



First Quarter | 2022 | AACF eNews

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Thoughts from the President . . .



I've now been President of the Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation (AACF) for just over one year. And what a year it's been! Corona virus and its' variants, supply chain and workforce issues. We've faced some serious challenges.

However, within the context of all that, when I look back at a year that, in my humble opinion, was over none too soon, I am filled with gratitude and want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you who is reading this.

Thanks to you, we continued to carry out the mission of AACF by serving people in our industry that had fallen on hard times and had nowhere else to turn. Those recipient numbers actually increased in 2021.

Here are a couple of other highlights from 2021:

We held the annual Golf Tournament in-person at the spectacular Spanish Trail Golf Club in Las Vegas. In spite of changing guidelines, travel restrictions, and even flight delays and cancellations, we had 148 golfers!

Thank you golfers, sponsors, supporters, and donors. Because of you we were able to raise 98% of a normal year's revenue. Thank you for making that possible through your generosity and commitment to the work of the AACF.

We also made some organizational changes that increased the number of Board members and restructured the Executive Committee roles and responsibilities to make AACF more nimble and responsive. Thank all of you who serve on our amazing Board of Trustees or one or more of the Committees.

And, last but certainly not least, a huge thanks to our small but amazing staff, Joel Ayres, Executive Director and Misty Walker, Executive Assistant who do all of the many things that need to be done to support the organization behind the scenes.

We are looking forward to a tremendous 2022 within the Automotive Aftermarket Industry, and I'm grateful that we are embarking on it together. I personally just want to give back to an industry that was so good to me for almost 40 years, and I know you do too. Working together

we make wonderful things happen. Thank you all so very much!

Larry Magee,
President, AACF Board of Trustees

Thank you for making the Golf Tournament a huge success! Below are some highlights:

- 148 golfers played
- **Winning was the Hankook Team** - Dave Carlin, KC Jensen and Jesse Vieyra, and Richard Barron (not pictured).
- Raised close to \$600k
- Over 100 sponsor companies represented
- Planning on even better turnout next year and hitting our \$10 million dollar mark of funds raised since tournament inception.



Thank you to all of the golf tournament sponsors, supporters, and volunteers.

AACF DONOR NEWS



We would like to thank our first 2022 **CHAMPION DONOR - Don Smith of DCS Consulting**.

Mr. Smith has also just been inducted as Founders Club member in the IHRA Hall of Fame.

We would like to thank all of our **Champion Donors** for their generosity and support.

START THE YEAR OFF BY GIVING - setup a monthly or annual recurring donation in any amount **on our website**. Just add in the comments you would like your donation to be monthly or annually and you will automatically be charged. This is an easy way to give all year round, and help our industry family.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 23-25

2022 WIAC Annual Conference
Indianapolis, IN

[More Info](#)

Please, if you feel like you are one of the fortunate ones I urge you to help in any way you can. There are 3 vehicles to share with AACF and you can read about them in several sections of this newsletter.

1. Donations! On average, our expense is \$2,500 per recipient, some less and some much more. Consider helping at any level donation. Every dollar helps.

2. Have your company become an Awareness Partner! It's a zero cost option and is a way to let your employees know we are here if they should need help. It's an easy process. Let us know if we can provide more details.

3. Spread the word of the good work! If you know of someone that may need our help, refer them to our confidential application process.

If you already participate please recommend us to other communities within your influence - other organizations you do business with, customers, friends of the industry, community partners. We are very proud of our AACF family and hope you are too.

You can help us make a difference for an aftermarket family. We know it. We feel it. Together we can do it. Let us know how we can help you to help others.

- Joel Ayres,
AACF Executive Director



AACF BOARD NEWS

The AACF Board of Trustees held its annual meeting last October in Las Vegas. In addition to a productive meeting, an award was given to Andy Dudash. Andy is the past chairman of the Golf Committee (pictured

left), and has been on that committee for over 20 years.

