

## SNF Announces Another Scholarship Recipient!

Submitted by James Bell

The Studebaker National Foundation has awarded another Scholarship to Jason Wollermann who is a student attending the Pennsylvania College of Technology automotive program.

Even in High School Automotive Studies, Jason earned the Principle's Award in Industrial Technology and was the first one in his school history to complete all ten available ASE certifications on his first attempt!



### **A Dream and a Chance** (written by Jason)

You hear about it and see it every day in modern society. People always complaining about their jobs and how much they hate going to work. It seems to me that I am one of the lucky few who knew what I wanted to do from a young age. For many years of my life, I have only wanted to work on cars, specifically classic cars of years past. After completing almost a year of my college career, I can safely say that this is certainly the field for me. While I am only focusing on collision repair for the first two years of college, my third year will be spent learning solely about how to repair, restore, and maintain vintage automobiles. I can say as a fact that nothing in life brings me more satisfaction than to hear an old engine finally fire back up to life, after a long time laying to waste. It wasn't necessarily what I first came to think of as a career, however. It all started (like most passions) with a little influence.

When I was younger, I would sometimes see these old hulks of metal roaming about at car shows; occasionally I would see one out on the street, and I'd be craning my head behind me as I watched it cruise by. I became hooked on these old cars, and I wanted to learn as much as I could about them. When I came to driving age, of course, the next logical action was to own one.

I searched for years, and when my dad and I finally found something that fit our wants, we jumped on it. It was a 1949 Chevrolet 3100. Now, maybe fifty years ago that wouldn't be so shocking as a first car. But in the 21st Century? I'm the youngest guy at classic car shows by about thirty years. I learned to drive manual in that truck, and I won't ever forget the feeling of being behind the wheel for the first time. I was always the talk of the parking lot in high school. Certainly, I was never going to be the fastest or the most economical; that truck on a good day makes about 7mpg. But that truck was, and still is, an extension of what I have come to believe in as a young adult. That things don't have to be replaced just because they're old. They don't have to be forgotten about because they aren't winning Lemans. As cliché as it sounds, this truck has taught me that the

end goal is not only about the destination, but the journey to get there. The more I drive it, the more desire I have to fix up more of these relics. They deserve another chance at life.



***Learning through friendship with Bob Holden (vice president of South Jersey Studebaker Driver's Club***

They all have a story to tell. I hope to be able to open my own repair and restoration shop when I get older and more experienced. I want to be able to work on any car, or brand that comes through my door. With the help of this scholarship, I will be more able to progress through college and afford the expenses that go with it. I have begun to experience to how important quality craftsmanship is in this field and I know that in order to succeed, one must be willing to discipline themselves to get better results. With the help of this scholarship, I will be able to save some of the money I make during summer jobs to contribute towards college costs as well as putting money towards a future business.

I have spent countless hours researching these vehicles, finding original documentation on how to fix them, modifying them, or making them better for modern driving.

I truly believe that my life is incomplete without them. I believe I should be the recipient of your scholarship because I am truly passionate for these cars and for this industry, and I hope to be able to expand it in the future with the creation of my own restoration and repair shop. I take great pride in my work and have quality results, both on cars and in other aspects of my life. Regardless of the task, I work diligently towards a successfully finished product. I am proud of the work I complete. I already have the dream. I know that given the chance, I know I will provide quality work for customers, one car at a time.