

WELCOME TO THE 31ST ANNUAL GRAND PRIX FESTIVAL

Dear Visitors,

Welcome! We are celebrating 31 years of the annual Grand Prix Festival this year! Many of the original volunteers and attendees will be on the streets during the event helping to celebrate the racing heritage of our beautiful Community.

The Featured Marque this year is the MG. MG owners and drivers of these cars will participate in road rallies and get extra recognition as they drive through the village. To see an impressive collection of vintage MGs, be sure to visit the Courthouse Lawn on Franklin Street between Ninth and Tenth streets.

The Tour de Marque/MG rallye is one of nine that will arrive in the village throughout the day. You'll also see displays of memorable cars at the Concours d'Elegance at Watkins Glen State Park and the Concorso Speciale at Community Bank.

A special event celebrating the 70th Anniversary of the Porsche 356 Speedster will occur this year with Porsche being our marque for next year in 2025. Be sure to check them out at 8th and Franklin Streets.

Our Festival will feature a racing star as our Grand Marshall for the day's events, and we will offer a chance for everyone to get "up close and personal" with one of racing's hot personalities during the "Legends Speak" program presented by the International Motor Racing Research Center. It will once again begin at 3:00 PM in the gazebo in Lafayette Park.

The SVRA vintage race cars will roar into town at Noon this year to park and be on display on Franklin Street. "Pre-Race" ceremonies will be held at 5:00 p.m. in front of the courthouse and the Grand Prix Race Tribute cars will fire up their engines at 5:30 p.m. and take 2 laps of the original 6.6 mile race course and maybe more if time allows.

The rest of the action for the evening is throughout the village as our local pubs and eateries welcome you to their establishments.

Experience a day filled with memories – from racing's earliest days in Watkins Glen to the new ones you'll be building with us.

Welcome and enjoy! In the Spirit of the Sport,

Sacy Husted

Stacy Husted Festival Management Team Leader

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Grand Prix Festival photographs courtesy of Bill Green, Alex Stiles, Angelo Lisuzzo, Steve Butchko and other contributors.

Generous Sponsors Fuel Our Festival

The Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival, presented by Chemung Canal Trust Company, would not "return to the streets" without our family of sponsors. We hope you will help celebrate their dedication by visiting their businesses and thanking them for their support!

- Chemung Canal Trust Company, headquartered in Elmira with branches in Watkins Glen and Montour Falls, is the presenting sponsor of the festival. Chemung Canal Trust Company is the oldest locally owned and managed community bank, dating back to 1833.
- Cayuga Health System, uniting Schuyler Hospital in Montour Falls and Cayuga Medical Center in Ithaca, provides integrated health services and advanced care for the Central Finger Lakes Region. Cayuga Health sponsors the Stone Bridge Driver Laps of the Old Course.
- The Sportscar Vintage Racing Association (SVRA) joins us this year as a major sponsor, supporting the SVRA Smalley's Tech Inspection event and the SVRA Tribute Laps of the Old Course. As the largest, and one of the oldest vintage racing associations in the U.S., SVRA has brought vintage race cars and drivers to the festival for public display and to participate in these events. Talk to the drivers and watch the action!
- Chateau LaFayette Reneau Winery & Inn launches the Tour de Marque/MG. Chateau LaFayette Reneau, located on Route 414 in Hector, has been producing award-winning rieslings and red wines since 1985. Stop by for tastings, food, vineyard picnics and a guest house, all in a spectacular setting with breathtaking views of Seneca Lake, the vineyards, and the hillsides!
- Ryan William Vineyard sponsors the Ryan William Vineyard Founders Tour, which begins its day by hosting a magnificent group of sports and classic cars gathering at the Tasting Barn, just up from Watkins Glen on Route 414. Visit the Tasting Barn to enjoy a café featuring a scratch kitchen using locally-sourced ingredients and tastings of the 100% Estate-Grown wines produced by Ryan William Vineyard!
- Community Bank, with a branch at Fourth and Franklin Streets, sponsors the Community Bank Concorso Speciale and hosts the Lane's Yamaha Motorcycle Rallye, presented at Community Bank. Community Bank provides friendly, full-service banking!
- Jerlando's Ristorante, also at Fourth and Franklin Streets, sponsors this Festival Program. Enter Jerlando's in front for a full-service restaurant, or in back for their Pizzeria. Either way, thank them for this complimentary program!
- Lane's Yamaha, Route 14 in Watkins Glen, sponsors the Lane's Yamaha Motorcycle Rallye, presented at Community Bank. Lane's offers motorcycles, ATV's, plows, winches, generators, and much more!
- Lotus of Western NY, located in Amherst, sponsors the Concours d'Elegance, our judged auto show located at the State Park entrance. Matt and his team have beautiful new and pre-owned Lotus vehicles ready to roll!

- Glenora Wine Cellars, north of Watkins Glen on Route 14, sponsors the very popular Glenora Run. Glenora helped start the festival as its very first sponsor! Visit the winery, the Inn At Glenora, and Veraisons Restaurant for a gourmet meal and view of Seneca Lake!
- Hector Wine Company of Hector is the sponsor of the Hector Wine Company Glenkhana. At Hector Wine Company, you'll find small-production, long-fermentation wines made from handpicked grapes!
- Maguire Family of Dealerships sponsors the Maguire Pace Car, which leads each of the Cayuga Health System Laps of the Old Course. Maguire's 13 dealerships include Maguire Chrysler-Jeep in Watkins Glen, and others in Ithaca, Trumansburg, and Syracuse. They offer 19 car brands, including Ford, Lincoln, Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Chevrolet, Cadillac, Toyota, Nissan, Subaru, Honda, Hyundai, Kia, Fiat, Volvo, Audi, Volkswagen, Nissan, and Genesis vehicles!
- Lotus Owners Of New York (LOONY), sponsoring the LOONY Lotus Rendezvous. You'll see a great collection of Lotus cars driven by members of this club! The LOONY group has attracted Lotus owners for more than 33 years and sponsors meets and events across the state. Say hello to Tony Vacarro, the leader of the group, when the cars are on display at the Colonial Inn lot on Franklin Street!
- Grist Iron Brewing Company is the Official Brewery of the Grand Prix Festival. Grist Iron offers Brews and Chews and Lodging at their headquarters on Route 414 overlooking Seneca Lake. Visit their booth on the Courthouse Lawn!
- Hazlitt 1852 Vineyards supports the Hazlitt Vineyards Sporting Roadster Tour. Hazlitt offers a full tasting experience on State Route 414, next door to the Valois-Logan-Hector Fire Department in Hector. Hazlitt features Red Cat Wine, Rieslings, and great food and entertainment at the Oasis!
- Lakewood Vineyards, Route 14 north of the village, sponsors our Thursday event for our featured marque, the FLX/MG Journey! Great tastings of great wines!
- Porsche Buffalo joins us this year to sponsor a special event—The Porsche Speedster 70th Anniversary Gathering, Sponsored by Porsche of Buffalo! The Porsche Speedster was introduced to the world in September of 1954, seventy years ago, right here in Watkins Glen! Watch for a great collection of these classics brought to you by the premier Porsche dealer in Western New York—their state-of-the-art dealership is located in Williamsville, and we're proud to have them sponsor this unique event! We are also grateful for the Porsche 356 Registry, a group dedicated to the Speedsters, for sponsoring the Speedsters' Best In Show Award!
- REV27 is a new car club from Elma, NY, sponsoring the "REV27 Supercars" event. This car club specializes in exotic and special cars, including Ferraris, Lamborghinis, Maseratis, and the like; their members have brought a number of these high-end vehicles to town to show them off and join the Stone Brdge Drivers' Cayuga Health Systems Laps of the Old Course and the SVRA Tribute Laps. Watch for them as they roar through town!

- Colonial Inn and Creamery, 701 N. Franklin Street, for our use of their parking lot at Franklin and 8th Street for Festival activities.
- VanSkiver Motors, at 801 N. Franklin Street, for their donation of workspace for our Festival Headquarters.
- Specchio Motors, on Franklin Street, generously donates space for some of our Festival operations each year.
- Schuyler County, for our use of the Courthouse Lawn and other strong support.
- Village of Watkins Glen, for the use of Franklin Street and other important help.
- International Motor Racing Research Center on Decatur Street in Watkins Glen sponsors and produces "The Legends Speak" in Lafayette Park.
- Smalley's Garage, on Franklin Street, the location of the SVRA Technical Inspection Reenactment.
- Watkins Glen Area Chamber of Commerce supports this event with a Tourism Assistance Program grant.
- Casella Waste Systems for their generous donation of a sanitation vehicle to help us keep the streets clean.



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2024 Tour de Marque launched from Chateau Lafayette Reneau featuring MG

By BRUCE COULOMBE

The 2024 Tour de Marque has a unique venue and format that provides drivers of the honored marque of the year with an opportunity to experience the best of Watkins Glen. This year the cars of the featured marque come from the Morris Garages – better known to all as simply MG. This is a special year to honor MG as owners around the world are celebrating its 100th anniversary.

