



## DAN'L BOONE REGION CAR CLUB

### President

Howard Irwin 423- 530-6027

### Vice President

David Tolley/Susan Taylor 276-698-0319 / 276-356-3440

### Secretary / Club Historian

Randy Still 423-245-4000

### Treasurer

William Anderson 386-795-2254

### Sunshine Chairman

David Williams 423-765-1095

### Newsletter Editor / Webmaster

Marty Lane 423-557-4159

### The Blake / Funfest Chair

David Williams 423-765-1095

### Allandale Show Chair

Matt Caldwell 423-943-4450

### Board of Directors

Marty Lane (Chairman), Sergio Merluzzi (Sharon Williams), Tom Wright (Betty Wright), Frankie Lambert, Tom Cloud (Sally Cloud) & Jerry Sillery (Connie Sillery)



Howard Irwin, President of the Dan'l Boone Region AACA

## **From the Desk of Howard Irwin:**

As we put, hopefully the last freezing temperatures behind us it's time for us to celebrate Springtime in the Appalachians. The weekend after our March Club meeting was busy, both from a fun perspective and a sadness from the loss of Randy Still's mother. Thanks to many of you who were able to attend the Celebration of Life for Mary Sue Still on Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> and the Graveside Service Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. Those of you who were able, witnessed a "true Celebration" of the life for Randy's mother. Those of you who were able to attend our first Saturday Cruise of the year participated in a wonderful event also. By my count we had 31 members and guests participating. Thanks to Colby for planning our cruise. We had a beautiful ride through the backroads of Scott County, a great lunch at the newly opened Heritage Table restaurant and an interesting visit to the old Bush Mill in Nickelsville. Marty includes some photos in the newsletter with more to share on the website.

As we look forward to April, happy April Fools Day and Happy Easter to you all. There are several car events in the area in April. **April 11<sup>th</sup>** is the first "Cruise at the Hills" from 5pm-8pm at the Tennessee Hills Distillery in Bristol. **April 18<sup>th</sup>** from 8am-11am is the first "Cars & Coffee" meet in Downtown Kingsport. (Note, these were previously held at Bristol Motor Speedway) The following **Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>**, will be our monthly meeting at 6pm at Zachary's. The following **Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>**, the local Pharoah's Club will be holding their annual show at the Kingsport Speedway. Our next cruise will be **Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup>** to the Axe Handle Distillery show in Pennington Gap. Hopefully many of you all can make this short drive to a nice show. Details to follow.

One more reminder, please reach out to your contacts in local businesses who might be interested in sponsoring our club events for 2026. Matt Caldwell recently sent you an email with details about costs and benefits. We're trying to get these lined up quickly so that we can get our event Tee Shirts printed in time for our Fun Fest Show on **July 25<sup>th</sup>**. Our first show event of the year will be **May 16<sup>th</sup>** at the Blake and our premier show event at Allandale will be Sunday, **September 20<sup>th</sup>**. Please mark your calendars with the dates highlighted above. Thanks for being a part of our great club and I'm looking forward to seeing you soon!

**Howard**

## **APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

**April 5 – Don Wood**

**April 6 – Jerry Sillery**

**April 7 – Chelsea Reasor**

**April 11 – Colby Reasor**

**Sunshine and Shadows** The passing of Randy Still's Mother



**MARY SUE STILL**

**Mary Sue Still passed away peacefully, at home with family on March 20, 2026.**

**Mary Sue Still was born in Pennington Gap, VA on November 14, 1934 to Rev. Clyde & Margaret Watkins. Her role as the daughter of a Methodist Minister took to her to Fries, VA, Fountain City, TN, Tazewell, VA and to Kingsport in 1949. The white frame parsonage attached to First Methodist Church on the Church Circle in the heart of the City was her first Kingsport home. It was at that church where she met her future husband, Gene Still. After graduation from Dobyns-Bennett she completed her education at Tennessee Wesleyan College and East Tennessee State. Mary Sue & Gene married in 1953 & welcomed their son, Randy in 1954 and Vanessa in 1962. The family was active in First Methodist Church and after the merger, First Broad Street United Methodist Church.**

**Mary Sue was active as a Church School Teacher, choir member in Sounds of Joy, the Thursday morning Bible Study, United Methodist Women, and was a frequent delegate to Church Conference. Her family and her church family were of prime importance to her throughout her life. Her love of people led her to participate in Meals on Wheels, the Church Food Ministry to the community, Separate Prisons Support Group, PTA, People to People International Exchange hosting and as PTSA President at Dobyns Bennett and the pleasure of knowing many young people throughout her life.**

