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### October 2024 President's Message

**O**ctober has always been special for me. You start to notice the evenings are cooler, the leaves are starting to turn various colors and decorate the yard, and of course the excitement of going to Hershey! Some of my earliest memories are of sleeping in a pop-up camper in in Hershey, listening to the acorns bounce off the roof at night. Over the years the venue has changed a bit, no longer is the fleamarket a muddy mess when it rains, and our camper is not under oak trees now, but the endless rows of automotive treasures for sale, the beautiful cars at the show, and the car corral are all still there, just larger!

One of my favorite things is to see the “high-wheelers” motoring along the track. This is one of the few times you can see this number of pre 1915 cars being driven. Some of the most enjoyable times are spent talking to old friends and meeting new friends in the fleamarket! Our hobby has a tremendous number of friendly people that will gladly share their knowledge with you about any subject, all you have to do is ask a question! If you have never attended Hershey, you are missing out on a great resource for parts, information, but most of all, great fellowship. Go ahead and reserve “Hershey Week” on your vacation calendar for next year!

Our November meeting will be our Annual Business Meeting where we will set our budget for the upcoming year and hold our elections for the 2025 officers and board members. Our nominating committee has provided a recommended slate of folks willing to serve, but as always the floor is open for nominations! If you have an interest in serving on the board or one of the committees, please speak up! Make sure to attend and vote! We will be meeting at the Shiloh Presbyterian Church Scout Hut for the November meeting.

The new Alamance Region Clubhouse is moving forward! The blueprints are being finalized, the brick is being ordered, and the site is ready for the concrete pad to be poured soon. Thanks to the efforts of many of our club members for all of the hard work and planning. I am excited to see this coming together so quickly!

The Fall also marks the end of the busy car show and cruise-in season, so make sure to get out and enjoy the remaining gatherings if you can. There will also be plenty of opportunities to just take a drive and enjoy the cooler weather and the changing leaves. Take some photos along the way, but soak up the memories most of all!

We'll see y'all down the road!

*Rick Holmes*

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V. President: Donnie Nance  
336-263-0145  
Secretary: Mike Blalock  
336-260-7781  
Treasurer: Jeannie Johnson  
336-213-0799

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Ex-Officio: Elizabeth Coble  
Larry Coble 2023-2024  
Henry Gaither 2023-2024  
Mickey Klutz 2023-2024  
Terry May 2024-2025  
Chuck Smith 2024-2025

### Committees

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336-413-7704  
Sunshine: Jeannie Johnson  
336-213-0799  
Membership: Floyd Smith  
336-228-1526  
Chief Judge: Rick Holmes  
919-592-6861  
Webmaster: Rick Holmes  
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Youth Coordinator: Rick Holmes  
919-592-6861

### National and Regional Events: (see [www.aaca.org/events](http://www.aaca.org/events) for full details)

<b>October 8 - 11 – 2024 Eastern Fall Meet and Flea Market, Hershey, PA</b>	<b>October 23 – 2024 Southeastern Fall Nationals, Huntsville, Alabama</b>
<b>October 12 – Alamance Region outing: Alamance Battleground and Ice Cream Run. Bring your picnic lunch and meet at the Alamance Battleground at 12 noon</b>	<b>February 6 – 8 – 2025 Annual Convention, Charlotte, NC</b>
<b>October 12 – Crimestopper's Show at Holly Hill Mall, Burlington</b>	<b>1st Saturdays – April through October, Siler City, NC Autozone &amp; Sonic</b>
<b>October 12 – NC Region's New River Chapter Meet, Jacksonville, NC</b>	<b>2nd Saturdays – Cruise-In at Jimmy's Hotdogs, Mebane</b>
<b>October 19 – NC Region's Morehead Chapter Meet, Morehead City, NC</b>	<b>3rd Fridays – Cruise-In downtown Graham</b>
	<b>3rd Saturdays – May through October, downtown Graham. Concert series beside Colonial Hardware!</b>

### Next Weak Spark Deadline

November Issue 10/26/24

### Next Club Meeting

October 12, 2024 at 12:00 noon  
**Alamance Battleground  
5803 NC 62 S  
Burlington NC 27215**  
for a picnic lunch, a tour of the battleground, and an ice cream outing to **Homeland Creamery,  
6506 Bowman Dairy Rd  
Julian, NC 27283-9122**

## Minutes from the September 2024 Meeting

**O**ur finances are doing well, and we are on target for our building funds.

Guests: Mr and Mrs Ed Burns attended as guests.