MG and the history of racing at Watkins Glen go hand-inhand. Indeed, some might say that because of MG we have racing here today. The young law student and SCCA member Cameron Argetsinger wanted a place to race his MG TC, and so in 1948 he organized the first Watkins Glen Sports Car Grand Prix. From there as they say, the rest is history, and each year you will find MGs as part of the living history that we celebrate with the reenactment of the excitement of those early street races.

The entire history of MG will be on display during the festival, with cars of every generation doing what they were created to do: drive! No trailer queens here – the Tour de Marque is for drivers and cars that go, no matter the age of the car (or the driver). Cars from the 1930s through the 1970s will all be mixed together during the event, with many more parked around the village as MG clubs from across the country have been planning for months to be here for this historic gathering.

The Tour de Marque begins with arrival and registration of 85 MGs at the Chateau Lafayette Reneau Winery, overlooking Seneca Lake and our famed wine country. Our stay at the winery will be hosted by its owner and Festival fan Ryan Bossert, who will provide a commemorative bottle of wine to each driver. From there, the cars will then quickly disappear up into the hills above the lake to begin a 60-mile road rally across some of the finest sports car roads our region has to offer. The cars will converge at the end of their drive at Watkins Glen State Park, where they will be hosted for lunch, and where they can stroll over to view the famous gorge.

After lunch, the cars will line-up to drive together into the village to join the festival. The cars will come to a stop behind the pace car at the original Grand Prix start/finish line on Franklin Street, and with the wave of the starter's flag the cars are off, and the excitement of entering the first turn of this historic course will be felt by all. Two laps later as the cars return to the village, they travel down Fourth Street to Lafayette Park, where the cars will be directed by the Tour's crack team of volunteers to line up on proud display for all to enjoy, and for their owners to bond over stories of the joys of owning and driving such an iconic marque. Don't be afraid to strike up a conversation with any of them – the participants on the Tour are here to share their cars and their experiences with all of us.

All of those who participate in the Tour de Marque automatically become members of the Festival's Stone Bridge Drivers, whose motto is "We drive the Old Course!" For more information about how you can become a Stone Bridge Driver by participating in the 2025 Tour de Marque featuring Porsche or any of our other driving events, visit the Grand Prix Festival's website at www.grandprixfestival.com. And don't wait to sign-up, or you may find that your place on the grid has already been filled!



Free Shuttle Trolley Available for Festival Attendees

The Grand Prix Festival of Watkins Glen is offering free shuttle trolley service and parking for spectators again this year.

Free parking is available at Clute Park - Lakeside on 4th Street (NYS Route 414), just east of downtown Watkins Glen and Walmart. Spectators and volunteers can park and board the shuttle to get closer to the event sites along Franklin Street. Clute Park is the only location for shuttle parking.

Two passenger drop-off and pick-up sites will be located along Porter Street – east side of Lafyette Park, site of the Tour de Marque display featuring MG, and at 10th Street near the Schoolhouse Apartments. (former WG Middle School) These sites are for bus passenger pick-up and drop-off only, with no parking. Spectators can get on or off at either location.

Utilization of this service helps to reduce traffic flow in the village and make parking and road traffic easier for everyone. Save yourself some walking and use the shuttle.

The free shuttle will begin at 12:00 pm and run until 8pm - after the streets reopen.

Watch for signs directing traffic to parking areas and at pickup and drop-off points.







3600 SR 419, Watkins Glen, NY 14891 Senecalodge.com • 607-535-2014

Lotus Cars Gather Once Again

BY TONY VACCARO

37 Lotus Cars. 58 years. A dedication bordering on obsession. So, I get asked all the time, "Why Lotus?"

It all started for me when I was fourteen years old. I was a big slot car racer, and a guy named Bill Lane pulled into the parking lot of the slot car track with a special car. We always raced Ferraris, Chaparrals, Porsches, and quite a few car shapes that had no names at the slot car track. That fateful day Bill drove in with a Lotus Elan Series 2. I was immediately awe-struck and eagerly asked to sit in it.

What happened next when I sat in the Elan is nothing short of magical. The way the steering wheel fit my 14-year-old hands. The way my Keds sneakers fit just perfectly on the pedals. The way the gearshift felt in my right hand. It was love at first sight and touch. I knew right then and there that a Lotus Elan was in my future. I just didn't realize what that would lead to over the next half-century.

I bought my first Lotus in 1971. It was a Lotus Elan S2. I sold that Lotus in 1981, and it is now owned by fellow LOONY, Jeff Kyle. However, I did not start living the Lotus Life until I joined Lotus, Ltd. in 1986. I purchased another Lotus Elan in 1986. There are no other words to describe it other than to say that it felt so right when I sat in that driver's seat, my feet on the

Lotus Owners of New York Inc

We would like to thank all of the members of Lotus Owners of NY Inc for making our inclusion in this years Grand Prix Festival possible. We are grateful for all of those who chipped in to self-sponsor our group so we could be here today.

We all realize it is important to keep our tradition of participating for both our members and the Festival attendees.

It is what Lotus ownership and friendship is all about!

Thank You







pedals, my left hand on the steering wheel and my right hand on the gearshift. I, however, didn't realize how impactful those feeling would be on the Lotus community and the rest of my life.

I helped form the LOONYs (Lotus Owners of New York) in 1987 because of the impact of the camaraderie and community that I found the year prior. This incredible community and their passion for this marque led to the creation and continuation of this event known as the LOONY Lotus Rendezvous at the Grand Prix Festival, this year sponsored by the Lotus Owners of NY Inc.

Or as we call ourselves, THE LOONYS!

We come together each year for a variety of annual-only events. The Watkins Glen Festival is a foundational and important event in our calendar. It stands alongside our national Lotus Owners Gathering (LOG). For these momentous events, it is hard to distinguish which aspect we enjoy more: driving to the event or spending time at the event with our friends. What I learned in 1987 still holds true today, however, and I tend to lean towards the latter. We do really love driving our cars, though, so it is not an easy choice!

Even when on the road, driving a Lotus is a communal adventure. Very few cars evoke the attention and attraction that a Lotus garners when parked at a gas station. I frequently answer questions regarding Emma Peel on the Avengers television show when I am out driving my Elan. My Caterham equally draws attention, as it's always about the beginning of the Prisoner show with Patrick McGoohan driving his 7 into television history.

With the future of Lotus secured in the Lotus Emiras, currently being driven on our nations back roads, I cannot wait to see how the community develops and unfolds as another chapter is written boosted by the upcoming deliveries of the Lotus Eletre, and the Lotus Emeya. We will see all of these Lotus cars on the streets of Watkins Glen soon.

Stop by, say hi to the LOONYs, and be part of the community and excitement that is owning a Lotus.

Stop by and see the LOONYs and experience the camaraderie of one of the best car clubs in the North East United States.





IMRRC Center Conversation

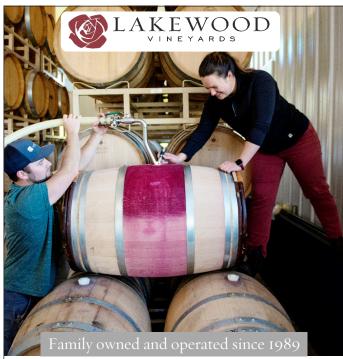
Saturday, September 7
"100 Years of MG" narrated by Glen Moore
"One Track Mind" the new book by artist, Bob Gillespie

After the excitement of Friday's Grand Prix Festival, you are invited to a very special Center Conversation event at the International Motor Racing Research Center on Saturday, September 7 from 1-3PM. Glen Moore is a noted MG Historian, Enthusiast, Restorer, Writer, Racer...and Owner of the Bob Fergus MGTD that competed in the 1952 Queen Catherine Cup race here at The Glen. Glen will offer a fascinating commentary on both the manufacturing and racing heritage of the car we honor as our featured marque at the Festival.

Noted local artist and race enthusiast, Bob Gillespie will share the dais as he introduces his new book "One Track Mind" to the public during Festival weekend. The book will feature 95 paintings, 25 drawings, and 4 murals that will chronicle more than 50 years of Bob's amazing and evocative racing artwork.

After the formal program, both gentlemen will return to the Research Center. Glen to speak more about MG history and the Fergus car which will be on display, and Bob to sell and autograph copies of "One Track Mind."

Make your Festival weekend more complete by joining us for this great program. Admission is free. For more information, call the IMRRC at (607) 535-9044.



Tasting and sales daily Tours by appointment Mon- Sat 10am-5pm Sunday noon-5pm

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FLX MG Journey

On Thursday, September 5th the Lakewood Vineyards FLX MG Journey took place.

Starting off with a quiet morning at Lafayette Park in downtown Watkins Glen, where drivers were able to meet others and display their cars. The car show lasted from 10am to 2pm. At 2:30 all the MGs assembled left on a wonderful scenic drive through the heart of the Finger Lakes. By late afternoon the group stopped at our sponsor, Lakewood Vineyards on Seneca Lake for tastings on the deck, a commemorative bottle of Riesling, and tours of the winery. Lakewood Vineyards is located just 3 miles north of Watkins Glen on State Route 14. From there they headed to the Main Deck in Penn Yan, a fabulous restaurant specializing in locally-sourced products, with spectacular sunset views overlooking Keuka Lake...a serene ending to the day.

