

## President's Message

**J**udging from the "yellow cloud" of pollen, spring seems to have come early this year! I am ready to get the Model A out on the road and enjoy a few local tours and outings. Now if the sunshine will cooperate, we should have a great spring!



I was able to attend the AACA National Convention in Williamsburg in February, and it was a really nice venue and area. Debbie, Hannah, and I met our son Josh there since it was about halfway for both of us (he lives in Delaware). Larry and Elizabeth Coble also attended, and we were able to divide and conquer to attend a wide array of the seminars and training sessions. Some of the topics covered were insurance for antique cars, restoration tips and techniques, car collectibles, women who were instrumental in automotive design, training of the astronauts that went to the moon, any many more. Hannah, Elizabeth, and I attended the Judges Training class taught by Dain King, and thoroughly enjoyed it. After the judges training, we went to the parking lot where the Tidewater Region members had a number of their cars on display. Hannah and I worked out way through the display, mentally applying the training we had just received. I thing she is ready to participate on the apprentice judging team at a National show now! We also toured Colonial Williamsburg, and thoroughly enjoyed the day. The blacksmith shop and rifle makers shop were especially interesting to me. I thoroughly enjoyed the convention, and sure hope it returns to Williamsburg again next year.

Charlotte Autofair is coming up in April (4/13 - 15), and the Southeastern Spring National Show is at the Charlotte Speedway on April 15. This is always a great show, and you also get to shop for that hard to find part for your car. I hope my work lightens enough to allow me (and Hannah) to attend and maybe judge this year.

Our Alamance Region show is quickly approaching, and we need to kick it into high gear for sponsor sales. We need to set April 15 as the cutoff for sponsor sales so we allow time for the posters to be designed, printed, and distributed, so make sure to make your contacts early! Henry and Bruce have the trophies and dash plaques designed and ordered, and they look fantastic! We will present our request for the street closure to the Burlington City Council on March 7 (7:00 pm at the Burl. City Hall), with Henry, Mickey, and Donnie attending and prepared to answer any questions from the Council members.

Our Car Of The Month series continues this month with Dave and Janet Dodge telling us the story of their Chevy II. John and Pat Cox will provide the article for April. I am really looking forward to learning the story behind our members and their vehicles! I learn something new with every article!

Since we completed the sale of our club property, we now have started the process of packing our belongings to exit by the end of May. We have most of the things packed up in tubs and will be storing the pictures in temp controlled storage. The tables and chairs and other items that are not temperature or moisture sensitive will be packed in our storage building. Now we just need to find the right spot to move the storage building to! If you have a spot on your lot that it would fit, let me know! We need to have it moved in the next month or so.

As Henry notes in his article, we will be having our next two meetings away from the clubhouse. March 11 we will be meeting at 2:00 at Butch McKenzie's garage (**2750 White Swan Dr., Burlington**) to tour his garage, socialize, and have our business meeting. No meal for the March meeting, so be sure to eat before you get there! Our April meeting is moving to April 1 to avoid interfering with Easter and spring break. We will meet at Harbor Inn at 5:00 pm for our meeting and dinner.

We'll see y'all down the road!

*Rick Holmes*

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## Next Weak Spark Deadline

April Issue 03/25/23

## Next Club Meeting

March 11, 2023  
2:00 PM  
Butch McKenzie's Garage  
2750 White Swan Drive  
Burlington, NC  
Hosted by:  
Butch McKenzie

## Welcome Spring!

**T**he past few days have been great with temps touching the low 80's! I keep looking at my Mustang and dreaming of adventures ahead...our Car Show, Hot Rod Power Tour, Mustang Week...on and on. I have a bunch of parts in boxes in my garage ready to go on hopefully very soon.

This month's event is our first garage tour of 2023. **On 11 March at 2:00PM we will meet at Butch's garage, 2750 White Swan Drive in Burlington.** If the weather is good it would be fantastic if folks drove their old cars. You may want to think about bringing a chair though Butch says he has plenty. We will have a brief business meeting either before or after the garage tour.

**Our April meeting will be 1 April at 5:00 PM at the Harbor Inn Seafood Restaurant in Burlington. The address is: 2408 South Church Street in Burlington.** Please note the date change. The second Saturday is Easter weekend so we thought it would be a good idea to move the meeting up one week.

Our May meeting will be on the regular day, Saturday 13 May, at our regular time at the clubhouse. This will be the last meeting at our clubhouse so I hope everyone can attend. The agenda will be the car show the following Saturday 20 May. On Saturday 27 May we will probably have the final cleanout of the clubhouse. Please stand by for further information. Please note that all the pictures from around the clubhouse walls have been saved for our next clubhouse so when you come to the May meeting don't worry if you don't see them or some other items.

I am still hoping other members will come up with some ideas for activities. Garage tours, regular tours...just let us know so we can get it on the schedule. Expect the ice cream tours to begin very soon too! I'll see you on the road!

I'll see you on the road!