**Her love of the community was exemplified in her board membership in Friends of the Archive for the City of Kingsport, work on a Kingsport City Schools re-districting committee, Board of the John Hay House, The Philanthropic Educational Organization (PEO Chapter V). She was the recipient of the Kingsport Civitan Club's Citizenship Award which was referred to as "The Golden Nut Award" much to the amusement of Randy and Vanessa.**

**She and Gene worked with and eventually owned Still Transfer Company, Moving & Storage and she worked in many roles there throughout her adult life.**

**Mary Sue was preceded in death by her parents, Clyde and Margaret Watkins; husband, Eugene Still; siblings, Marvin (Ina Sue) Watkins, Christine (John) Bean and Rhea Watkins; and in-laws, Tom (Jewell) Still, and Melba (Hubert) Gilliam.**

**She is survived by her children, Randy Still and Vanessa Lawhon (Pres); sister-in-law, Nancy Watkins; grandchildren, Ashley (Scott) Mattison, Steven (Kimberly) Lawhon; great-grandchildren, Kaylee, Layla, and Nathan Mattison; and many special nieces and nephews.**

**A Celebration of Life service will be held on Sunday, March 22, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at First Broad Street United Methodist Church with Pastor Randy Frye officiating. Visitation will follow.**

**Graveside services will be conducted on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at Oak Hill Memorial Park.**

# **Dan'l Boone Car Club 2026 Events**

## **APRIL 2026**

**Kingsport Model Trains Project - Last running of The Santa Train Model – Lynn View Community Center, Saturday, April 4, 10am-2pm**

**Cruise In at The Hills-Tennessee Hills Distillery Bristol April 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Spring Rod Run 2026 – *Pigeon Forge TN April 16-18***

**Cars and Coffee Downtown Kingsport, Saturday, April 18 8-11am**

**Pharaohs 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Cruisin Nationals Car Show Sunday April 26 10-4pm**

**The Greenbrier Concours d'Elegance May 1-3 White Sulphur Springs WV**

**Event details and other events throughout the year are on our website Calendar of Events**

**<https://danlbooneregion.aaca.com/>**

**Our First Club Member Saturday Cruise  
to  
Heritage Table Restaurant and visit to  
The Bush Mill, Nickelsville Virginia,  
March 2026**



**The Bush Mill circa 1896 Nickelsville, Virginia**

The club members took a trip to Nicklesville on Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, this being our First Saturday Cruise with lunch for the year. We met at Mickey Smith Motors in Lynn Garden to caravan to our destination. Mickey Smith graciously had coffee, juice and snacks to fuel our hungry drivers. We traveled to The Heritage Table Restaurant for lunch and then a tour of the historic Bush Mill.

There was a good turn out with many members driving their vintage cars through Gate City onward to Nickelsville on a beautiful Saturday morning.



Our host to Bush Mill, Danny Dixon is Vice-Mayor of Nicklesville. Danny along with his wife Maxie joined us for lunch at the Heritage Table. He brought along books for sale that he had written about Southwest Virginia history. He is the author of *Pathfinders: Pioneers and Patriots* and *When Courage was Common*, two books about the history of Southwest Virginia.

Mr Dixon spoke at The Bush Mill, giving the club members an engaging history lesson of how the mill operated and about life in the early 1900s in Southwest Virginia with The Bush Mill, also known as the Bush-Roller Mill being at the epicenter of the community. Danny Dixon is a lifelong resident of Nickelsville, Virginia, a veteran educator of more

than 40 years, a deacon in his church, Author, president of Dixon Educational Consulting & Echoes From The Past, and he is also vice-mayor of Nickelsville.

Located near Nickelsville, Scott County's iconic Bush Mill, a 19th-century gristmill, was built in 1896 by Valentine Bush and operated under both the Bush and Bond families until 1952. Much of the mill's machinery was shipped by train from Knoxville, Tennessee, to Gate City, then hauled by wagon to the mill site. After ceasing operation, some of that machinery was restored and since 1975 has been used occasionally to grind corn. Before Bush Mill, a prior mill on the site burned down.



**Photos of our club trip to Nicklesville are on our website:**

**<https://danbooneregion.aaca.com/bush-mill-nicklesville/>**

**“Well, in these times of high gas prices, this  
couldn't be more true”**





## **Water wheel of The Bush Mill, Nickelsville, Virginia**

**See you at the upcoming Dinner Meetings:  
APRIL - Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> Zachary's  
Steakhouse  
MAY - Tuesday, May 19th Zachary's Steakhouse**



## Happy Motoring!

**Antique Automobile Club of America (AACAA)** Since 1935, AACAA has had one goal: The preservation and enjoyment of automotive history of all types. From National Meets and Tours to Regional events, AACAA is here to bring enthusiasts together through exciting National activities, friendship, and Antique Automobile meets.