



Burlington, NC
Alamance.AACA.com

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January 2022

President's Message

Happy New Year, and welcome to 2022! The last couple of years have definitely been challenging, and we are looking forward to better things in 2022.

I was greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Dave Rich on December 31. He has been a member of the Alamance Region for a long time, and has brought joy, laughter, and ice cream to our gatherings. I know that I am not alone in saying that I have been blessed to know Dave. Please keep Pat and family in your thoughts and prayers.

I am thankful that we were able to gather for our Christmas Party in December! John Cox and Pat Zanolli did a great job putting together the meal as well as the entertainment. Well, most of the entertainment: Bob and I added our own ad-lib "floor show" that proved that entertainment is not where our skills are! It was great to hear laughter from the group anyway! Special thanks to Scout Troop 19 and Mickey Klutz for allowing our Club to use the Scout Hut for our meeting.

Thank you to our outgoing president Elizabeth Coble for leading our club for the last three years through some of the most challenging times. Thanks also to our outgoing board member Herb Klutz, and Bill Cox for agreeing to stay on the board for another term.

We have several members that have been dealing with health challenges over the past year. I'm sure they would all appreciate a phone call or card.

- Wallace Compton has had broken ribs, back surgery, and recently was diagnosed with a type of blood cancer. He was in Liberty Commons rehabbing from the back surgery, but is home now, and is being cared for by neighbors and friends.
- Jim Shaw has had issues with his ear, dizziness, and a broken hip from a recent fall. He was recently released from Peak Resources, and is at home now, using a wheelchair. He is also being cared for by neighbors and friends.
- I talked to Jim and Barbara Ivey on New Years Day, and they said they were doing fairly well, all things considered. They were unable to attend the Christmas Party due to the weather.

We are currently planning our annual car show for our normal third weekend in May date, in downtown Burlington. There are no major roadblocks for us at this time, but we will have to roll with the punches from the Covid-19 protocols.

The NC Region AACA Membership Meeting will be held January 14 – 15, 2022 in Raleigh. There will be a National Judging school course, as well as several other technical seminars. It will be held at the Ramada Inn, Raleigh, 1520 Blue Ridge Rd, Raleigh, NC, and is open for all to participate. The Alamance Region and Hornets Nest Region sponsor this meeting, so please participate if you can. Registration is \$15 per person, and can be found on the NC Region website at: ncregionaaca.com.

I am planning to attend the AACA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia in February this year (assuming it is not rescheduled). It is open to all AACA National members, and always has fantastic seminars, judging schools, and a great trade show. I would encourage you to attend at least once. It really is a great learning experience for how our club is run at the National level, as well as for judging, and for making contacts for restoration resources. And the Pinewood Derby is back on the schedule!! I will be taking the Alamance Rocket back to Philly to defend our NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP that Elizabeth brought home for us last year.

I'm looking forward to a great year, and lots of opportunities to shake off the rust and dust from our vehicles. As Tal says – Let's keep the old ones rolling!

Rick Holmes

January 2022 Treasurer's Report

Thanks to all our members who paid their dues so promptly! Because of the very successful car show in August, we had a good year, financially. We were able to recover from our loss in 2020 and will have funds to provide our annual scholarship to an Alamance Community College auto tech student in 2022. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Pat Rich and the family of Dave Rich.

Jeannie Johnson

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Next Weak Spark Deadline

February Issue 1/29/22

Next Club Meeting

January 8, 2022
6:30 PM

Alamance Region Clubhouse
Burlington, NC

Hello and Goodbye

Hello 2022! As the new year cranks up so are thoughts of planning club activities. I thought I would bounce the ideas I have so far for activities, but I want your input before I get deep into the project. To get that input I will have a questionnaire for our upcoming meeting so you can let us know what YOU want to do...yes YOU! For now, here are my thoughts: ice cream tours (up to three), maybe a tour to the Petty Museum in Level Cross, club event at one (or more) of the cruise-in's, maybe tour of some of the local tracks (VIR, Ace, etc.) and see if we could take a parade lap, tour of a local winery... again just some thoughts. So, I need you to be prepared to answer the following questions at our next meeting:

1. How far are you willing to drive your hobby car?
2. What kinds of activities are you willing to take your hobby car?
3. What kind of activities are you interested in where the members DO NOT take their hobby cars (i.e., the activity may be at night and is not at the clubhouse regular meeting).
4. How many club meetings should we have an activity INSTEAD of a meeting at the club house?
5. How many activities do you think you might attend assuming good weather?
6. What activities are you interested in participating?