*Henry Gaither, Jr.*

## February 2023 Treasurer's Report

**I** am starting to get checks from our car show sponsors! I really appreciate all the hard work of our members in getting sponsors again this year. If you need sponsor forms or any information, please let me know. Our sponsors provide the funds for us to put on our May car show and allow us to provide a scholarship to an Alamance Community College auto tech student.

*Jeannie Johnson*

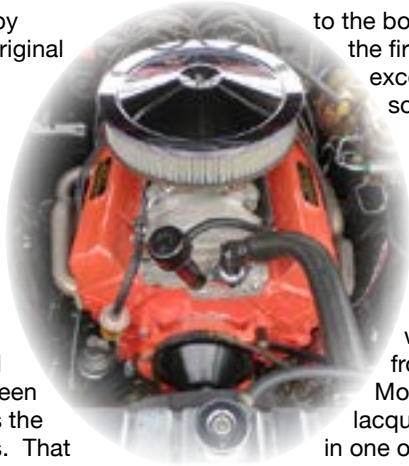
## Car of the Month March 2023: Dave and Janet Dodge's 1965 Chevy II 100 2-door sedan

**I**n May 2003 I entered the classic car hobby by purchasing a 1963 Impala Ht. It was an all original car, paint, interior, engine, with 51,000 miles.

The Impala had always resided in Alamance county. I kept the car until December 2019 when I sold it to a guy from Charlotte. He had seen the car several years before at the Eagles Nest spring show. From time to time he would call and make a low offer on the car. This time he met my bottom line price and picked up the car.

With fresh money in my pockets I got on line and found my 1965 Chevy II 100 2dr. sedan. It was at Streetside Classics in Atlanta and looked great to me! A 350 Chevy V-8 and 4-speed had been installed, however, the car appeared stock. It was the base car with stock interior and dog dish hubcaps. That was right up my alley as I always had a thing for cheap model 2drs. (The first new car I bought in 1965 upon H.S. graduation was a Biscayne 2dr., 396, 4-speed.) So, like an idiot I bought the Chevy II sight unseen and had it shipped to Burlington. When they backed the car out of the trailer it had a little more cam than I was expecting, but the sound was great! I signed for the car and the movers went on their way. I couldn't wait to drive it (my second mistake as I should have driven it before signing) and took off down the road. I didn't get past 35 mph and the car was all over the road. I hit the brakes to turn around and they threw me left into the oncoming lane. Luckily there was no one coming. To make a long story short Streetside refused to make the car right and held that it was sold as is. Huge lesson learned!

Unable to do heavy mechanical work myself any longer, I had John Johnson at Custom Classics & Restoration fix the car. Repairs were extensive as the complete steering and suspension had to be replaced. Camaro power disc brakes were installed as well as the rear drum brakes replaced. All new brake and fuel lines were run and a 336 posi installed in the stock 10 bolt rear axle. The worst part was whoever replaced the floor pans did not weld them to the subframe. All that was holding it and the engine



to the body was about an inch of weld on both sides of the firewall! So, now everything under the car is new except the exhaust and the Chevy II is mechanically sound.

My model car building began when I was 11 and the release of the AMT annual kits in 1958. Other than a few short periods, I've never stopped building and collecting model cars. In fact, in the late '70's until '84 I had a hobby shop in North Canton, Ohio called Model Car World. In 1990 I was working for a NAPA store in Indiana when I found a lot of old lacquer paint formulas from the '50's & '60's. That got me to revive the Model Car World name and I began mixing these lacquer colors. I sold them ready to spray (thinned) in one ounce air brush jars for model cars online and at model shows. So, if a builder wanted to paint AMT's '56 Ford Ht. kit in the original Peacock Blue & Colonial White or '55 Chevy in Coral & Shadow Gray Met. I had the paint. Literally thousands of colors from the '30's to the '70's.

After moving to North Carolina in 1992 I began doing the paint full time and added my own line of hand cast resin model car kits. I took current model kits and made different versions out of them; for example, Monogram's 1965 Impala Ht. kit made into a Biscayne 2dr. I then took that master and made RTV rubber molds and cast conversion kits with two-part liquid resin. My line of over 100 kits included stock Ford, GM, Chrysler, NASCAR, and Drag models. I even made my own decals on the computer to sell with the kits. I've made models for Ronnie Sox, Arnie Beswick, and several other drag and NASCAR legends. Now I finally have time to build models just for me as I sold the Paint business in January 2016 and the Resin line in January 2019. Anyone interested in seeing the model collection in my shop can call me at (336) 228-0812 to set up a time. I'm in the shop most days so if you don't reach me leave a message (it's an old fashion land line & answering machine) and I'll get back to you. My e-mail is ddodge2@triad.rr.com.

Car of the Month March 2023: Dave and Janet Dodge's 1965 Chevy II 100 2-door sedan



*Dave & Janet Dodge*

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By granddaughter Lou Ann Smith



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