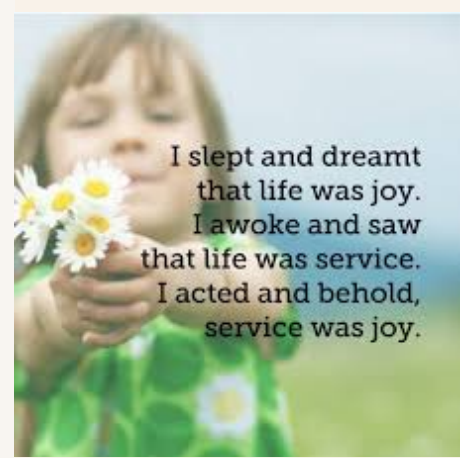
We would like to thank Terry O'Reilly (**Pricedex Software**) for his many years of board participation, and service as the board Secretary, as well as the Revenue Growth Committee and Executive Committee. He stepped down at the end of 2021. Thank you Terry for your leadership!

Stepping up to the Executive Committee, and taking over as the Foundation's Secretary is Ross Kogel, Jr. (**Tire Wholesalers Company**).

Ross has many years of experience on the AACF board and with other non-profits. He brings much needed vision and we could not thank him enough for stepping into this role. We appreciate you Ross, thank you!

We also would like to give a special thank you to Chris Kersting, who will be retiring from the board at the end of January. He served on the Recipient Review Committee for many years, and has given the Foundation many years of guidance and support. Thank you Chris!

Joining our board this month, one of **SEMA's** Vice Presidents - Mike Spagnola. We are thrilled to have him on our board and look forward to his leadership. Thank you Mike for joining us!



How You Can Help

We are the only charity that enables you to help members of our industry that have nowhere else to turn. The work of the **Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation** (AACF) is done by volunteers and a small staff, so our overhead is minimal. The AACF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations to AACF are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

**** Please note our new payment remittance address below ****

Mail your donation to:
AACF
PO Box 947520
Atlanta, GA 30394-7520

DONATE TODAY

THE ART OF GIVING

It feels good to give. The truth is that giving back is good for both the giver and the recipient. Studies even prove that there are amazing benefits to giving,

whether you are taking on a regular volunteer position, donating money, or simply doing a random act of kindness. A study from Harvard Business School found that giving money to someone else lifted participant's happiness more than spending it on themselves.

Giving is not a zero sum game. The more you give the more you have.

A wide range of research has linked different forms of generosity to better health . . .

[Read More >](#)

RECIPIENT SPOTLIGHT

Often times we get words of thanks from recipients who would like to stay anonymous. Below is a "thank you" from a recent recipient who worked at **Bridgestone**.

"I've been in the industry for going on 25 years. My hardship came on as a result of a extremely traumatic life altering and life-threatening illness. That resulted in six surgeries being in a coma for over a month and surviving, despite the fact that my family was told on three occasions that I would not survive.



After an extensive hospital stay and rehab facility, I'm still recovering at home with extensive rehabilitation therapy.

I learned about the program through my company. The grant that I was given by AACF is making life a lot easier during this difficult time.

The process was made very quick and very seamless by Misty Walker and her assistance she was truly amazing throughout this process. Thank you all for all that you do."

-Recent Recipient

If you or someone you know needs help...

Contact us or speak with your Human Resources department about the AACF, and have them reach out to us on your behalf.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DONALD SCHLENGER | Chairman | Retired
LARRY MAGEE | President
JON OWENS | Vice President | Epicor Software
LUANNE BROWN | VP & Treasurer | eTool Developers
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BOB HIRSCH | Gold Eagle Co.

MARKO IBRAHIM | Bridgestone Retail Operations

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SCOTT KRINSKY | Advance Auto Parts

CHUCK ROGERS | O'Reilly Auto Parts

TODD SANDERS | Advance Auto Parts

RICH SCOVNER | Castle Products

SHELDON SILVERMAN | Smart Bomb Media Group

MIKE SPAGNOLA | SEMA

TERI THOMAS | Interstate Batteries

SHANE WILLIS | Acel, LLC

DAVID YOUNG | Valvoline, LLC

JOEL AYRES | Executive Director

MISTY WALKER | Executive Assistant

About AACF

The AftermarketCharity.org (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 www.AftermarketCharity.org.

To donate, visit <http://bit.ly/AACF-Cares>.

To apply for help, visit <http://bit.ly/AACF-get-help>.

The AACF is a not-for-profit organization.

AACF
AftermarketCharity.org

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