



Burlington, NC  
AlamanceACA.org

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January 2021

### President's Message

**H**appy New Year! We have made it through 2020 but there are still unknowns going into 2021. I want to thank John Cox and Pat Zanolli for the Alamance Region Virtual Christmas Party! it was great and wonderful to laugh!

We will be having a meeting on Saturday, January 9 at 3:00 pm. This will be held at Richard Holmes' building at 1301 Belmont Street - If you are coming from Graham on Webb Avenue you will turn left at the Midway Mattress sign onto Belmont Street. There will be a seminar on Model A brakes, how they work and how to adjust them. We will move on to our business meeting. Be sure to bring a chair and a drink and a snack. Also, you will need to wear your mask.

Normally in January, I would be talking about the upcoming Annual Convention of AACA in Philadelphia. It would normally be scheduled for early in February; however, the Convention has been moved to April 15-16, 2021. Charlotte Auto Fair and the National Southeastern Spring Meet are still scheduled for April 8-10 in Concord, NC. The Southeastern Divisional Tour will be held in Central Florida, April 20-22. July brings the Central Spring Nationals in Auburn, Indiana from July 1-3. The Eastern Divisional Tour will be at the Eastern Shore of Maryland from June 2-5. Remember that cars from 1996 and older can be shown in 2021. Another closer event is the Southeastern Fall Nationals in Greenville, SC from September 9-11. Hershey is currently scheduled from October 6-9 in Hershey, PA. In October there will be a Southeastern Divisional Fall Tour in Mount Airy, NC from October 11-16. This tour is limited to 50 cars and one owner will be picked to spend a night in Andy Griffin's childhood home. Herb Klutz, world historian on the Andy Griffin Show, this might be of interest. The Puerto Rico Special Dual Nationals has been rescheduled for April 21-23, 2022.

Add to these National events, our own Car Show for May 15 in Downtown Burlington. It is very important to our club that we have a show this year. We will need everyone's help finding Sponsor's for our show. This show funds our club for the show and also to maintain our clubhouse. There will also be several other local shows.

We will continue to try to schedule our meetings in locations where we can social distance but also have an opportunity to share and learn more about our hobby.

Please remember to pay your Alamance Region dues for 2021 and your National AACA dues. We are required to submit our membership roster by February. For National you can send your renewal form that was in your Sept/Oct National Magazine; you can call National Headquarters at 717-534-1910 and give them your credit card, M-F from 8 am to 4:30 pm Eastern Time; or you can renew online..

Stay Safe and Stay Well! Hope to see you on January 9 at 3:00 pm.

*Elizabeth Coble*

### November 2020 Treasurer's Report

**J**ust a reminder to pay your annual club dues! Many thanks to the members who have already paid! I will be sending our club roster to National sometime after the first of the year, so please send your \$25 dues payable to Alamance Region AACA and mailed to:

Alamance Region AACA  
PO Box 426  
Mebane, NC 27302

*Jeannie Johnson*

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### Next Weak Spark Deadline

January Issue 12/26/20

### Next Club Meeting

Saturday, January 9  
3:00 PM  
Richard Holmes Building  
1301 Belmont Street  
Burlington, NC

### Hosts

To Be Announced

### Please Volunteer to Host a Meeting!

Stay tuned!

## Turn Signals!



Other versions, the patent created by Edgar A Waltz, Jr, who couldn't sell his idea to auto manufacturers. Also, as featured in the Smithsonian, a custom indicator by Oscar J. Simler made for a brilliant system, but that idea also didn't make it into cars. It took the Buick automotive company to bring the first electric turn signal to market

**W**ith the lack of direction for the year 2020, I thought it may be fitting to have an article on the history of turn signals! There was no way to predict the twists and turns while trying to navigate a pandemic, but those of us who play with old cars can at least understand proper hand signals!

Those three signals they taught everyone in driver's education, the straight arm to indicate left, bent down at the elbow to indicate stopping, and bent up to indicate right, still matter.

Educators teach them because they offer a failsafe for a broken electrical system. They also offer drivers of antique cars there means to communicate. There's only one problem with hanging one's arm out the window. It's not always sunny. Sometimes it's too sunny. Also, scary. Percy Douglas-Hamilton submitted the first turn signal patent in 1907, which the patent office made official in 1909. His patent never made it on any automobiles, not that we know of.

in the 1939 models. The first versions only worked on the back of the car, but the next year they put them up front too.

That was when everyone else raced to catch up, companies like Cadillac, LaSalle, Hudson, and smaller brands offering signals as optional amenities. Still, the idea remained a non-standard through the '40s. By the end of World War II, turn signal controls migrated to the left of the steering column. But, it wasn't until the 50s that most cars had turn signals as such.

Most of today's drivers, faced with turn signals that don't work, would likely drive until they reached home or the cops pulled them over. Even if we know how to make those weird arm signals, we're not sticking our arms out the window. Besides, we're too busy taking selfies with that hand.

*Rick Holmes*



Richard and Rick Holmes working on the '29 Roadster beside the road on the "Mill Village tour"! Gotta love carburetors, right?

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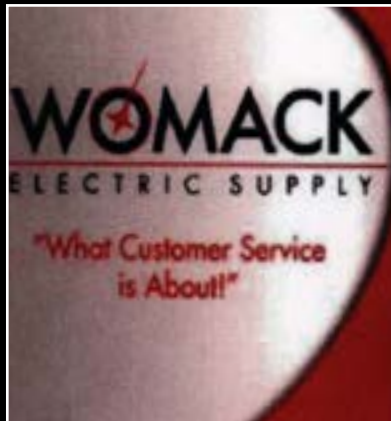
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