

President's Message

We are drawing closer to our 48th Annual Car Show in downtown Burlington. Thanks to everyone who solicited Sponsors and those of you that have preregistered your cars. Be getting your old cars going. Please remember to bring 12-packs of canned drinks to our meeting on May 11. Also, be thinking about baked goods for the Hospitality area on the day of the show. Please remember to take our show flyers to any car related events that you are attending.

Please continue to remember the Byron Thomas family and Tal Johnson came through his recent surgery and is back home recuperating. Sam and Pat Burke have been under the weather lately. Congratulations to Herb Klutz on his 80th Birthday. His family honored him with a party that included a Cruise In.

Just got a notice in the mail that the Gibsonville Car Show is now going to be on June 15 not May 11 as originally rescheduled. As you will see in the upcoming events area, there are multiple shows on some of the upcoming dates.

Larry and I will be participating in the Southeastern Divisional Tour in Wilmington from April 29 to May 1. This will be our first National Tour and we are really looking forward to going.

Hosts are needed for May, August and October. Following is a list for the rest of the year:

May - Billy Mebane, _____; **June** - Judy and Richard Holmes, Rick and Debbie Holmes;
July - Wallace and Annie Compton; **August** - _____, _____;
September - Henry and Catherine Gaither, Ray Fowler;
October - _____, _____; **November** - Bob and Jane King, Ed and Linda Burns;
December - Christmas Party with everyone helping; **January, 2020** - Floyd and Elsie Smith, Tal and Jeannie Johnson

If you don't see your name please plan to fill one of the slots and please let me know your plans.

Upcoming events:

May 19 - Coble's Cruise In - Liberty, NC - 2 pm until
May 25 - Cars and Coffee - Holly Hill Mall - 8 am until 10 am
May 25 - Cruise In - Holly Hill Mall - 4 pm until 8 pm
June 1 - San Lee Chapter Car Show, NC Region - Sanford
June 15 - General Greene Chapter - NC Region Spring Meet - Petty's Garage and Museum, Level Cross, NC (*Must Preregister*)
June 16 - Coble's Cruise In
June 22 - Three Rivers Chapter - NC Region - Eden, NC
June 22 - First Responders and Vet's Car Show - Hooter's in Burlington
June 22 - Cars and Coffee and Cruise In - Holly Hill Mall

Elizabeth Coble

April 2019 Treasurer's Report

Many thanks to those members who worked so hard getting sponsors for our spring car show! We have 66 sponsors and 9 of those included a website ad in their sponsorship. We had 14 members who sold ads. Four members sold \$600 or more in sponsorships. As of April 28, we have 34 cars registered for our show. This is about the same number of cars that we had last year at this time. Please continue to pass out show flyers at local events! There are flyers at the clubhouse.

Jeannie Johnson

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V. President: Henry Gaither, Jr.
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Secretary: Ray Fowler
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Treasurer: Jeannie Johnson
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2019: Bill Cox, Herb Klutz
2019-2020: Larry Coble, Bob King, Billy Mebane

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Show Chairman: John Cox
336-512-2942
Chief Judge: Rick Holmes
336-578-5334
Webmaster: Ed Tulauskas
336-684-8085
Youth Coordinator: Rick Holmes
336-578-5334

Next Weak Spark Deadline

June Issue 5/25/19

Next Club Meeting

May 11, 2019 at 6:30pm
Alamance Region AACA Clubhouse
Burlington, NC

Hosts

Billy Mebane & ?

We Need Hosts

Please sign up to help!

Minutes of the April 13, 2019 Meeting

The Alamance Region car club held its regular monthly meeting April 13th at the clubhouse. Thirty-two members and one guest, Bob Byrd, attended. Following the covered dish dinner, Mr. Byrd discussed the experience of purchasing and driving the Tesla Model S electric vehicle he has owned for several months. The car was ordered online with minimum human interaction and picked up in Raleigh a few months later. He described the car as exhilarating to drive with the powerful electric motors and has had few mechanical problems. However, it is laden with electronics and computers and software and has experienced problems with those state-of-the-art systems.

President Elizabeth announced that Jim and Margot Shaw are new members. Hosts are needed for the Saturday May 11th club meeting. Elizabeth reviewed assignments for the May 18th car show and urged members to bring canned soft drinks to sell. Members are encouraged to wear their "Tee" shirts with the Alamance Region logo and club name badge at the car show. We are planning to invite some Boy Scouts

to assist members in parking as the show cars arrive. John Cox and Herb Kluttz will be guests at radio station WBAG "Talk Line" on Friday morning to discuss and advertise our car show which is the next day. The Faith United Methodist Church car show will not be on the same day as our show this year. Jeannie will contact the head of the Automotive Technology Department at Alamance Community College to explore the possibility of our car club visiting that facility. Ed Burns will coordinate with the "Heat" car club for possible joint activities with the Alamance club. The Mebane Dogwood Festival will be Saturday April 27th.