Please give these a think before Saturday night.

Next, a goodbye to my fellow ice cream aficionado and friend, Dave Rich, with an appropriate Dave Rich story (I'm sure everyone has a Dave Rich story or two!).

This adventure happened when the club was going to Homeland Creamery in Julian. We met up somewhere as a group but Dave could not get any of his hobby cars cranked (again) so he was there looking kind of forlorn since that day I'm certain all the other participants had their old cars. Anyway, I was solo in the Shelby and I asked him to ride with me which he jumped right in with the speed of heat! As we travelled to the creamery, we chatted about this and that. Dave had never been in a Shelby before and I guess it was slightly different than his antique Buick or Ford. He asked me questions as we rode and I might have downshifted to make the car snarl and howl a little... just for fun. When we arrived at Homeland Dave was in Nirvana, his smile was so big! He bought his ice cream (multiple scoops) and then some jugs of chocolate milk to take home. After he bought his chocolate milk, he became concerned if I would allow it in the car...I'm guessing he was worried it would spill. Seeing an opening I jabbed him a few times just for fun because honestly, I did not care at all...hey it's just a car. We had a great drive back to his car and the milk was in great shape. He thanked me for taking him in the car and I was glad to do so. It was truly a great day. The last time I saw Dave was 30 Oct at the Soda Shopped in Pittsboro. Throughout the entire day he had that big smile and was cracking jokes with everyone and there was the ice cream. I told him to be ready for our trip to Homeland in the spring and of course he said he would be there. Somehow, I know he will be there, watching us with that big smile and eating the biggest banana split ever. Plus, you know in Heaven there are no calories in their ice cream and it is free! Dave, I do have a couple of requests, first, can you please leave enough ice cream for the rest of us when we get there and make sure you save me a seat at Heaven's ice cream shop...I'm going to miss you buddy. Take care out there and I'll see you on the road!

Henry Gaither, Jr.



Obituary for David M. Rich (from Rich & Thompson's website)



David M. Rich, 76, of Burlington passed away suddenly at home on Friday, December 31, 2021 following a few weeks of illness.

A native of Alamance County, he was the loving husband of Patricia Scott Rich, who survives and the son of James Coy Rich and Edith Isley Rich, both deceased.

David was a Certified Public Accountant/Controller and began his career at Seidman & Seidman in High Point, followed by Annedeem Hosier, Max Ward Delmar Studios and Apollo Chemical. He was an active member of Belmont United Methodist Church, where he served as Youth Leader for 20 years, a Sunday School teacher for 25+ years, was part of the choir, the Methodist Men, & coached Girls Basketball & Softball and the Women's softball team for many years. David was also a member of the Alamance Antique Auto Club. Dave loved Jesus and sharing Jesus. He was passionate about his family, his church, young people and life. He enjoyed life to the fullest and made everything fun. To know him was to love him. The world is a better place because of The Man, The Myth, The Legend, Dave Rich!

In addition to his wife of their home, survivors include two daughters, Kelly Crawford and her husband Brian of Burlington, Kristi May and her husband Travis of Elon; five grandchildren, Alex Crawford, Abigail May, Zeke May, Chazz May, Sydney Crawford; a sister, Kay Rich Kirkpatrick of Burlington; and several loving nieces and nephews.

The funeral service will be conducted at Belmont United Methodist Church on Friday, January 7, 2022 at 3:00 pm and casual attire is welcome. The family will be receiving friends from 12 noon until 2:30 pm in the Christian Life Center prior to the service. Burial will follow in the church cemetery. There will be a celebration of food and fellowship following in the Christian Life Center. All other times the family will be at the home.

Mr. Rich's room at the Burlington funeral home will be open to the public on Wednesday, January 5, 2022 and Thursday, January 6, 2022 from 1:00 pm until 5:00 pm for anyone who would like to come by and pay their respects.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Belmont United Methodist Church, 4039 Markwood Rd. Burlington, NC 27215 to the music ministry or to the youth ministry.

Services

Visitation

Friday, January 7, 2022

12:00 PM to 2:30 PM

Belmont United Methodist Church

4039 Markwood Road

Burlington, NC 27215

Funeral Service

Friday

January 7, 2022

3:00 PM

Belmont United Methodist Church

4039 Markwood Road

Burlington, NC 27215

Cemetery

Belmont United Methodist Church Cemetery

4039 Markwood Rd

Burlington, NC 27215

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Mark Greeson, President

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by Jim Shaw

In Memory of
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by his son Chuck Smith



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