What a great way to prepare the drivers and their cars for the coming day's attractions of the 2024 Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival.







The Grand Prix Story

BY ARTHUR H. RICHARDS

This story originally appeared in the official 1950 International Sports Car Grand Prix of Watkins Glen program.

At the end of World War II there was a great desire among sprots car enthusiasts to revive road racing in America as it was known on the Continent, and as it had been known in America in the days of the Vanderbilt Cup Races before World War I. In 1948 the obstacles facing such a venture were many, and racing on the roads seemed an impossible thing.

The Watkins Glen race was conceived in the mind of a young man from Youngstown, Ohio-Cameron R. Argetsinger-who had spent much time in the Seneca Lake country. Encouraged by Russell G. Sceli, president of the Sports Car Club of America, Inc., he placed his idea before the Watkins Glen Chamber of Commerce. The instant enthusiasm of Arthur H. Richards, who actually presented the plan to the Chamber of Commerce, and Donald L. Brubacker, both of Watkins Glen, infected the community, which wholeheartedly supported the project. Cameron R. Argetsinger chose a course for the race, and as general race chairman for the Sports Car Club of America has organized the Grand Prix in 1948, 1949 and 1950.

Leon R. Grosjean, Henry Valent, and Eaton Hurlbut of Watkins Glen have headed the local Grand Prix committee in turn, Mayor Alan D. Erway from the first took upon himself the responsibility of obtaining permission to close and police the roads, Lester Smalley and a hundred other Watkins Glen citizens served upon the "Committee of One Hundred" that made possible the successful running of these three road races, and firmly re-established this great sport in the United States.

From the Sports Car Club came the cars and drivers, and the technical knowledge necessary to organize and run the Grand Prix races. Alec Ulmann, chairman of Activities for the SCCA, William F. Milliken, Jr., of the Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory, Nils B. Mickelson, secretary of the club, and many others pooled their knowledge and abilities to revive the sport of road racing. This revival was the result of a concerted effort by many people. A vast organization was assembled, designed to function just one day a year, and its successful operation could not have been achieved without the unreserved cooperation of everyone concerned.

With each running of the race speeds have gone up, more and faster cars have appeared. For those who participated, however, perhaps no race will every bring the thrill of the start of the first event in 1948. Twenty-seven snarling sports cars lined up, two abreast, on Franklin Street, and the first mass start with its shattering noise and confusion sent them off round the 6.6 mile circuit. The race was hotly fought and produced thrills for crowd and driver alike. Bill Milliken in his Bugatti, in a duel for third place with Haig Ksayian, overslid and rolled over at famous "Milliken's Corner," and Denver Cornett spun at Stone Bridge in White's hollow and landed upside down in Glen Creek. No one

was hurt, and Denny had his M.G. ready, with borrowed wheels, for the main event an hour later.

Frank T. Griswold, of Wayne, Pa., won the first Grand Prix in an Alpha Romeo, with Briggs Cunningham, of Green Farms, Conn., second in his BuMerc. The last lap saw Cunningham pass Griswold into first place, but the superior Alfa Romeo brakes told on the long downhill stretch into the village, and Griswold repassed to win. Haig Ksayian in Cunningam's supercharged M.G. was third after a marvellous display of driving.

The Second Annual Grand Prix in 1949 was sanctioned by the American Automobile Association, which enabled this third race [1950] to be run under authorization of the Federation Internationale de l'Automobilie in Paris, the international governing body for motor racing. Alec Ulmann initiated the negotiations which resulted in the Grand Prix being officially recognized by the national automobile club and American representative to the international body. Thanks to his efforts, Watkins Glen is now a full fledged International event, the only such event in America besides the Indianapolis 500 Miles Race.

Nearly seventy entries were received in 1949 and the first race, the four lap Seneca Cup Race, saw 39 cars backed into the curb for the Le Mans type start. George Weaver, of Boston, Mass., in his red Maserati was first away, and led through-out, with Briggs Cunningham second in his Ferrari, and Sam Collier third in a supercharged M.G.

Forty-five cars lined up for the mass start of the Grand Prix. Milliken's FWD. Huntoon's Alfa Romeo, Robert's BuMerc, Cunningham's Ferrari, and Miles Collier's Ford-Riley, all fought for the lead, and on the lap of the 99 mile race Miles collier, of Everglades, Fla., passed Roberts and Cunningham to win at a new record speed for the race. Cunningham and Roberts were second and third.

The first race attracted 10,000 spectators, and it is claimed that 100,000 persons jammed Watkins Glen for the races in 1949. What the attendance will be this year no one can tell, but the huge entry list, the fine cars and the international flavor may well bring in the 350,000 people that some predict. You count them.



Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival Concours d'Elegance 2024

By Joe Cali

The first Watkins Glen Concours was held in conjunction with the 1948 race. Back then it was actually a parade of cars between races. Cars were placed in the State Park entrance prior to the races. Between the races, the parade of cars did a lap of the race circuit. Over 50 cars participated in the parade.

In 1949, the event became a judged Concours with 5 classes. Multi-time Indianapolis 500 winner Wilber Shaw was one of the judges. The winner of Class 3 for 1930 to 1937 cars was TV Star Dave Garroway's Jaguar 100.

This was the beginning of a tradition that would last for many years. Through the 1950s and 60s, the event was held at various venues around Watkins Glen including the Schuyler County Fairgrounds, Lafayette Park and Watkins Glen International. These early shows were sponsored by the Sports Car Club of America, Antique Auto Club of America and the MG Car Club.

When the Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival began in 1993, the Concours d'Elegance was revived and held in the Watkins Glen State Park.

The Concours 'Elegance continues to be held in the main parking lot of the beautiful Watkins Glen State Park. For 2024, the featured marque is the British MG. The MG has a long history at Watkins Glen. In the early street races, MGs

made up a large part of the field of cars. 2024 also marks the 100th anniversary of the MG.

Lotus of Western NY provides the "Best In Show" Steuben Glass Trophy, a lovely glass bowl. Other awards include the Best of Marque award (MG this year), and the Historic Award, presented by the International Motor Racing Research Center, to a car which would have raced at Watkins Glen. Lotus of Western NY, based in Amherst, has been a Festival supporter for years, and owner Matt Serwacki is very excited to sponsor this popular and well-attended car show for the first time this year! Be sure to see Matt and the Concours cars at the state park parking lot, right in back of the festival stage!





Roadster Tour Just For Open-Top, Two-Seaters

BY ERIC NAVESTAD

The 21st Annual Hazlitt Sporting Roadster Tour is a spectacular event, designed for those who own open- top, two-seat roadsters of any vintage and truly love to get out there and drive their cars on the most engaging roads in the region. We call this the "Running of the Roadsters."

Each year the route is changed so those returning for yet another year can expect something new, but we do revisit our favorite stretches of asphalt often. The Friday after Labor Day is packed with lots of great driving on really fun roads, a stop at Hazlitt 1852 Vineyards in Hector, and the extraordinary two Cayuga Health System laps around the original 1948 6.6 mile Watkins Glen road course.

All participants get lunch at Hazlitt 1852 Vineyards, a commemorative bottle of Hazlitt wine and a special dash plaque for their roadster.

Confirmed participants sign in at Havana Glen Park in Montour Falls. The route is a nice blend of scenic and fun roads in the Finger Lakes Region. Detailed instructions and tour routes are provided at sign-in. The tour of approximately 150 miles is divided into several seat-friendly blocks of time. Participants wanting a shorter drive may start later, cutting the drive down to approximately 100 miles.

At the end of the tour, all the roadsters convene at Watkins Glen State Park, where they grid into formation for their two full laps of the Old Course. Once the call is received, the roadsters take to the Old Course in grand fashion, running the very same course the racecars ran 76 years ago.

While driving the Old Course laps, you are part of the show. Festival goers line the streets downtown and cheer when the cars pass by. On the country roads outside the village, spectators gather in fields waiting for the seemingly endless parade of fine sports cars to drive by.

After the parade laps, all the sporting roadsters will find themselves downtown, where special reserved parking is provided for the rest of the Grand Prix Festival. This parking not only allows drivers to showcase their special cars in the lot across from the Concours d'Elegance, but provides them a chance to wander around downtown and take in all the Friday night activities that have helped to make the Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival so popular.

Plan on joining us next year, and be sure to sign up early! www.grandprixfestival.com/roadster.html.













