



Second Quarter | 2024 | AACF eNews

In This Issue: AACF News | 65th Anniversary Update | Golf Tournament Update

from the Board President Jon Owens . . .

I hope this letter finds you well. As President of the Board, I wanted to take a moment to share some important updates and express our gratitude for your continued support and involvement in the AACF.



First and foremost, I would like to extend our deepest thanks to our recently retired Executive Director, Joel Ayres, who has been an invaluable member of our team for nearly a decade. His dedication and hard work have significantly contributed to our mission and success. We are immensely grateful for his service and wish him all the best in his future endeavors. We are currently in the process of selecting a new Executive Director, and we hope to have the position filled by early August or September. This transition is crucial for our continued growth, and we are committed to finding a leader who will uphold our values and drive our mission forward.

In other exciting news, we are proud to introduce the inaugural **Humanitarian Award**. This award will honor individuals or companies/entities involved in the automotive aftermarket who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to humanitarian efforts. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our generous sponsors, **Nexus North America**, for making this award possible and we look forward to celebrating the remarkable contributions of our inaugural award winner at an upcoming event (yet to be determined).

Additionally, we are thrilled to recognize our continued partnership with **YANG (Auto Care Association's Young Automotive Network Group)**. Their continuous promotional efforts to drive both awareness and raise funds allows us to expand our reach and impact, and we are deeply thankful for their ongoing collaboration and spreading the word about AACF.

But the accolades don't stop there! Our grateful recognition continues with a special thank you to **APSG (Automotive Parts Service Group)** for yet again stepping up as Champion Donors (i.e., \$25,000 or more donation) this year! Mike Peace continues to represent APSG on our Board, and heads up the Revenue Growth Committee and is deserving of our sincere thanks for the continuation of APSG's generous support. We remain indebted and thankful to ALL of our Champion Donors and supporters.

And, with regard to our Champion Donor list, it is with a heavy heart that we share the news of Don Smith's (DCS Consulting) passing. Don was a cherished member of our industry and was our first and longest running Champion Donor. AACF was represented at the services and memorial for Don by former Executive Director Joel Ayers who was also chosen by the Smith family to share remarks about Don's glorious life and legacy. AACF extends our thoughts and prayers to Don's family as they mourn his death.

In looking forward, preparations are well underway for our annual **reception and golf tournament** scheduled for November 3rd and 4th in Las Vegas. This event is THE most significant fundraiser benefiting our Foundation, and we are excited to welcome participants and supporters for a day of camaraderie, philanthropy and fun to kick off a busy **SEMA** and **AAPEX** Show week! Your participation and support are crucial to the success of this event, and we look forward to seeing you there.

Lastly, this year marks the 65th anniversary of our Foundation, a milestone that fills us with immense pride and gratitude. Together, we have achieved remarkable success, including paying out nearly five million dollars over the past decade to support those in our industry during their times of need. None of this would be possible without the incredible support of our cherished volunteer Board members and the backing of our caring industry. The future of our Foundation is very bright!

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our mission. Together, we are making a difference.

Warm regards,
Jon Owens
AACF Board President

\$21,000 Raised



Happy 65th Anniversary to AACF!

In the past three months, we have received 323 donations of \$65 each. While this is an incredible achievement, it represents only about one-third of our goal. We will keep this fundraiser open and running until the end of the year. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to some of our larger donors for their generous contributions:

- Chuck McCourt - McCourt Marketing
- Marc Blackman - Gold Eagle Co.
- David Young - Valvoline Global
- Roger McCullum - NA Williams
- Mary Ieng - YANG

Campaign Start Date: April 1st, 2024
Campaign End Date: July 1st, 2024
Funds Given April-June: \$94,400
Fundraiser Link: bit.ly/3PDSBWT

[Make Your \\$65 Donation Today!](#)

AACF BOARD NEWS

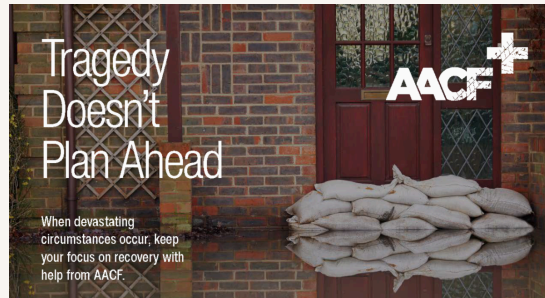
[Planning Underway for the 2024 Golf Tournament](#)



We're excited to announce that planning for our 2024 Bob Schoeberl Memorial Golf Tournament is now underway! Past participants should have already received information about this year's event.

