the webpage, please let me know about it. And as always, please send any photos you may take while you are out and about at cruise ins or shows.

Rick Holmes

**See You at the Great American Iron Poker Run May 15!
Meet at Dunham Sporting Goods at Holly Hill Mall in Burlington at 1 PM!**

And what is was, was a Mustang?!

Normally on Sundays I get the Mustang out for a drive. Usually I head out to some random country roads and enjoy the sights for a while then it's off to the local Ford dealerships. Well a couple of weeks ago I pulled into Stearns Ford and there it was... a 2021 Mustang Mach E.



Well I'd read about the Mach E so I drove the 66 over to take a closer look. I put the cars side by side and begin my check out. Well, the original Mustang was designed with young buyers in mind...a reasonable price (around \$2500.00 depending upon how it was equipped) long hood, short deck lid, "sports car" shape, sporty interior, decent power for the day (V-8) and a long option list.

Well, the Mach E has short hood and a lift back. The interior was modern Mustang for the most part but the dash is a computer screen, no real gauges (the car was turned off).

The price starts at around \$43000...that's \$5,250 1966 dollars (FYI a 66 GT 350 cost \$4,428.00 in 66 dollars and \$36,270 in 2021 dollars...good luck finding a 2021 GT-500 for that price!!!). The Mach E does have two doors not including the hatch and the rear lights are "traditional" Mustang tribars. I'm thinking younger buyers will love it because it is a rolling computer with zero emissions.

How about go power? Does the Mach E have the zip to earn the Mustang name? Well, in 1966 a GT-350 with 306 horsepower had a 0-60 time of 6.6 seconds and it ran the quarter mile in 15.2 seconds at 117 MPH. Not the blistering speed but OK for the time (I found another source that said 14.0/92 MPH).

So does the new-fangled Mach E compete...let's see 480 HP with up to 634 pounds of torque...0-60 3.5 seconds (GT version), quarter mile 12.2 in the neighborhood of 118 MPH (GT Performance package). FYI the fastest first generation factory Mustang was a 1969 Mach 1 with a 428 Cobra Jet... 0-60 5.5 seconds/13.9seconds @103 MPH in the quarter mile. Yep I'd say the Mach E was pretty fast.

But is it really a Mustang...yes and no. The Mach E is a definite departure from a two door coupe or convertible. For me it looks like a EV (Electric Vehicle) SUV and I

personally have a hard time with that. However, I think the days are numbered for "traditional" coupes and convertibles powered by internal combustion engines and that number is shrinking fast and it is time accept that fact. With ever increasing stringent emissions rules car companies are moving toward electric power (full EV or hybrid) in all their vehicles.

I think the Mustang Mach E is the face of the future of the Mustang, again like it or not. I only hope that there will still be the traditional Mustang coupe and convertible though powered by something else...hey if it has the same or better horsepower and torque of the Mach E I'm for that! If you don't like it then keep driving you gas powered old or new Mustang!

So, after all this discussion what did my 66 Mustang and the Mustang Mach E have in common? Both have a Mustang in the front, in the back, and inside, two doors and not much else. So do I like that it's called a Mustang? Well...hmmm.

See you on the open road!

Henry Gaither, Jr.

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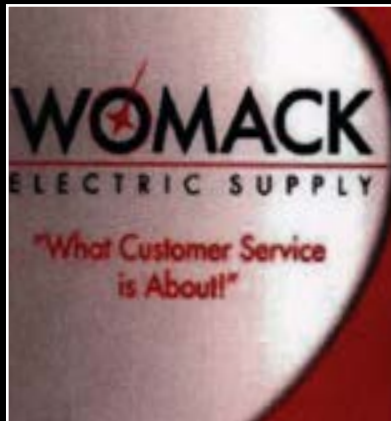
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