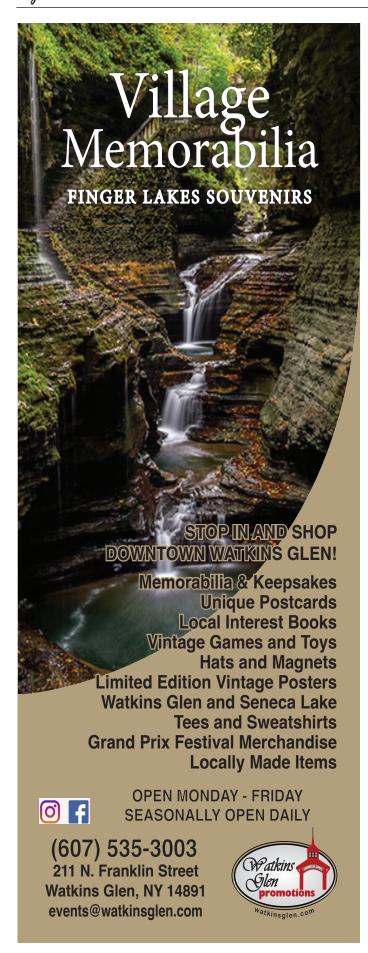






Nick Fraboni in Le Sabre being driven by opera singer James Melton





REV27's Southern Tier Supercars

REV27 is a new auto club based in Buffalo, NY. We are thrilled to introduce a new group to the Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival. This annual event, renowned for celebrating the heritage of motor racing, offers the perfect platform to showcase the evolution of automotive engineering. Our group, Southern Tier Supercars, is open to vehicles that fall under the "supercar, exotic, or unique" category, representing the pinnacle of car evolution and inviting owners to participate in a memorable cruise through the scenic roads of upstate New York.

The journey starts in Buffalo, but participants can join at various points along the way. The cruise will cover approximately 150 miles, featuring some of the most beautiful and engaging roads in the region, ensuring that drivers can fully appreciate their vehicles without concerns. The journey culminates in the Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival, which pays tribute to the original Grand Prix races with parade laps on the historic 6.6-mile road course, recreating the ambiance of the 1948-52 Watkins Glen street races. Participants and spectators will witness the evolution of motor vehicles, from vintage classics to cutting-edge supercars.

Last year, the festival attracted thousands of spectators who lined the streets to cheer as the parade of vehicles passed by. After the parade laps, participants will enjoy reserved parking provided by the Grand Prix Festival. This exclusive parking not only showcases these special cars for the public to admire but also grants access to the lively Friday night activities that make the festival so popular.

All participants will receive a box lunch, a decal sticker for the cruise, and professional photographs featured on our social media platforms. This event is an excellent opportunity for supercar enthusiasts to come together, share their passion, and experience the thrill of driving their extraordinary vehicles in a historic and picturesque setting.

Join us for an unforgettable experience as we honor the rich heritage of motor racing at the Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival. Whether you're looking to enjoy your supercar before the season ends or to be part of a spectacular automotive event, REV27's Southern Tier Supercars promises a thrilling adventure. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to drive, showcase, and celebrate automotive excellence.

Interested? Feel free to sign up or get more details at rev-27. com. We can customize this event to you and your supercars' special needs. We look forward to seeing you on the road and at the festival!



Stone Bridge Driver Events

Part of what makes the Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival so unique are the Stone Bridge Driver Events. Unlike most local strawberry, apple, or garlic festivals, we are not only celebrating the birth of US Road Racing, but at the same time we are consciously celebrating the whole gearhead way of life. This festival is all about having fun with cars, plain and simple. Thousands of people show up each year to watch hundreds of different kinds and classes of cars participate in our Stone Bridge Driver events. The participants are known as "Stone Bridge Drivers " after the prominent and historic Stone Bridge on the Old Course, and they take part in many fun activities during the day. These include rallye routes, which are anywhere from 40-mile rides to more like 150 mile rides. Then, at some point all of our Stone Bridge Drivers get to take their two Cayuga Health System laps of the "Old Course" right in front of a cheering and enthusiastic crowd.

The Glenora Run was our first Stone Bridge Driver Event many years ago, and now it is just one of eleven, plus one on the Thursday before our event, and one that happens in May as encouragement for our Stone Bridge Drivers to bring their pride and joy out of winter hibernation.

The second Stone Bridge Driver Event was the Glenkhana. The name was coined by Roger Garnett, a long time vintage racer. At first the Glenkhana was sort of part of the Glenora Run in that those Glenora Run participants who wanted to, could also sign on to do the Glenkhana. But it soon proved too cumbersome to tie those two events together and we changed things so that you could do either one, but definitely not both.

Each year we invented and added more Stone Bridge Driver Events. And each year I would get requests from people who wanted to participate in more than one of our events on the same day. And each year I got to explain to those folks that it is just impossible to make that happen because all of our Stone Bridge Driver Events are going on simultaneously.

I am happy to announce that 2024 is the exception to that rule. Let me introduce Glen More from DeLand, Florida. We all know where that is. It must be right next to DeWater, Florida.

Anyway, he is a vintage racer who happens to be the proud owner of a 1949 MG-TC. This is not just any old MG-TC. This is Robert Fergus' car that raced at Watkins Glen in 1952. It won races from Elkhart Lake to Tampa, Florida, and was always driven to the races. It is set up now as it was on the day it raced at Watkins Glen.

This year the Fergus TC was invited to Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance. It won Best of Class in Race Cars 1946-1955. This car also raced at the SVRA races in Watkins Glen in 2022 and 2023 and also ran the SVRA Race Tribute Laps on the Old Course during those years.

When Glen first contacted me last year, all he wanted to do was help the Festival in any way that he could because he knew that MG would be our Featured Marque this year. Since he owns such a significantly historic MG that had so much history here, he had to be as much a part of this event as he could be.

At first I gave him the standard line about only being able to do one Stone Bridge Driver Event, but because of his dedication and determination I decided to just find ways for him to be as much a part (or should I say heart) of this festival as possible.

Glen Moore and his MG-TC race car are signed up for the FLX MG Journey on Thursday. Then for Friday he will first show up at the start of the Tour De Marque/MG and when those cars start their Rallye Route he will peel off and make his way downtown to participate in the SVRA Tech Inspection at Smalley's Garage where that particular car went through tech inspection back in 1952. After that he will catch back up with the Tour De Marque/MG group for lunch and then do their two Cayuga Heath System Laps of the "Old Course" with them. And if that wasn't enough for one day, as that groups completes their laps and goes to their display parking at Lafayette Park, my traffic crew will extract him and his car from the group and get him parked on Franklin Street along with all of the race cars that will be staging to take part in the SVRA Old Course Tribute Laps at the end of the day.

So, when you see his car on the street and around town make sure you give him a big cheer to let him know how much we all appreciate his car and his sincere willingness to help out.

Let's keep having fun with cars,

Casey Creamer

Chair, Stone Bridge Drivers Events











Tech inspection Reenactment at Smalley's

Clipboard in hand, she notes if the car has a fire extinguisher. Does it have a safety harness? A roll bar? How do the wheels look? And that exhaust system, is it OK?

All these items are on a long list reviewed by "Flossie Smalley," during the Smalley's Garage Tech Inspection Reenactment, first thing in the morning beginning at 9:30 am. The first event of Friday's Grand Prix Festival is sponsored by the Sportscar Vintage Racing Association (SVRA).

Located at Smalley's, still at 204 S. Franklin St. since opening in 1941, the Tech Inspection Reenactment is a popular event for both spectators and the owners of vintage cars who hand over their vehicles for "Flossie's" scrutiny. Florence Smalley, who owned Smalley's Garage with her husband, Lester, was involved with race car tech inspections from the first competition in 1948.

In the first year, inspections were done at the various local gas stations and garages along Franklin Street. William F. Milliken Jr., George B. Weaver and Florence together checked the cars. As the entries grew in 1949, it was recognized that a better-organized central location was needed for inspection. The Smalleys offered their garage and gas station, where they did general auto repairs and sold foreign cars.

Famous marques of the time, which were sold and maintained, included MG, Morris Minor, Triumph, Renault, Riley and Citroen. Even today, Smalley's Garage remains the place to go for foreign sports car repair, and the small, stone-faced building looks much the same today as it did in those early days 75 years ago.

A large tent would be erected behind Smalley's in which the race car inspections were carried out. The cars were routed behind the garage and then through the tent in two lines. Passing through several "stations," the cars were checked for safety equipment, appearance, proper numbers and mechanical soundness. If all tests were passed, an "OK" sticker was placed on the car and it was ready to race.

Even after 1952, when cars no longer raced through the streets, race car inspection continued at Smalley's Garage, until it was moved to the track in 1962. The tech inspection procedure established by Florence and Alfred Momo is still being used today in Sports Car Club of America sports car racing.

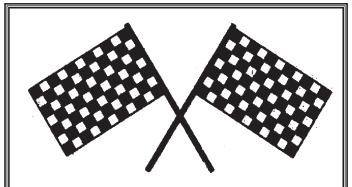
Visit the original showroom and enjoy the historic memorabilia on display. See the large metal plaque that was placed in the old tech inspection building to honor Florence, who passed away in March 1967. The plaque reads: "Florence Weaver Smalley Technical Garage, Technical Inspector 1948-1960."

During the 1998 Grand Prix Festival, a Drivers Walk of Fame stone was placed in front of the garage in honor of Lester Smalley, who drove at Watkins Glen in the 1956 Glen Classic. Lester drove his last race at the dirt track in Dundee, NY at the age of 82. He died in August 2004.







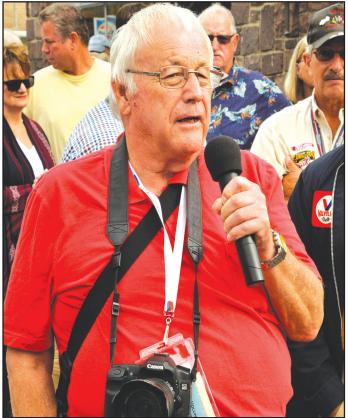


SMALLEY'S GARAGE

The official inspection station for the Grand Prix from 1948 through 1961!