If you would like to join us or play in this year's tournament, please [contact us today](#) or visit [our website](#) for more event details.

This year's event promises to be unforgettable, with even more amazing surprises in store. Don't miss out!



The Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation (AACF) stands ready to provide immediate support and relief to families affected by natural disasters such as hurricanes, flooding, and fires. We understand the urgency and overwhelming challenges that come with these adversities, and we are here to help families get back to their normal lives as swiftly as possible.

Since 1959, with the incredible support of our industry partners, we have helped individuals and families facing financial hardship due to unforeseen circumstances such as floods, earthquakes, storms, fires, catastrophic medical conditions, life-changing accidents, devastating fatalities, and more.

We are proud to offer a straightforward application process with a quick turnaround time. Unlike other organizations, AACF can provide emergency funds within 72 hours of application approval, often much faster than FEMA.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct 13-16

MEMA Aftermarket Technology Conference
Clearwater Beach, FL

[More Info](#)

Nov 3-4

Charity Golf Tournament
Las Vegas, NV

[More Info](#)

Nov 4-7

AWDA Business Conference
Las Vegas, NV

[More Info](#)

Who is AACF?

The Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation (AACF) supports people in the automotive aftermarket industry and their families during the hardest moments of their lives.

Who We Help:

If you work in the automotive aftermarket, we're here to help. Since 1959, AACF has supported individuals and families facing financial hardship due to unexpected adversity like:

- Floods, earthquakes, storms and fires
- Catastrophic medical conditions
- Life-changing accidents
- Devastating fatalities

Have more questions?

[Read our FAQ's](#)

Do you have surplus funds available in your 2024 budget?

We would be delighted to assist you! Simply make a donation using the link below. The AACF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations to AACF

Our [online application](#) is designed to be quick and easy, ensuring that help is just a few clicks away. If you or someone you know needs assistance, please don't hesitate to [reach out](#). Together, we can navigate these difficult times and work towards recovery and rebuilding.

are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

DONATE TODAY

RECIPIENT SPOTLIGHT

"The company I work for reached out to AACF, I work for an automotive aftermarket company and that's how my HR representative found AACF. She reached out and explained what happened to my daughter and granddaughter and they told her to send the application to my manager then he reached out to me and explained everything so I decided to fill out the application.



On May 10th 2024, the apartment my daughter/granddaughter lived in caught fire due to electrical issues in the building. The whole building was destroyed in that horrible fire. Thankfully my daughter and granddaughter were able to make it out safely, but my daughter's puppy Milan was stuck in the fire but the fire department was able to locate her and had to revive her.

AACF was able to help my family by giving us a check to help my daughter/granddaughter buy the necessities/clothing they needed since they lost everything in the fire.

There are still kind people in this world who are willing to help when help is needed. This foundation shows you that there is help out there in times of need. Never give up hope!"

Thank you AACF
- Recent Recipient

Do you, or do you know someone who needs help?
Please share this story with your HR Department or Manager.
AACF has already given close to \$170,000 to industry families this year.
We are here to help.



Don Smith (left) with Joel Ayres

Honoring an Industry Champion

We are deeply saddened by the passing of Donald C. Smith, a cornerstone of our industry and a respected member of our community. A 1987 **SEMA Hall of Fame inductee** and former SEMA Person of the Year, Smith passed away at the age of 90. As the CEO of High Performance Distributors in South San Francisco, he led with distinction and operated his own dragstrip. Smith served on the SEMA board for 14 years, uniquely elected as a write-in candidate, and was the national director of the Performance Warehouse Association for many years. His numerous accolades, including SEMA WD of the Year, PWA Pioneer Award, and the SEMA Businesswomen's Network Athena Award, reflect his unwavering commitment to excellence.

We also remember Smith as our first **AACF Champion Program** donor a role in which he exemplified generosity and community spirit. His legacy of leadership, innovation, and dedication will continue to inspire us, and his contributions to the industry will never be forgotten. Our thoughts are with his family and loved ones during this difficult time.

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About AACF

The Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation (AACF) has been helping aftermarket families turn tragedy into triumph since 1959. Like the industry, AACF is driven by passion and devoted to family. It's tough to ask for help, but when someone in the aftermarket family faces profound circumstances, AACF is there to help put the tough times in the rearview mirror. As a nonprofit, AACF accomplishes its mission through the support of generous donors, awareness partners and dedicated volunteers.

To learn more, visit AftermarketCharity.org.
To donate, visit AftermarketCharity.org/donate
To apply for help, visit AftermarketCharity.org/get-help

The AACF is a not-for-profit organization.

AACF
AftermarketCharity.org

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