

President's Message

As you are aware, we did not meet in January due to the weather. Our February Meeting date and time are different. Please note that we will be meeting on **Saturday, February 16 at 6:00 pm at the K & W in Burlington.** Please go through the food line when you enter the restaurant and then proceed to the private room at the rear of the restaurant. We would like everyone to be in the room by 6:00 pm.

The Board is looking at some different activities for 2019 in addition to some favorites. Some of these may involve getting your old cars out during the day and during the week. Maybe a trip to the Advanced Technology Center at A.C.C. We have read that in order to create interest in our club, we need to get our cars out into the community. We also want to do something with our kids and grandkids. Maybe even learning to drive some special cars. We welcome other suggestions to increase interest in our club. Plus Henry has at least one or two Ice Cream Runs and other activities planned.

Our Car Show is coming up in May and it will be here before we know it and there is still a lot of work to be done. Please be willing to help when asked. Jeanne will be bringing the Membership Roster, Membership Cards, Sponsor Forms and the Host List (lots of slots need to filled). Sponsors are vital to our show so please try to get at least one or more per family in the club.

I was recently asked what you do when you host a club meeting. Following are items that you are responsible for:

1. *Clean and decorate the Club House.*
2. *When you arrive, unlock the gate and turn the arms out of the driveway. You will have to go to the electrical panel and turn on the breakers for the lights, water, etc. Adjust the heat or air temperatures.*
3. *As a host, you supply soft drinks, tea, water and ice. Plates, napkins and cups are at the Club House. Silverware is in the drawers.*
4. *Trash bags are supplied but the host removes the full trash bags. Wash the silverware and store in the drawers.*
5. *Clean up and remove decorations. Vacuum and empty bathroom trash. Adjust heat and air and turn off items in the electrical panel.*
6. *Lock the doors and the gate in the driveway.*

If you encounter problems, please contact Richard Holmes at 336-263-351. If you are single, you can still help host by signing up with a couple or several singles can get together.

As always, we appreciate all your help in order to keep the Alamance Region strong and growing.

Elizabeth Coble

January 2019 Treasurer's Report

Last call for paying dues before I send our roster to National! Also, please remember to send in your National dues if you have not already done so. Our books are closed for 2018 and we came out a little ahead of budget for the year. Our members keep our costs down and that makes such a difference. I will have sponsor forms, membership lists and membership cards at the February meeting. Now is the time to be contacting sponsors for our spring show! Those funds enable us to have a quality show, provide scholarships for ACC students and keep our club running. If every member would bring in at least one sponsor, it would be a huge help! See you on **February 16 at K & W Cafeteria!**

Jeanne Johnson

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Sunshine:	TBD
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Show Chairman:	Henry Gaither 336-266-4466
Chief Judge:	Rick Holmes 336-578-5334
Webmaster:	Ed Tulauskas 336-684-8085
Youth Coordinator:	Rick Holmes 336-578-5334

Next Weak Spark Deadline
March Issue 2/23/19

Next Club Meeting

February 9, 2019 at 6:00pm
K&W Cafeteria, Burlington, NC

Hosts

K&W Cafeteria

No Minutes?

No meeting in January means no minutes from that meeting. Look for Ray's report to return next month!

Ramblings from a Snake Driver— How to Lose a Potential Member in Under 30 Seconds!

This month I was originally going to discuss the pros and cons of restoration to original, modified or resto mod. However, I was reading the latest AACA magazine and found the article on a letter to the editor from the Nov-Dec issue. In a nutshell an individual took his car to an AACA car show and was basically told his car was not good enough to be entered in the show or something similar . . . needless to say his opinion of AACA was not so wonderful. So, I thought I would write a little article on some “personalities” that I have seen in my years coming to car shows.

• **First is who I call the Nit-Picker.** The *Nit-Picker* is the person who is not a judge but quickly judges because they are a self-proclaimed expert and basically nit-picks your car apart in a not so subtle way. The scenario goes something like this . . . you drive into the show, do the registration thing, park your car, open the door and before you can shut the door the *Nit-Picker* and their followers arrive. You immediately hear that this or that is not right with the car and the *Nit-Picker* is pointing all these things out to their groupies. You open the hood and the nit-picking becomes even more intense because you are obviously a know nothing about your car and you should be bowing down to *His/Her Excellency The Knower of All Knowledge Sir Picks A-lot*. Finally the *Nit-Picker* decides they have proved their superiority to you and everyone around and departs the area to victimize another car show failure. This has happened to me more than once and luckily I have learned to ignore this type but it does make me wonder why I came to the show.

• **Second on my hit parade is the Car Snob.** The *Car Snob* is quick to point out to everyone within ear shot how great their car is and how many awards of whatever they have won. To this person the only reason they come to the show is to win the big trophy and they will go to great lengths to remind everyone that the show should be honored just to have them attend. The only reason this person will talk to “the lower class” is to move them out of the way as they are going up for the next award or tell you not to dare breathe within 20 feet of their car. Now most of the time the *Car Snob* has a great car and they may be very knowledgeable but is not willing to share that knowledge without making you feel inferior. Other times the *Car Snob* has a big wallet and only bought the car because it became interesting, earn that big trophy, and put themselves in the spotlight. Almost everyone who has been to car shows has seen this yahoo sometime in their car show career.