204-208 S. Franklin St., Watkins Glen Across From Burger King

> Monday - Thursday 8-5 607-535-4422





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Chemung Canal Leading Sponsor

Chemung Canal Trust Company is proud to once again serve as leading sponsor of the Grand Prix Festival of Watkins Glen. Founded in Elmira in 1833, Chemung Canal is the oldest locally owned and managed community bank in New York State. In fact, this year, we are celebrating our 190th anniversary. We take our responsibility as a community leader seriously and are pleased to continue our support of the Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival, highlighting the importance of racing within the history of our region.

The relationship between Chemung Canal Trust Company and Watkins Glen goes back the entirety of our 190 years with the completion of the Chemung Canal, "the waterway." The canal allowed barges to move coal, lumber, and agricultural products from the Chemung River in Elmira to Seneca Lake at Watkins Glen and then northward to the Erie Canal, so the goods could make their way into the world market. The waterway contributed significantly to the growth and prosperity of the Southern Tier.

The New York State Legislature approved the formation of our bank in 1833, in an effort to assist businesses and residents with their accumulation of wealth resulting from the opportunity to ship goods to a larger and more diverse market through the canal system.

At that time, land transportation was just beginning to gear up. Stagecoach lines were still thriving. The steam- propelled locomotive had made its maiden voyage from Albany to Schenectady only two years earlier. It was 27 years before the pony express reduced mail delivery from months to days. In addition, the first gasoline-powered automobile was still 52 years down the road.

Today, as we celebrate racing in Watkins Glen, Chemung Canal Trust Company has grown from humble beginnings into a \$2.8 billion, full-service financial institution. With 31 offices located in 13 counties in New York and Bradford County, Pennsylvania, Chemung Canal continues to meet the financial needs of families, businesses and organizations within our footprint. Later this year, we will also be opening a regional banking center in Williamsville!

While much has changed since our founding, one principle has remained the same—the importance of providing quality products and services, combined with superior customer service to our clients and communities. This "high touch," personal service philosophy is what sets us apart from our competition.

As you enjoy the sights and sounds of this one-of-a-kind event, we encourage you to experience the life we live every day in the beautiful Finger Lakes—tour the wineries, sample the food, visit museums, take a walk through the state park, stop at our local businesses and enjoy the friendly hospitality that makes our region one of the premier tourist destinations in the world!

To learn more about Chemung Canal or our products and services, stop by any of our convenient locations or visit chemung-canal.com.

Chemung Canal Trust Company

Proudly serving the Southern Tier, Finger Lakes, the Capital Region of New York, and Northern Tier of Pennsylvania for nearly 190 years. We offer quality products and services tailored to fit your needs and a team of professionals to guide you through every step of the way.



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Founders' Tour 2024

By CARL D. BENSON

Ryan William Vineyard, in Burdett, NY, presents the Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festivals' Founders' Tour! We welcome you to join us for a most unique gathering of sports and classic automobiles. The invigorating Tour is one of the thirteen classic Stone Bridge Driver events this year representing about 100 extraordinary vintage and classic cars as well as, yes, electric sports cars. By entering, you become an Official Stone Bridge Driver celebrating the beginning of Post WWII Road Racing in the United States at World Famous Watkins Glen NY! The Founders' Tour travels the historic Original 6.6-mile Grand Prix Road Course as a stunning group display for all to see!

Ryan William Vineyard is convenient, pleasant to visit, only 6 minutes north of Watkins Glen and can be reached at 607-882-9098.

Festival day, Friday, beginning at the Ryan William Vineyard, Tasting Room and Restaurant, features an exciting welcome, a magnificent road tour, consisting of two cross-country routes, lunch, two laps of the original Grand Prix course as well as special reserved group parking in Downtown Watkins Glen for all to enjoy.

All our Festival guests will welcome the extraordinary Founders' Tour as it rolls its way along downtown to a special reserved and uniquely accessible parking location across from the State Park Entrance. The Founders' display complements the famous Grand Prix Festival and is open for everyone to enjoy.

We exclusively design the Tour field into two separate routes, Cruise & Spirit, initially departing from Ryan William Vineyard and offering drivers the exciting road challenges the original Grand Prix drivers encountered on their way to the winner's circle. The Stone Bridge Driver and guest will enjoy the region's most spectacular world-class driving topography a motoring experience can offer with tight switchbacks, gorgeous lake views, dotted with vineyards and their fine wine cellars. Following the cross-country tour the group stages for the featured motoring display, the 6.6 mi. Original Grand Prix Course Pace Drive, steep in the history of our motor racing heritage.

At Ryan William Vineyard, the drivers arrive at 9:00 am Festival Day and will enjoy the sponsor's ambiance, pleasant hospitality, and camaraderie. And, of course, there's time at Ryan William Vineyard to share one's automotive and driving interests with other tour guests as well!

After a special warm welcome, drivers briefing, and a Ryan William Vineyard gourmet box lunch, the tour bursts alive with excitement at about 11 a.m. for the challenging cross-country tours. The drivers ultimately reach downtown Watkins Glen and grid on Franklin Street at the original Grand Prix Start/Finish line to take their Original 6.6 mi Grand Prix Course. pace laps.

We invite you to join the absolute fun next year. But enroll early, as limited openings fill quickly. Follow us on the web, at www.grandprixfestival.com/Stone Bridge Drivers Events or by phone at (607) 535-3003.

Remember to visit The Ryan William Vineyard, Tasting Room and Restaurant for fine wine and dining!





Serving the Highest Quality Local Beer, Wine & Distilled Spirits with Locally Raised and Grown Food

The International Motor Racing Research Center Where Motor Racing History Comes Alive!

In 1996 Watkins Glen International track officials and community leaders began discussions on how to best celebrate the upcoming 50th Anniversary of the first post- World War II road race in America. That race took place on the village streets and public roads surrounding the State Park in Watkins Glen in 1948.

The idea that evolved from these discussions was to add an addition to the existing Watkins Glen Public Library. The small but impressive collection of motorsports books that were in the library would be moved next door to begin the Research Center's archival library. The project was spearheaded by Jean Argetsinger, a longtime President of the Library Board, and the wife of Cameron Argetsinger, the man who brought racing to Watkins Glen in 1948. Money was raised, the building was built, books were moved, and the International Motor Racing Research Center opened in 1998 in time to celebrate the milestone 50th anniversary of the "rebirth" of road racing in the United States.

The mission of the IMRRC is "To Collect, Preserve, and Share the History of Motorsports." Our archival library collection now contains over 6000 volumes, making it one of the premier motorsports libraries in the world. In addition to the vast book collection, the Center also houses racing and automotive periodicals that date back to the 1930's, the visual history of the sport in films, DVD's and VHS recordings, race programs from a variety of tracks around the world, and thousands of photos and slide collections from virtually every discipline of the sport. The Center holds the print, photo, and microfilm archives of National Speed Sport News which for more than 70 years was THE racing newspaper of record in the United States. Trophies, posters, and racing artwork are also important components of the archives. The IMRRC also is the 'caretaker' of the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) archives, an organization celebrating its 80th anniversary in 2024!

The IMRRC was established as an archival library/research institution and to that purpose, we remain true. Researchers from around the world utilize our archival collections on a regular basis. Scores of books have been written and more than a few movies and TV documentaries have been made with the assistance of the Research Center's resources. The SCCA archives are used almost daily to assist individuals looking for past race results, the history of a specific car or driver, or specs needed for building a car for vintage racing.

While the Center was never intended to be a "car museum" we routinely have a race car on display. For the casual visitor, the car is a great "conversation starter" ... a "photo op"... and allows us to easily slide into conversation about what the Center is all about. Display cars rotate routinely and reflect the fact that the IMRRC's collections encompass every discipline of motorsports. 2024 has seen a 1950's Scarab replica, the Purdy Deuce, an Oswego supermodified, the Camoradi #4 Corvette that finished 10th in the 1960 Le Mans 24 Hours, and a Reynard Formula Atlantic. This Fall we'll roll in a Top Fuel dragster from the 1960's.

Reynard Formula Atlantic currently on display at the IMRRC



Visitors also enjoy watching the video "25 Years at Speed: The Watkins Glen Story" which shows the evolution of racing at The Glen from 1948-1972. Our Center Conversations series of programs feature interesting discussions on a wide variety of motorsports topics led by individuals with years of experience on the day's subject. The next Conversation is scheduled for Saturday, September 7 and will highlight "100 Years of MG" and artist, Bob Gillespie's new book "One Track Mind." Admission is free and open to all.

The IMRRC is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization that exists solely through the support of those who value its mission. Annual membership begins at \$25.00, and members enjoy special savings on tickets to racing events at Watkins Glen International. Another means of supporting the IMRRC is through participation in our annual sweepstakes. This year we offer an exhilarating 2024 Corvette Z06, complete with Z07 package. Additionally, the Cameron R. Argetsinger Award is presented each year to honor an exceptional member of the motorsport community as well as serve as a major fundraiser. This year's gala is scheduled for Thursday, September 12 at the Corning Museum of Glass and will honor Zak Brown, CEO of McLaren Racing. Tickets are available for purchase online. More information on the Award gala and any of our programs can be found on our website: www.racingarchives. org .

