

President's Message

It is hard to believe that we are already into November, and Thanksgiving is just around the bend! The fall leaves have really been colorful this year around Alamance County, so I hope you have been able to tour around a bit to enjoy the scenery. We will be back at our Clubhouse for our November Annual Business Meeting where we will hold our elections for the officers and board members for 2023. We have a number of other items on the agenda to give updates on also, so make to be there!

Our October outing and meeting at the Homestead Steakhouse was a lot of fun. Please be sure to thank Mickey Kluttz for arranging the facility and meal. I thoroughly enjoyed touring our way there on the backroads and seeing some of the farms along the way. The food was excellent and the facility was perfect for having a short meeting while the food was being prepared. Next time I will need to use a smaller plate for the salad bar though! I always seem to overdo it with the watermelon rind pickles!

Our December 10 Christmas party will be held at the Shiloh Presbyterian Church Boy Scout Hut (Troop 19) again this year. Western Charcoal Steakhouse will be catering the meal for us, and Pat and John Cox will be planning the entertainment.

News from National AACA: The 2023 AACA Annual Convention will move to Williamsburg, VA this year! Historically the convention has been in Philadelphia, PA, which is a great place due to the historical attractions and activities in the area, but February is not always a great time of year to visit due to the cold weather and sometimes the snow! Williamsburg will definitely give us a more temperate climate, and for sure is much closer. There is a fee for registration to the various seminars and events, and it is open to the membership to attend. I always enjoy the seminars and the chance to meet and talk to members from other areas. Please consider attending if you can, and check on the National website for registration information (aaca.org).



On a sad note, Tal Johnson passed away on October 21, 2022. Tal was a longtime member of the Alamance Region AACA, and served several terms as President, Vice President, and board member. Tal always had a big smile and a hearty handshake for you whether you were an old friend or it was your first time meeting him! I am certainly going to miss Tal's wit and wisdom, as well as his sage advice that was always so humbly offered. The slideshow prepared and posted on Lowe Funeral Home's website is a real testament to a life so well and richly lived. Please keep Jeannie and the family in your thoughts and prayers.

We'll see y'all down the road!

Rick Holmes

Election Time

The Nominations are in for the coming year. We will be voting at our November 12 meeting. Due to the fact that we are in the middle of the sale of the property, several of the officers have agreed to continue for another year.

President - Rick Holmes Secretary - Mike Blaylock
Vice President - Henry Gaither Treasurer - Jeannie Johnson
Directors - 2023 to 2024 - Mickey Kluttz Donnie Nance Larry Coble

Directors who will continue for 2022 to 2023 are Chuck Smith and Jim Shaw. These two will not need to be elected again at this time.

At the meeting, if there are other nominations for any of these offices, please come prepared to nominate those individuals prior to the vote.

Thanks to all who have agreed to be nominated.

Elizabeth Coble

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Billy Mebane 2021-2022
Jim Shaw 2022-2023
Chuck Smith 2022-2023

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Webmaster: Rick Holmes
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Next Weak Spark Deadline

December Issue 11/27/22

Next Club Meeting

November 12, 2022
6:30 PM
Alamance Region Clubhouse
Burlington, NC
Hosts:
Bobbie & Bruce Anliker

Doing Burnouts ... On The Streets Made of Gold?

Catherine and I were with our grandson Jack in Blowing Rock last Thursday when I saw an email from Rick with the subject "Tal Johnson." We had seen the prayer list earlier in the week so we had this really bad feeling things were not good. As we all know Tal passed that day and we were crushed by the news.

Tal Johnson was my friend. He and I would talk from time to time about this and that, mostly about cars. I went to his house far too few times but when I did, he managed to get out of his chair and wander into the garage and check out the 64. I find the car great because it is unique and a reflection of Tal, a very unique individual. He promised me a ride but, unfortunately things just did not work out. I was hoping since I retired in July that Tal would get better so we could go shooting, but it just wasn't meant to be. But what Tal gave to me was his friendship and great memories, something absolutely priceless I will value forever.

Times like these I often reflect on Heaven, what it will really be like. I know we are promised that it will be greater than we can ever imagine so I thought about Tal and his arrival scenario. My wife often claims I'm "just slightly" focused on cars so forgive me if this simple mind goes in that direction.

So, Tal arrives in Heaven. He kind of looks around and he sees a very shiny '64 Corvette. The car is red with flares and Tal realizes this is his Corvette, but how? He's pondering this when he notices someone checking out his car. "Nice car," says the stranger though Tal realizes he knows this guy from somewhere. "I see you put a lot of time making her yours." "Yep," says Tal. "But I haven't been able to drive her for a long time." "Really? I was hoping you could take me for a ride," says the stranger. Tal walks up and opens the door and slides into the driver's seat. There is no pain, no creaking joints, no back issues...nothing. The interior is gleaming even with that new car smell! Tal notices the stranger is sitting beside him. "Pretty sweet ride Tal. Why don't you fire her up." Tal turns the key and the car roars to life! The side pipes are rumbling and the engine purring.... the car is perfect! Tal looks up and realizes his car is surrounded by all his family and friends who had passed on but he sees them now. They are cheering and smiling, giving him a big thumb's up and clapping their hands applauding him! They move from the front of the car and there it is, the Streets Made Of Gold, right there!

Tal looks over at the stranger and realizes this is no stranger, he knows this guy. "I know you" Tal says smiling at his passenger..." I know YOU!" His passenger looks at Tal and smiles. "Tal I've known you since the beginning of time and have been really looking forward to this ride. You know I built this road nice and straight...no bumps. So how about you and I see what this car can really do? Hit it!" Tal looks over with a huge grin and mashes the accelerator pedal to the floor. The rear tires boil smoke and the side pipes blast a sound that is music to his ears. With both occupants smiling from ear to wear, Tal hears his Passenger's voice, "Welcome home my son, welcome home..."

I bet if we listen really close, we will be able to hear those pipes roar too, all the way from Heaven.

Take care up there Tal, you are home but don't forget you owe me a ride...someday...

Henry Gaither, Jr.

November 2022 Treasurer's Report

It is time for annual dues again. The dues remain at \$25 per family and I would be glad to accept payment at the November business meeting.

Jeannie Johnson



Minutes of the October Meeting

Mickey Klutz's 1966 Mustang was chosen to be the feature car for next year's car show.

The club enjoyed a nice drive to the Homestead Steak House in nice weather.

A serious offer has been made on the clubhouse and property and it met with approval from the majority of the membership. It is the club's position that the buyers are to assume all responsibility for costs of the transfer of ownership. More to come on this later.

Mike Blalock

Homestead Steak House—October Meeting



Homestead Steak House—October Meeting



Talmage "Tal" Johnson, November 1, 1939 - October 21, 2022

A note from Jeannie

I wish to thank all the members of our club for their outpouring of love and care for me during Tal's illness and loss on October 21. Friends and family mean everything during a time like this and I can't begin to express what it has meant to me to have Tal remembered so fondly. Thank you so much! *Jeannie*

Find Tal's obituary at:

<https://www.lowefuneralhome.com/obituaries/talmage-tal-johnson>



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