• **Finally there is Car Judge Blabsalot.** For many years I judged in Mustang shows (I was actually a card carrying certified MCA judge a very long time ago) and just like we do at our show, you were briefed prior to hitting the show field **DO NOT** go over your scoresheets around the owners; you and your crew move to somewhere you can talk about what you have seen and fill out the sheet. You are to be polite and respectful of the car’s owner and above all be professional. Well *Car Judge Blabsalot* is all those things until after the judging is completed. After that they start chatting with their buds about how bad this car or that car was and how they tore that car up for this or that...you get the picture. But what *Blabsalot* does not realize is the person sitting or standing next to them is the owner of that “bad” car they tore up. Once again not the impression a

car show wants to give to participates, especially if it is a club show and you want new members. Yes I’ve seen this too.

So what’s the cure to these car show “diseases?”

R-E-S-P-E-C-T! This is THE big answer; respect for the car and most of all respect for the owner. If that owner is taking their time and spending their money to bring their car to a car show they deserve that respect. To that owner that may be the greatest car they could ever own for a number of reasons. Maybe that’s their high school car or it belonged to a loved family member and that owner wants the car exactly as that relative gave it to them. Maybe that owner scrimped and saved for a very long time to finally get that car and they are scrimping and saving to perhaps make it better over time. Maybe that owner likes to drive that car so “bumps and bruises” are part of the picture. We should always remember that behind every car and their owner is a story. So before someone is quick to nit-pick a car or judge their owner perhaps they should take the time to find out that story. Treating that owner with respect tells the owner everything that they really need to know about a club and the members. Treating the owner the other way sends a message too, the wrong one. Folks need to remember that owner will carry the message, good or bad to their friends. Many car clubs are struggling with decreasing membership for a number of reasons. The last thing a club should do is treat a fellow enthusiast with disrespect.

We should always remember that we, the members, are the face of Alamance Region AACA no matter where we are or what we are doing. I’ll always say that our members make our club great, not the cars. Today there are car enthusiasts looking for a home and we want to continue doing what we do very well; welcoming them into our “home.” We want them to feel like I do at our get-togethers, like I’ve have come home. We need to make sure we continue to run our car shows were folks feel they are welcome and treat everyone with respect no matter what car they bring to our show. This is one of the best ways we have to get new members and keep folks coming back. Our hobby will always be about the people, the cars are just a bonus!

See you on the road!

Henry Gaither

Upcoming Tours Relatively Closeby!

2019 Southeastern Divisional Tour

Wilmington, NC April 29–May 1, 2019

Hosted by the Cape Fear Chapter, NC Region AACA

Information: Matt Hinson, *email:* matthew.c.hinson@gmail.com
phone: 919-471-0797

74th Revival AAA Glidden Tour®

Rock Hill, SC September 22–27, 2019

Hosted by the Hornet’s Nest Region AACA

Information: *Tour Chairman:* Phillip Cole, *email:*

lakeholme@att.net *phone:* 704-577-8576

Tour Director: Mel Carson, *email:*

melcarson@charlotte-autofair.com *phone:* 704-847-4215

Registration: Shirley Carson, *email:* aacaclt@windstream.net
phone: 704-841-1396

Antique Auto Show

48th Annual Alamance Region

Saturday May 18, 2019

At the Historic Railroad Depot
In Downtown Burlington
200 South Main Street
Burlington, NC 27215



Charles T. Holt House, c. 1897

Name _____ Email _____

Club or Region _____ AACA # _____ Will You Help Judge? _____

Address _____ Phone # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Entry	Year	Make	Model	Class
1	_____	_____	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	_____
3	_____	_____	_____	_____

I agree to abide by all rules of the show and understand that I am responsible for my vehicle(s) and the actions of persons accompanying me to this activity. I agree to release from liability all tenants and/or businesses located on/and/or within the property known as The City of Burlington, Alamance Region Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA), and any employee, members and/or volunteers and any other person or persons connected with the aforementioned organizations from any loss, damage, and/or injuries incurred as a result of participation in this activity.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Pre-registration by May 10, 2019: \$15.00 x _____ = _____

Day of Show Registration: \$25.00 x _____ = _____

Flea Market Spaces: \$10.00 x _____ = _____

Car Corral Spaces (cars for sale): \$10.00 x _____ = _____

We encourage pre-registration. Participants can mail check with registration form or pre-register on the club website: www.alamance.aaca.com
Pre-registration deadline is Friday, May 10, 2019.

Total: _____

Registration: 8:00 to 11am, Awards at 3pm, *Rain or shine.*

***All vehicles must be 25 years old (1994 or older) to be judged. Antique Vehicles will be judged per AACA criteria using AACA classifications. Antique Vehicles will receive a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place trophy in each class if they meet the AACA point requirements. Modified Vehicles will be judged on workmanship, quality, and condition. The Top 25 Non-AACA Vehicles will be awarded a trophy.**

****ALL Vehicles MUST have Fire Extinguishers!****

Make checks payable to: Alamance Region, Inc., AACA
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PO Box 565, Mebane, NC 27302
Phone: 336-263-4268

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P.O. Box 2450
Burlington, NC 27216

1745 Burch Bridge Road
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wbag@bellsouth.net

JOE GRAY
Owner/Manager

Phone: 336-226-1150
Fax: 336-226-1180
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