

President's Message

It's January 2015, so Happy New Year to everyone! We have had a successful 2014; we had fun, fellowship, enjoyed antique cars, and stayed financially sound. At this time of year people make resolutions. I've made a few personal resolutions, but would propose one for the club, increasing membership. Membership starts with an invitation to our monthly meeting. If everyone would invite a friend or acquaintance sometime during the year, I feel certain we would grow as a club.

On behalf of everyone who attended the Christmas Party, I want to thank all those involved for a wonderful dinner and entertainment. Our grandchildren enjoyed the party and asked about coming back next year. We couldn't say no.

Just a few dates to keep in mind, of course our monthly meeting January 10th at 6:30PM. On January 16 & 17 the NC Region meets at the Ramada Inn here in Burlington. I look forward to seeing many of you there. Cathy & I are making plans to attend the annual AACA meeting in Philadelphia on February 12-14. The Charlotte Auto Fair is April 9-12. Our car show is on May 16. It's only 5 1/2 months off, but it will be here before you know it. Everyone's help is needed.

Billy Patterson

December Meeting Minutes December 10, 2014

The December 2014 meeting of the Alamance AACA was held at the Lake Mackintosh Club House on Saturday, December 10th at 6:00 PM. Our outgoing President John Cox thanked those who had helped decorate for the party. The following persons helped with the Christmas party decorations: Judy Cox, Barbara Ivey, Jane King, Elise Smith, Jeannie Johnson, Pat Tulauskas and Pat Burke. We had 41 in attendance. There were two new members, Richard and Pat Smith in attendance along with two guests, Ron and Ann Emirck.

Our meal was catered by Western Charcoal Steak House and included grilled marinated chicken breast filets, beef tips, rice, green beans, sweet potato casserole, salad, rolls, tea, water, coffee and desserts.

A formal business meeting was not held during the Christmas party. John Cox mentioned that the NC Region meeting would be held in Burlington Jan. 16-17th and the AACA Annual meeting will be held in Philadelphia, PA Feb. 12th-14th (Billy Patterson & Cathy Dover attending). John also mentioned that Judy Cox will be the new contact for sending out cards and flowers. John Cox turned over the meeting to Pat Tulauskas and guest Ann Emirck for the program. They started by getting everyone to sing along on some Christmas carols. During the night we sang: It is beginning to look a lot like Christmas, Go Tell It on the Mountain, Joy to the World, and Jingle Bells. For Jingle bells they enlisted the help of a few people to help them out with the singing. The people up front with Pat and Ann were Bailey Mculloch on bells, along with Preston and Lily Dover singing.

John Cox and Bill Cox read a comedy radio skit about a nature trip. John was "Bob" and Bill was "Tal". There was also another skit about the 12 days of Christmas performed by quite a few members. They each had to

Next Club Meeting
 January 10, 2015 at 6:30pm
 Alamance Region Clubhouse
 Burlington, NC

- 2015 Officers**
- President:** Billy Patterson
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 336-227-8619
Chief Judge: Rick Holmes
 336-578-5334
Webmaster: Ed Tulauskas
 336-684-8085
- Youth Coordinator:**
 Rick Holmes 336-578-5334
Auto Project Manager:
 TBA
- Hosts:**
- January:** Floyd & Elsie Smith,
 Jeannie & Tal Johnson
- The Weak Spark Deadlines:**
- February Issue: 1/28/15
 March Issue: 2/25/15
 April Issue: 3/25/15
 May Issue: 4/29/15
 June Issue: 5/27/15
 July Issue: 6/24/15
 Aug. Issue: 7/29/15

December Meeting Minutes December 10, 2014 (con't.)

act out the particular part/day during the song. Everyone was laughing during the performance.

1st day- Tal Johnson (Partridge in a pear tree)

2nd day- Annie and Wallace Compton (Two turtle doves)

3rd day- Judy Cox (3 French Hens)

4th day- Rick Holmes (4 calling birds)

5th day- Jane King (5 golden rings)

6th day- Billy Patterson (6 geese a-laying)

7th day- Casey Cox (John & Judy's grand-daughter—7 swans a-swimming)

8th day- Floyd Smith (8 maids a-milking)

9th day- Jeannie Johnson (9 ladies dancing)

10th day- Ed Tulauskas (10 lords a-leaping)

11th day- Lynn Pickett (11 pipers piping)

12th day- Bob King (12 drummers drumming)

During the next part of the program, Pat read several Christmas related trivia questions to see how many

we could answer. And then, John Cox came out as "Slim" Santa with elves (Jane King, Jeannie Johnson, Bailey Mculloch and Casey Cox). Slim Santa asked if anyone wanted to come up and tell Santa what they wanted for Christmas. The first to sit on Santa's lap were Rick Holmes and Ed Tulauskas. John ("Slim" Santa) then said if no one comes up he will resort to his joke list. Then Floyd Smith came up to Santa and asked for a Chevy, but a Ford would do. John said "no Chevys"! Next, elf Casey Cox picked Jim Ivey to come sit on Santa's lap. They pulled an extra chair over for Jim to sit on. He asked for an antique car that runs. Then elf Jane King picked Judy to sit on Santa's lap. And last, Melanie Mculloch sat on Santa's lap and asked for Ford Power Stroke.

At the end of the evening, Pat Tulauskas read the Christmas Story (birth of Jesus) from the Bible. Judy Holmes mentioned that she and Richard had been in the car club 50 years as of this day! The meeting/party was adjourned and everyone pitched in to clean-up the club house.