Hosts: The Holmes family with help from the entire club!

The lot for our new clubhouse is cleared, and the pad area is leveled and ready for the concrete to be poured when the architects drawings are finished. Butch McKenzie has done an amazing job clearing and burning debris, Chuck Smith and Barry Summers have leveled the pad location, and the Purchell's, Bob King, Jeannie Johnson and team have kept the debris pile burning.

Water and Sewer tap application has been made, and is expected to be installed by early October.

The bricks for the building need to be selected and delivered to the lot before the pad is poured.

The NC Region Fall Meet was held in Spencer, with the Coble's and the Holmes's attending.

The Myrtle Beach Mustang show had over 600 cars, with Henry Gaither attending.

Upcoming shows and Cruise-Ins were discussed: Cedar Rock Park Veteran's show, Jimmy's Hotdogs 2nd Saturdays, Graham Cruise-Ins 3rd Fridays, October 12 Crimestoppers Show at Holly Hill Mall, October 12 Alamance Region meeting and tour of Alamance Battleground and Ice Cream run.

The upcoming 2025 Annual National Convention was discussed, and Alamance members were encouraged to attend. It will be held at the Charlotte/Concord Embassy Suites in February.

November is our Alamance Region Annual Meeting, with elections being held for 2025 Officers and Board members. Contact Elizabeth Coble for nominations.

Our Christmas party will be held on December 12 at Shiloh Presbyterian Church in the sanctuary, and will be catered by the Cutting Board. Menu and cost is TBD.

*Mike Blalock*



## News From National!

**A** 1930 Lincoln 7-passenger touring car is being auctioned during Hershey week for the benefit of the AACA Library. You can bid on it at the RM Sotheby auction in Hershey, or online or phone. Call Steve Moskowitz for more info at **717-534-1910**.



AACA is also auctioning a 1921 Ford Model T touring car during Hershey week for the benefit of the AACA Library. Bids will be taken at the AACA Library tent at the Chocolate Field North space C3G 5-9. You can also contact Steve Moskowitz with questions.

Be sure to send in your 2025 AACA National Board of Directors Ballot. You should have received it in the Sept/Oct



edition of Antique Automobile magazine. You must choose 7 names for the ballot to count.

The 2025 Annual Convention will be Feb 6-8, at the Charlotte/Concord, NC Embassy Suites. Reservations are now being taken at 704-455-8200 or at the Hilton.com reservation link. Make sure you mention the "AACA Annual Convention". Room Rate is \$159 plus tax per night.

AACA Scholarship application deadline is December 1. Available for children or grandchildren of AACA members. Make sure to apply soon!

*Rick Holmes*

## Nominations For Officers and Directors

The Nominations for 2025 are in.

### Officers

*President* - Rick Holmes

*Vice President* - Donnie Nance

*Secretary* - Mike Blalock

*Treasurer* - Jeannie Johnson

### Board of Directors

2024-2025 - Terry May

2024-2025 - Chuck Smith

2025-2026 - Ande Shoe

2025-2026 - Scott Wicker

2025-2026 - Mickey Kluttz

*Ex-Officio* - Elizabeth Coble

Voting will take place at our Annual Business Meeting in November. At that time if there are other nominations, they will be accepted from the Floor.

*Elizabeth Coble*

## Hot Rod Power Tour 2024 — How Many Cars, and You Drove A WHAT?!!

**B**efore I begin—our next event is 12 Oct. We will meet at the Alamance Battleground at noon. We will have a picnic (everyone bring their own picnic lunch) followed by our meeting and then a tour of the battlefield. After the tour we will head out to the Homeland Creamery in Julian NC. Please drive your old cars if you are able and if not that's 110% OK, everyone is always welcome. If it is raining, we will meet at the covered picnic area at the Scout Hut, same time (noon), eat, then have our meeting. We will still go to Homeland Creamery after the meeting for those who want to.

Hot Rod Power Tour 2024—WOW! Another car adventure in early June with an estimated 7000 cars, yes that is the correct number 7000! The 30th Anniversary of HRPT kicked off 10 June at Beech Bend Raceway Park, Bowling Green KY. I hit the road in a 2023 Challenger and arrived at the hotel Sunday 9 June. The hotel was right across the street from the National Corvette Museum and yes, I should've gone. Anyway, as usual on the tour there was a car show in my hotel and every hotel in the area! Monday morning it was off to Beach Bend Raceway Park; what a great facility! The bleachers around the drag strip were covered so how great was that, Jerry, Judy and I enjoyed the racing in actual shade! At this venue there was drag racing and autocross and a huge number of cars! Lucky Costa from Hot Rod Garage was there and off course I got his autograph! That night I met up with Jerry and Judy for dinner then we watched the burn out contest going on in their hotel parking lot. After I got back to my place the burn out contest continued until 1:00 AM (sleeping was optional that night!).

