



Southern Tier Corvette Club

January 2015

BACKGROUND: Reprint from article written in our August 2014 Newsletter:

“On Sunday August 10th, 35 cars participated in the Autocross at Binghamton University. . . . A raffle was conducted at the Autocross on August 10. Tickets were sold for 'winner's choice' from a picture of the start line at the 1972 Watkins Glen race (donated by John & Mary Jane) or ½ of the money collected. The raffle collected \$100.

*The winner **Curtis Salzman**, an SCCA member was kind enough to choose the picture and then donated it back to be hung at the Vets' Home for the residents to enjoy. **Thank You Curtis!** Ron Fairs will present the picture to the veteran's home at the next Guild meeting”.*

On November 18th 2014, Ron Fairs, representative of the Southern Tier Corvette Club and Bob Gardner, President of the Volunteer Guild at the New York State Veterans Home presented Mr. William "Will" Deering with a framed lithograph print of the 1972 U.S. Grand Prix Race at Watkins Glen.

When Ron Fairs heard about William "Will" Deering he couldn't think of a better person to be the recipient of this award.

"Will" at 91 years young is a delight to be around. He has had an interest in cars long before he could drive. As a young boy he would sit on his front porch and try to identify the cars coming down the street by their sound. His interest in cars never waned and as a young man he joined the "Algonquin Antique Car Club". During his tenure in the club he met George Staley who had a collection of Franklins. "Will" was particularly fond of the Franklin because of its air cooled engine.

"Will's" personal car collection consisted of the following:

1919 Model T Ford Center Door Sedan

1925 Model T Ford Touring Car - 3 door sedan, no door for the driver

1930 Model A Ford Sedan

1936 Ford 2 Door Sedan

1944 Ford Woody Station Wagon. *"Will" rebuilt the wagon, even though parts were not available, by making patterns from what he had to work with.*

1948 Plymouth Sedan, this car is all original and unrestored, it still looks like new.

1948 Chevrolet Coupe

1968 MGB Convertible

"Will's" children still own all of his cars with the exception of one.

The Northeast Classic Car Museum came into being in "1997" when its founder Mr. George Staley bought a building in Norwich, NY to display his collection of 15 Franklins. "Will" worked very closely with Mr. Staley for many years and helped him develop one of the finest car museum in New York State. Today the museum consists of 5 buildings displaying 165 cars including all years and makes.

Note: The brass/black plate in the lower right hand corner of the print states the following:

*“Presented to William "Will" Deering for
Outstanding Support and Service to the Northeast Classic Car Museum
Norwich, New York November 11, 2014
Southern Tier Corvette Club”*

Notice the date. Special services were held at the Veterans Home on Nov. 11th, Veterans Day. Therefore the actual presentation was made during the Guild luncheon on Nov. 18th.