Cathy Dover



Photos courtesy of Billy Patterson and Cathy Dover



The Hillsborough Holiday Tour

Every year the town of Hillsborough holds a Holiday tour of some of the historical homes and buildings around town during December. It seems fitting to celebrate Christmas the old fashion way... it seems to bring back memories of our youth and the magic of giving and receiving gifts at Christmas time.

This year the town held their Holiday tour on Sunday December 7th. Since it was the anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, they decided to honor our military from all the wars back to revolutionary time. Since we have homes and structures from as far back as the early 1700's we can cover a lot of wars! The idea was to select a home built during each war era and have actors portraying a family enjoying Christmas celebrations of the period.

To further enhance the experience, the Chamber wanted to have antique cars of each era displayed at the various locations to add to the historical atmosphere. Since I know folks on the chamber, I was asked if I could help with providing some willing participants with their cars. I told them that finding cars for the Revolutionary and Civil Wars would be a tall order but that I could make a pretty good effort for the rest of the times.

Since most of the folks I know around Hillsborough have custom vehicles I

called upon the AACA Alamance club for volunteers with vintage original cars. By show time, we had all the wars covered including a request for a roaring 20's display at the local speak easy! Melody Brevda offered her 1926 Cadillac for the roaring 20's display, including her driver, Jimmy Long. The car was a hit in front of the Hot Tin Roof, a local Pub that became a speak-easy for the night complete with prohibition protesters!

For WWI, I didn't have any model T volunteers, but we were lucky enough to have Richard Holmes brave the cold and drive his 1931 model A. It looked great in front of an early 1900's stone house on the main street in Hillsborough.

WWII had a couple of locations and we covered the main one with Randy Stone's 1936 Ford Phaeton. Randy is the President of the N.C. Region and lives in Greensboro. He was kind enough to trailer over Sunday morning with the '36 and had a good time holding history class in front of a 30's era home on Queen Street. A week or so before the tour, Randy removed the back seat of the car and found a little celluloid coin in the car. It was marked OPA and it was something he had never seen before. Upon researching it, he found out that OPA stood for the Office of Price Administration. It seems that these "coins" were given as change

from a ration ticket used to buy products during WWII. There were evidently two colors (red and blue) and a number of other markings that are as of yet unidentified by Randy's research... anyway, look them up on ebay, they are not expensive and kind of interesting. Randy had a handful to show folks on the tour as he told them about the '36 Ford- the car Roosevelt used during the era.

For the Korean War house from the '50s, John and Judy Cox were kind enough to bring not only their 1952 Ford, but John also trailered the '26 Cadillac down to Hillsborough. Judy drove the '52 from Gibsonville and John pulled the trailer. That a girl Judy! In addition to John's 52, Rick Holmes brought his 1956 Ford Victoria. Both were a big hit.

My GTO was an obvious choice for the '60s era home used to display Christmas during the Vietnam War- It was a favorite of many of the men going off to Vietnam. If they were fortunate enough to return from Vietnam, GTOs, along with all the other muscle cars, were quite popular amongst veterans during the 1960s.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the participants of the event. It turns out the cars were quite a hit. I had a call from the tour organizer this morning asking if I had seen the Mayor's Facebook page. He posted that the antique cars made this year's tour the best he had attended in years. If you do Facebook, search for Tom Stevens in Hillsborough, you'll see some of the comments and pictures.

My wife Linda was volunteering at the Tear Drop Inn, a revolutionary War Era Inn. She said that having the cars at the houses of the same era is an awesome way to display the historical significance of our vehicles... more fun than the typical show setting. That got my imagination going... not sure where, but certainly something to noodle over! Getting the cars out during Christmas was also a lot of fun... I can't wait for spring already!

Article and photos by
Bill Cox





Dave Rich's 1924 Buick Is For Sale!

With this article, I am beginning the process of selling my 1924 Buick, Model 55 Sports Touring. This is one of 4,111 (mine is # 1758) Model 55's sold in 1924 and one of 171,561 Buicks sold in 1924. The Model 55 was first introduced in 1923 and was manufactured for 10 years.

I am one of 4 registered owners of a 1924 Model 55 with the Buick Club of America which has over 50,000 members worldwide. I have talked to the other 3 owners and two are not restored and one is, but with modifications.

This car has been in my possession since early 1973 when I purchased it from George Hancock, Jr. I stored it in an enclosed garage until I began restoration in October, 2004. By 2012 I had won all the major antique car awards which included-AACA 1st and

Senior, Grand National 1st and Senior, NC State Red Bird, and Buick Club of America Gold Senior.

In October 2014, I finished the restoration of my speedometer by a guy from Tampa, Florida. I have performed 6 programs featured around this car-Alamance Region "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes", Burlington Rotary Club for Dr. Don Chaplin, Alamance Region Sponsors Banquet at BUMC, "A Roaring 20's Evening With Dave Rich" by the Bellemont Methodist Men, and "Entertaining With My 1924 Buick" for the NC AACA Region.

Because of recent health issues, I no longer feel comfortable taking this car to shows away from this immediate area.

The car is running the best it has ever run and I've driven it to and from Gibsonville, Burlington, Graham, and Snow Camp.

This car was a frame-off restoration by long-time Alamance Region member, Mr. Otto Watson. Every part was cleaned, repaired, or replaced. I believe this is the finest 1924 Model 55 in the world and maybe of all models of Buick produced that year (17 Models/171,561 cars).

The restoration is to completely original as described in all manuals published. All manuals, accessories, and spare parts included if wanted. If interested, contact Dave Rich, cell number 336-260-5975.



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Prohibition made another appearance at the Hillsborough Holiday Tour!

Photos courtesy of Bill Cox



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