The next morning it was off to Nashville Superspeedway. Though it wasn't very far away, the route that we followed was scenic and I enjoyed the drive. At Nashville there was autocross and of course, the cars. Derrick Berri from Vice Grip Garage was there, another super guy. He was very humbled by the turn out for him and very appreciative.

Next up, L&N Federal Credit Union Stadium in Louisville KY; home of the Louisville Cardinals. The drive there was amazing! The Tennessee and Kentucky small towns and backroads, people waving and holding up signs welcoming us was incredible...you had to be there. I see why Jeannie loves KY so much! The route took us right by Churchill Downs which was really cool. At the stadium the cars were the stars—no driving activities just a humongous cruise in!

The ride to Hebron, OH and National Trail was great, but it had some interstate. Drag racing was the deal so I looked at the cars both on and off the track—there were so many cars!

The last destination was Lucas Oil Indianapolis Raceway Park, home to the NHRA Nationals. This drive was way more interstate than I liked but it went smoothly. On the way I stopped at the National Museum of the United State Air Force. If you have never been there and you like aviation, it is a most see. I went there because one of the HH-3E Jolly Green Giant helicopters I had flown was in there plus the B-24 Liberator that is in the museum was part of heraldry of one of the squadrons I commanded. The 512th Bomb Squadron was the predecessor of my unit, the 512th Special Operations Squadron. The squadron patch on the B-24 was the same as my unit's patch! The other reason was the museum accepted one of the helmets and H-3 checklists I used while flying the HH-3E, into their collection—what an honor! I rushed through the museum (I came back the next morning) and to IRP. At the last destination most folks just go in and leave. I sat and watched the drag racing participants for a while then then headed back to spend the night at Wright Patterson AFB. The next morning, I spent some time in the museum then headed home. The ride home was uneventful so after about 8 hours I pulled into the driveway—2300 plus miles after I departed the previous Sunday.

There may be those there who wonder why in the world would you drive so far to get to the starting point (over 520 miles), drive 3-4 hours a day for five days and then drive over 600 miles back. Is it the cars? Well, the cars are fantastic and you see everything from pure stock to wild customs, muscle cars, mini-vans, trucks, station wagons and everything in you might think of and some you would never think of! Well, that's great but it is the people you meet that make the tour. My first two nights my hotel neighbors were from Canada, throughout the week I met folks from near to way way far! There are no strangers on the Power Tour, only new friends plus having Jerry and Judy on the tour really made it special. The other thing I really like is no one judges what you drive on the tour. Yes, a very few moan and groan there aren't enough old cars, but most of those old cars are hot rods, modifieds, restomods, street rods, whatever. It just really doesn't matter. What matters is you are with folks who share the same passion you do and that is downright wonderful! Plus, how often do you get to participate in the world's largest rolling car show and drive through the back roads and small towns of the greatest country on this earth? ULTRA COOL!

I'll see you on the road, or Hot Rod Power Tour 2025!

*Henry Gaither, Jr.*

Hot Rod Power Tour 2024 — How Many Cars, and You Drove A WHAT??!



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*Ande & Mary Shoe*  
Thankful for Answered Prayers!



In Memory Of  
*Judy Cox*  
By John & Pat Cox

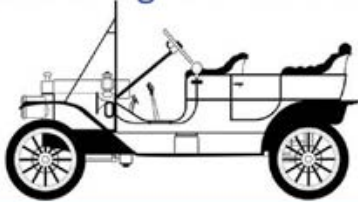


## In Memorium

In Memory Of

*Katie & E. B. Dawson*

By granddaughter Lou Ann Smith



In Memory Of

*Tal Johnson*

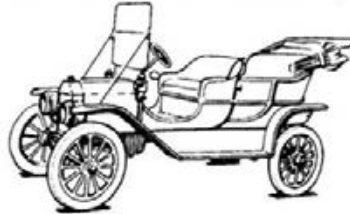
By Jeannie Johnson



In Memory Of

*Jean & WR Smith, Jr.*

By their son Chuck Smith



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