The evolution of motorsports reflects the evolution of the automobile...and the invention of the automobile changed the world! Our mission is not to "change the world" so much as it is to preserve the history of the world we all love – the world of motorsports! It's a fascinating world and we invite you to come visit and see for yourself!



The Glenora Run

By TERRIE SAUTTER

Imagine - Driving your own sports car down the hill into Watkins Glen and rounding Milliken's Corner to the cheers of hundreds of spectators – on the same roads that Denver Cornett, John Fitch, Otto Linton, Bill Milliken, Sam and Miles Collier drove at speed – now that' a great way to experience history!

In 1948 local sports car enthusiast Cameron Argetsinger envisioned an amateur road race on the streets of Watkins Glen. That first "Watkins Glen Grand Prix" began a future of automotive excitement in this village that continues to this day. Today's drivers can relive the experience of those days of Racing in the Streets as participants in the Grand Prix Festival of Watkins Glen Stone Bridge Driver Events.

THAT very experience brings all of the Grand Prix Festival of Watkins Glen Stone Bridge Driver events close to the hearts of so many sports car enthusiasts! The Glenora Run - the first Stone Bridge Driver event - was soon joined by seven other driving events, all of which have roots in the Glenora Run format. That thrill of driving the same road course as the 1948 Grand Prix greats spread like wildfire and now entices over 600 vehicles to participate every September. This year, six other events join that seven to fill the streets with great cars.

Early Friday morning, while downtown Watkins Glen is still preparing for other Festival events to begin, 100 vintage sports cars gather at Glenora Wine Cellars, nine miles north of the village on Route 14. Drivers and navigators prepare for a lively drive on one

of several rallye routes through adjoining counties – this is Glenora Run!

Among vintage car events, Stone Bridge Driver events are unique; car show participants rarely have the opportunity to be the stars of the day as they drive their cars as part of the event. In Watkins Glen, that's the raison d'etre: as the first Stone Bridge Driver event, Glenora Run honors the "vintage" aspect of the Festival by including only sports and classic cars that represent automobiles aimed at the spirit of sports car driving. Watch for a change in eligibility year and possibly your chance to join us.

Glenora Run rallies depart Glenora Wine Cellars on one of several twisty-turny 50- to 65-mile rallye-style routes, while driver and navigator test their skill (and relationship) as they watch for checkpoints, follow clues and answer questions along the way. Routes converge in Montour Falls to be staged for a lap through the Schuyler Hospital Seneca View Nursing Facility parking lot – aka the "Seneca View Chicane." The Seneca View parking lot lap has become a highly-anticipated tradition for the drivers as well as the residents and staff who wave racing flags and cheer on the drivers – remembering days past when they saw similar cars racing through the streets in the village from positions on the curb selling programs or as corner-workers, medical personnel or at Smalley's Garage helping with inspections.

After lunch and awards, "Glenora Runners" take to the streets again for two laps of the original road course -as do all Stone Bridge Drivers. For many, this is the most significant part of the day - to



re-trace the route that the original race cars followed from 1948-52. All Stone Bridge Drivers share the thrill that Briggs Cunningham, Cameron Argetsinger, and others felt on these country roads. It can be a little tricky to navigate the historic course, as Denver Cornett discovered when he entered the Stone Bridge in Hidden Valley that now bears his name and headed out the other side, only to find himself upside-down in the stream below.

After the excitement of these laps of the old course, the Glenora Run cars assemble on Franklin Street for spectator review until the day's events are over.

The Glenora Run is much enjoyed by the participants and registration fills early. Along with the other Stone Bridge Driver events, the Glenora Run is a great reason the Grand Prix Festival of Watkins Glen is one-of-a-kind in sports car circles, nationwide. Join the fun!!

Don't wait, next year's event will fill-up quickly. Register now online at www.grandprixfestival.com/Stone Bridge Driver Events or call Michaela at (607) 535-3003. This event will sell out.



Volunteer

It takes over **100** volunteers to make the Grand Prix Festival the event we all love. We need you. Whatever your skill set, we have a place for you. Please help us out. Contact Michaela Christensen at Watkins Glen Promotions: 607 535 3003

events@watkinsglen.com

"Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless."

The Watkins Glen Drivers Walk of Fame

The Watkins Glen Drivers Walk of Fame was established in 1993 by the Watkins Glen Historic Racing Committee with support from the Schuyler County Chamber of Commerce and Watkins Glen International to honor the drivers who have competed on the Glen's world-famous circuit since 1948.

The International Motor Racing Research Center helps the Historic Racing Committee develop the inscription for the Walk of Fame markers. The majority of markers are located in the east and west sidewalks along Franklin Street. All the markers in the Walk of Fame are sponsored by private donations.

To be considered for induction into the Walk of Fame, the driver must have driven a race car in competition at one of the four race courses used at the Glen since 1948. The first person inducted into the Walk of Fame was the gentleman whose vision it was to bring racing to Watkins Glen, Cameron Argetsinger. His block was placed in the Drivers Walk of Fame at the original racing start-finish line in front of the Schuyler County Court House in 1993.

Each September the Watkins Glen Historic Racing Committee adds from three to six new drivers to the Walk of Fame, inducting them at the annual Grand Prix Festival the first Friday after Labor Day.

A tour of the Drivers Walk of Fame is a walk through racing history. It is at the Glen that road racing had its rebirth in 1948, and since that time it has been known as the Home of Road Racing in America. The Walk of Fame in front of the Court House is reserved for those drivers who competed from those early street races, from 1948 to 1952.

Begin your tour at Smalley's Garage at 204 S. Franklin St., where race cars had to pass inspection before being allowed to compete. Proceed north to the Court House and follow the path almost to Seneca Lake before crossing Franklin Street and enjoying the names on the west side. A few drivers are honored with markers at the Racing Research Center at 610 S. Decatur St.





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Motorcycle Sporting Tour



By KARL SMOLENSKI

Early Friday morning, the parking lot of Lane's Yamaha just 2 miles north of Watkins Glen on Route 14 fills with the motorcycles of yester-year: Triumph, MV Agusta, Honda, Norton...

The air is filled with the bark of singles and bellowing twins and perhaps a whiff of two stroke oil. Vintage motorcycles are back for another year as part of the Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival!

This sporting tour of the Finger Lakes and the surrounding countryside is part of the Stone Bridge Driver events. The Lane's Yamaha Motorcycle Rallye is for riders and passengers on vintage, classic, and stunning motorcycles of all ages. A rousing early-morning ride on hidden gems of roads, through forest and glen. After lunch the riders make their way to the Grand Prix Fes-

tival, where the bikes will be on display all afternoon at the Community Bank and in action around the original 1948 Watkins Glen road course.

While you may be at the Grand Prix Festival to see the fabulous race cars and the vintage cars of days past, take a minute to enjoy the collection of motorcycles in the Community Bank parking lot. Their owners will be there and happy to discuss their bikes and how you too could take part next year, as we plan to grow the event to include yet more vintage bikes incoming years.

Classic motorcycles make a great addition to any gearhead's stable; most are still affordable, easier to work on than

a vintage car and take up less storage space. Talk to our riders about how you can find a classic bike for your collection, and enjoy taking part in the Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival. So, you have no excuses: Find a bike, grab a helmet and join the fun next year!







Glenkhana Course all about Driving Fun

By DANIELLE HAUTANIEMI

What could be more fun than a handful of sports cars navigating traffic cones, executing "driving games of skill" and overcoming other obstacles, all against the clock? Nothing but the Hector Wine Company Glenkhana!

Drivers of skill, accompanied by their navigators of daring – and trust! – accept the challenge of the Glenkhana. After an introductory walk-through of the obstacle course, drivers are timed as they put the cars through their paces.

Drivers navigate slaloms and enter gates – forward and back – touching, but not "killing," cones. Driving the Glenkhana Course will be all about Driving Fun complicated with silly, skill-testing tasks – sometimes playacting, drawing, answering outrageous questions – both in and out of the cars. Teams go head-to-head against the clock and each other.

Each year, the Glenkhana committee tries to incorporate themes reflecting the featured marque of the year. A plaque will be awarded for the best balance of driving skills and parking lot humor. What will it take to capture the event's top award?

Truly as much fun for spectators as participants, the Glenkhana packs an amazing amount of automotive action into a small space, with fellow enthusiasts and their beloved vehicles as the main attraction. While some drivers look forward to pitting their skills

against the devious committee's new design year after year, each year new Festival participants learn the ropes, which is all the fun. Some folks attack with speed, letting finesse take the high ground, others learn that slow and steady often wins the race.

Stop by the Glenkhana course across the street from the entrance to the Watkins Glen State Park, on the east side of Franklin Street at 10th Street.

The fun and action start at 10:30 a.m.!