John Cox announced Judy's ashes will be interred Friday May 10th at 11:00 AM at the Salisbury National Cemetery Columbarium. Everyone is invited the next day Saturday May 11th from 12 until 2 PM to a celebration of Judy's life at Occasions Restaurant in downtown Burlington.

Henry Gaither showed a 37-minute video of Billy Eubanks' very large and unusual car collection at his home near Pittsboro.

Ray Fowler

Ramblings of a Snake Driver—The End?

Well here it is the very end of April and May is... well, Wednesday! I know it cannot be true but our car show month has arrived. That being said, I'm sure there will be numerous requests for help and I really hope everyone pitches in for another highly successful car show. Just remember, we cannot have a successful show without **YOU...YES YOU**, the person reading this!

I'm sure by now some of you are wondering why I stepped down. The simple truth is my life was just not allowing me the time needed to do the VP job well and that was not fair to our membership; you deserve better than I was doing. That does NOT mean I'm going anywhere or quitting the club. No, I'll just be a "regular" guy for a while plus I'll bet that there are those that will not miss my constantly beating drum on the importance of membership and participation... both which are critical if this club is to survive.

Speaking of participation, we will be visiting the Fields of Honor on Saturday 25 May... yep the Saturday of Memorial Day. We will depart Burlington around 10:30 AM and take a non-Interstate route to the Olympic Family Restaurant, 1555 West Mountain Street, Kernersville 27284, for an early lunch. After lunch we will head



over to Fields of Honor and visit the grounds at your leisure. You can stay as long as you like as we will be departing individually. I'd like a head count at our May meeting so I can pass that to the restaurant. If conditions permit it would be great if folks drove their old cars but if you can't that's OK...it's always about the people! As an aside I've already talked to the folks at the S&T Soda Shop in Pittsboro and they are looking forward to our next tour there!

I'd like to thank all of you who helped me plan, execute, and/or participate in our activities. I'd also like to thank those club presidents who were stuck with me and did not run away...thanks for your unending support and above all else your friendship.

Finally, in the **Lord of the Rings** and **Hobbit** trilogies director Peter Jackson did not put "The End" at the end of a movie unless it was in fact the end of that trilogy; basically the end of that story. So, just like Mr. Jackson I will not put "The End" at the end of this article. As it

has been pointed out many times by our esteemed editor, you do not have to be a club officer to contribute to our newsletter so from time to time; perhaps, the Snake Driver will rise again and put key strokes to laptop screen. Until that time, I'll see you out there on the open road!

Henry Gaither



The AACA National Show—Charlotte, NC

We are so blessed to have such a grand AACA event in our back yard... well, maybe it's not exactly around the corner, and it's actually in Concord... at the Lowes Motor Speedway; but it's easy enough to get to for a weekend.

I went down on a rainy spring Friday morning... not the best time to go, but I was able to get down there, have some lunch and greet some friends in the AACA tent. After lunch, the mist was tolerable and I actually got to spend a few hours in the flea market and had a good time. Herb Klutz had his usual spot in the flea market but he evidently stayed in the bed on Friday... no sitting in the rain for Herb!

The displays inside the buildings always have something interesting and this year there were El Caminos and land speed racers (LSRs). These are the rocket shaped race cars built to set speed records on the Bonneville salt flats. I enjoyed both of these displays, but the prize possession here was a 1970 Monte Carlo that was treated to an incredible restoration to a concours level. It was certainly the best I have ever seen.

Saturday promised to be a better day with dry weather and temps in the 70s. It did not disappoint as I arrived at the judges breakfast around 7:00 to meet friends from around the country who had come to join the fun on the show field. There were 250 judges present to review 301 cars. It was overcast in the morning, but that gave way to clear sunny skies and 70 degrees in the afternoon. There were lots of folks from the NC Region, Alamance Region, Mountain Regions and of course all those Hornets Nest folks with

those yellow hats... they certainly looked like a swarm of bees all over the place.

As cars started pulling in to the field, my eye was drawn to the 1917 Locomobile as it pulled in to be greeted by Mel Carson, our new AACA President. I wasn't alone as many people turned to see it drive in and enjoy something you don't see very often. Equally engaging was Jim and Becky Aldrich's 1923 Stutz Touring Car. A beautiful little touring car that you can just imagine traveling the back roads of America in the roaring 20s! These and many other fine automobiles are what bring me to Charlotte every year.

As a judge, I get to see some extremely nice cars, either restored to very high levels, or preserved with care to maintain original features. Larry and Elizabeth Coble were there with their 1956 Ford F100 and won a Repeat Preservation. Larry took care of the truck and Elizabeth joined in with judging cars. The Holmes family was present as well... Richard and Judy won a 1st Junior for their model A pick up; and Page Loftis also won a Repeat Preservation for his 1966 Chevelle SS.

We are very fortunate to be able to see these examples of automotive history so close to home. If you haven't been to an AACA National recently, or ever, I highly suggest you put it on your list of things to do. You're sure to have a great time, and maybe you'll help Herb clean out his garage!

Happy Motoring!

Bill Cox





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