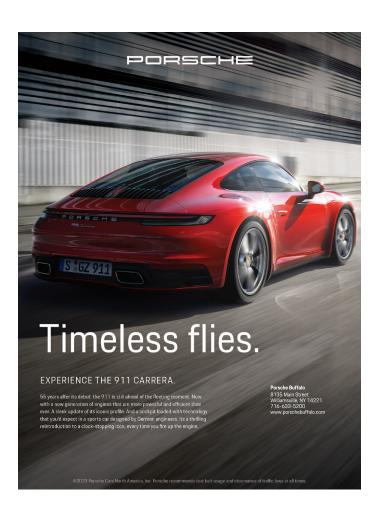


Porsche Speedster 70th Anniversary

The very first Porsche Speedster, chassis #80002, was unveiled by Max Hoffman at the Watkins Glen Seventh International Sports Car Grand Prix on Friday, September 17, 1954. The strippeddown, Signal Red sporting version of the Porsche 356 took first place in the Glen's Concours d'Elegance, cementing its legacy as the quintessential Porsche sports car. This is a distinction which it still holds today, now 70 years later.



1954 PORSCHE 356 1300 SUPER



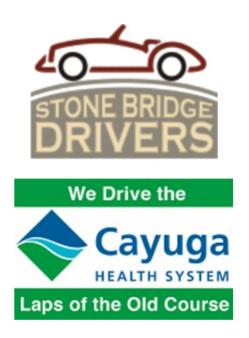
The 70th anniversary of the historic moment when the Porsche Speedster was first introduced to the world will be celebrated where it began, at the Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival. On Friday, September 6, 2024, Porsche Speedsters and their owners from around the country will gather in the village to celebrate, and to partake in the festivities of the annual festival. Watch for these rare cars as they participate in two Cayuga Health System Laps of the old circuit. The cars will be parked at 800 N. Franklin Street. Special thanks to Porsche Buffalo for sponsoring this event.

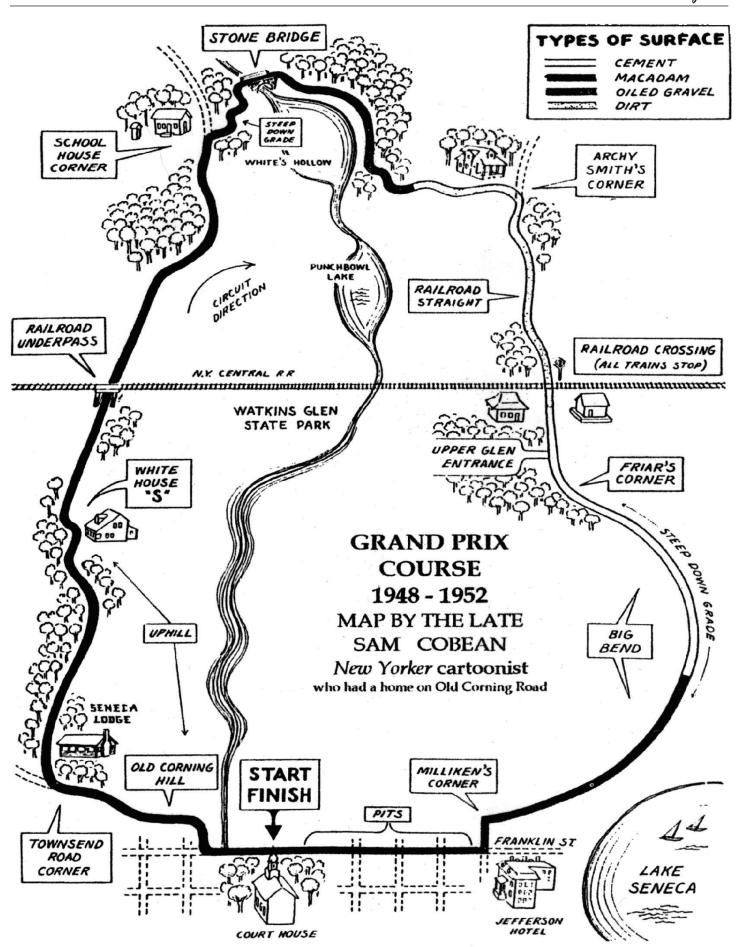
Porsche to Headline 2025 Festival

September 5, 2025 will see Watkins Glen's streets filled with thousands of racing fans for the 32nd annual Grand Prix Festival. In addition to Porsche being the featured marque for the Stone Bridge Driver Tour de Marque event on Friday, there will be an exciting daylong Porsche only event on Thursday, Sept. 4th – The FLX Porsche Journey which includes a show, rally and dinner.

All Grand Prix Festival of Watkins Glen Stone Bridge Driver events feature a minimum of two laps around the original 6.6 mile road circuit, as used from 1948-1952. You can experience the thrill of coming down into the Village of Watkins Glen around famed Milliken's Corner to the cheers of thousands of sports car enthusiasts. Wind up Old Corning Hill and pass many landmarks along the way, just as the original racers did – in your sports car!

Mark your calendars now for this special event and book your Stone Bridge Driver event early at www.grandprixfestival.com.







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Concorso Speciale Celebrates the 'ignored'

By GARY WHYMAN

If you love cars in all configurations, such as the overly appreciated right along with the underappreciated automotive orphans, and some of the downright ignored automotive jewels in the rough or not, we have the show event for you: the Community Bank Concorso Speciale.

The Concours Speciale is sponsored by our hometown friends and neighbors at Community Bank, NA. It celebrates (really!) the cars that are special to their proud owners regardless of the standing of the cars, or their owners, in the upper echelons of the automotive world. After all, why should Jay Leno, Dr. Fred Simeone and Ralph Lauren with their Lamborghinis, Alfa Romeos, Corvettes, Talbot-Lagos, Packards, Porsches and Cords have all the fun when there are Humber Super Snipes, Borgward Isabellas, Trabants, Hudson Jets and Subaru 360s aplenty!

As befits the seriousness of such an August event (which happens in September), judging will be performed in a completely arbitrary and capricious manner by our very own event specialists. Their decisions are final and irreversible except through bribery (the liquid kind of course!). Anyone disagreeing with the final judging should feel free to visit our sister event, the Corning Concours d'Elegance, where taste and personal integrity are far more appreciated.

This Festival event has one of the best parking lots on the main street, at the best rate going and we have fun. Fun, that's what auto ownership and driving should be about. Fun! So we honor all arrivals, and the more ... um ... unusual, the more interest we get from the crowds! This lot is filling up faster and faster every year for just these reasons, and we hope you all will come and join our fun!

We look forward to you joining us this year and in future years (and we have photos to ensure that you will return). We encourage you to periodically visit our website www.grandprixfestival. com, where updates and pictures of our contestants will be posted throughout the upcoming year.



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Hazlitt 1852 Winery Grand Ramble - 2025

By TERRIE SAUTTER and CARL D. BENSON

The Grand Prix Festival of Watkins Glen Spring driving season kicks off with an exclusive regional scenic tour in the fabulous Finger Lakes and on-track driving experience and world-famous Watkins Glen International racing facility.

The Hazlitt 1852 Winery Grand Ramble will help start your driving fun for the year and is the region's most sought-after exclusive spring driving experience.

This one-day event features a fun road tour targeted at releasing the driving spirits of both driver and automobile originating at Hazlitt 1852 Winery Co., 5712 NYS Route 414, Burdett, about nine miles north of Watkins Glen.

The event is open to sports and classic cars that represent automobiles aimed at the spirit of sports car driving. A cross-country grand tour featuring pretty roads, great twisties, beautiful vistas, the occasional waterfall and stops to view the beautiful views is highlighted by dynamic pace laps of the Watkins Glen International race track's long course. Drivers cap the day at Hazlitt to show off their cars, relive the day's activities, and purchase food and beverages.

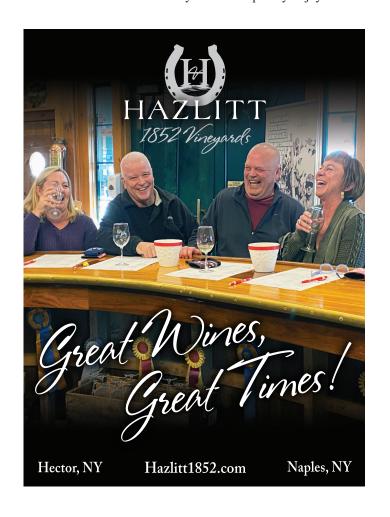
The original 1948 6.6-mile road course is the root of our existence! Therefore, for your pleasure and historic significance, drivers are given a special route sheet to include only the original 1948 course. This allows everyone to completely enjoy the rich

Watkins Glen history of United States road racing at their own enjoyable pace.

Add it up: one sports car + one each driver and navigator + Hazlitt 1852 Winery + the historic, original 6.6-mile 1948 road course + Watkins Glen International's on-track lap experience = one full day in the fantastic Finger Lakes for drivers! How's that for distinctive fun and value? Scheduling with both Hazlitt and WGI are in the works, with May 10, 2025 the tentative date. Watch the website for confirmation of the date and more details!! Start planning now!!

Don't wait, next year's event will fill-up quickly. Register now online at www.grandprixfestival.com/Stone Bridge Driver Events or call Michaela at (607) 535-3003. This event will sell out.







Unveiling the Magic Behind the Scenes: Volunteers Are the Key Ingredient to the Grand Prix Festival

By MICHAELA CHRISTENSEN

Have you ever marveled at the seamlessness of the Grand Prix Festival and wondered, "How do they pull it off?" The secret lies in a vibrant community of unsung heroes – our dedicated volunteers. Watkins Glen Promotions, the creative force behind this event, thrives on the passion and commitment of these festival warriors.

While the main event unfolds downtown on a picturesque Friday, the Grand Prix Festival's magic extends far beyond. Picture this: 11 Stone Bridge Driver events happening simultaneously, each culminating in exhilarating laps around the historic Old Course. As the cars eventually grace the downtown streets, it's a testament to months of meticulous planning, precision-driven route inspections, and coordination with registrants. The driving force behind this symphony? Our volunteer management committee, fueled by creativity, injects pure joy and fresh ideas into the festival year after year.

Once the Stone Bridge Driver events are set in motion, the next monumental task is rallying the troops—our day-of volunteers. The Festival Headquarters is currently located at Van-Skiver Auto, where Volunteers converge to collect their festival packets, seek guidance, and perhaps borrow a golf cart for a swift delivery. This vibrant headquarters, teeming with energy, is the place to be on festival day.

Venture to the courthouse lawn, and you'll discover our hospitality tent, where free programs abound, and seasoned volunteers eagerly answer queries from festival veterans and newcomers alike. This central hub also serves as a gathering spot for the Grand Prix Festival vendors, creating a dynamic space.

Immerse yourself in a world of Grand Prix Festival memorabilia at the Village Memorabilia Storefront, located at 209 N. Frankling, or at the merchandise trailer, strategically stationed at

WINES:

the courthouse. Enthusiastic volunteers are the backbone here, assisting attendees in snagging the festival's finest gear.

As the day unfolds, Stone Bridge Driver groups carve through laps around the Old Course, with volunteers playing pivotal roles in crowd control and safely directing the traffic of these thrilling processions. The climax arrives when race cars make their way onto Franklin Street, aligning for the iconic call, "Drivers, start your engines!" The sensory overload of noise and exhaust fumes transports us to the golden days of 1948.

From the crack of dawn setup to the twilight cleanup at 9 pm, every volunteer becomes a linchpin in the festival's triumph, and their collective spirit is the beating heart of the event. The front-line is where the festival magic unfolds, and there's no better way to experience it. If you're ready to join our volunteer community and be part of this enchanting journey, reach out to Watkins Glen Promotions at (607) 535-3003 or visit our website at http://grandprixfestival.com/volunteers.html. We're eagerly awaiting your call—let's create festival magic together!





Unleashing the Spirit of Schuyler: Community Festivals Organized by Watkins Glen Promotions

BY MICHAELA CHRISTENSEN

In the vibrant tapestry of Schuyler County, where community pride and creativity intertwine, Watkins Glen Promotions has been a beacon of celebration since its inception in November 1993. Dedicated to curating exceptional events that spotlight the natural beauty, history and artistic prowess of the region, the organization has become synonymous with unforgettable moments in our area of the Finger Lakes.

Situated alongside the Franklin Street Art Gallery at 209 North Franklin St., the Watkins Glen Promotions storefront is a haven for festival enthusiasts. Bursting with festival memorabilia and locally crafted wonders, it beckons both locals and wanderers alike. Step inside, and you'll discover a curated collection that captures the Finger Lakes, ensuring there's something perfect for everyone.

At the heart of Watkins Glen Promotions are four annual events, each a testament to the community's rich heritage and dynamic spirit. Leading the charge is the Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival, an homage to the town's racing legacy. Every year, the streets come alive as vintage race cars make a triumphant return, parading through the historic original road course—a spectacle that captivates both newcomers and longtime residents.

As autumn leaves cascade in a symphony of colors, the Falls Harvest Festival descends upon Main Street in Montour Falls on the first Saturday in October. It's a celebration of the harvest season, featuring a bustling farmer's market, live entertainment, a children's activity zone, and the grandeur of fireworks illuminating the night sky.

Come December, the Watkins Glen Village Christmas transforms the town into a winter wonderland. From handmade gifts to a petting zoo and dazzling fireworks, this festive soirée is a holiday kick-off like no other. With a Santa-led parade and the warmth of community spirit, it's a cherished tradition that envelops both young and old in the magic of the season.

Looking ahead to the following year, mark your calendar for the Watkins Glen Waterfront Festival and Cardboard Boat Regatta every June. Held at Seneca Harbor Park on the shores of Seneca Lake, this day-long event promises food, music, and activities for the entire family. The highlight? The Cardboard Boat Regatta, where creativity knows no bounds, and cardboard vessels navigate the harbor with whimsical themes and costumes, vying for victory and trying to stay afloat in Seneca Lake.

At the core of Watkins Glen Promotions is community unity—events orchestrated and powered by passionate volunteers. The heartbeat of these celebrations relies on your involvement. Discover how you can be part of the magic by visiting www.watkinsglen.com or reaching out to events@watkinsglen.com. Keep the festive flame alive and remember to support local!



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Festival Schedule

9:30 AM

~ SVRA Tech Inspection, Smalley's Garage, Franklin Street

10:00 AM

- ~ Concours d'Elégance Presented by Lotus of Western NY begins, Watkins Glen State Park lot
- ~ Memorabilia booths open on Franklin Street
- ~ Community Bank Concorso Speciale, Community Bank parking lot

10:30 AM

~ Hector Wine Company Glenkhana begins at Watkins Glen State Park parking lot

11:00 AM

~ Glenora Run cars do the "Montour Mile"

Noon

- ~ Drivers Walk of Fame Induction Ceremonies, Court House Lawn
- ~ Wine Tastings and Food Court open, Court House Lawn
- ~ 5th through 10th streets closed between Franklin and Decatur streets

12:00 PM

~ Franklin Street closed, between 2nd and 10th streets

12:15 PM

~ SVRA vintage race cars arrive on Franklin Street

1:00 PM

~ Stone Bridge Driver Events start their Cayuga Health System Laps of the Old Course

1:30 PM

 Lane's Yamaha Vintage Motorcycles and Community Bank Concorso Speciale on display at Community Bank, Lotus on display at 8th and Franklin. SVRA vintage race cars arrive on Franklin Street

2:00 PM

~ Tour de Marque Corvettes parked for display at Lafayette Park, 4th Street

3:00 PM

~ The Legends Speak Event, Lafayette Park, 4th Street

4:20 PM

~ Concours d'Elégance Presented by Lotus of Western NY Awards Ceremony, original Start/Finish Line

4:30 PM

~ "Pre-Race" Ceremonies, original Start/Finish Line

5:15 PM

~ Original 6.6-mile course closed to traffic through 7:30 p.m.

5:20 PM

~ SVRA Tribute Laps Lineup

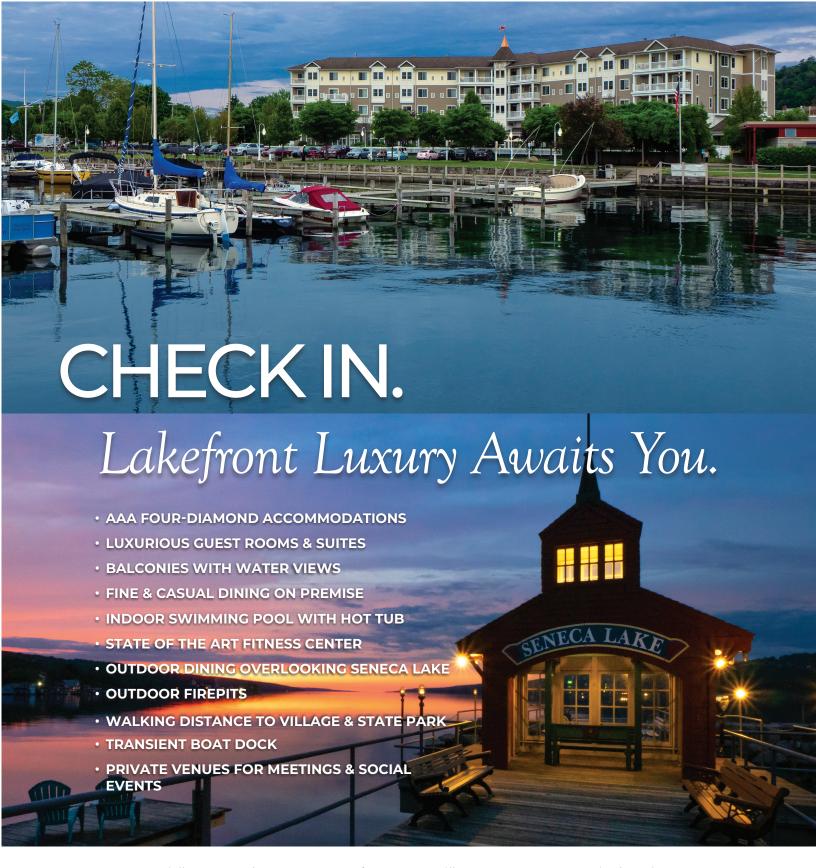
5:30 PM

~ SVRA Grand Prix Race Tribute begins

8:00 PM

~ Franklin Street re-open, Last Shuttle Bus to Clute Park Parking





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