



Fourth Quarter | 2025 | AACF eNews

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A Message from Jon Owens, AACF President



Dear Friends and Supporters, Industry Week was a remarkable success for AACF! From the debut of the "Boss of the Toss" Cornhole Tournament held in conjunction with AWDA to an engaging Industry Cocktail Reception, and a beautiful day on the course with 206 golfers at our 33rd Annual Bob Schoeberl Memorial Charity Golf Tournament, each event strengthened our community and generated vital funds for families in need across the aftermarket industry.

We are also pleased to note the strong early response to our 2nd Annual Classic Car Sweepstakes, as well as the upcoming announcement of our second annual AACF Humanitarian Award, which recognizes individuals in our industry who exemplify community service and compassion.

As we look to the future, our Board has established a significant North Star goal: providing \$1 million of assistance in 2026. Achieving this milestone will require dedication, partnership, and significant communication and awareness. We are confident in that the generosity, commitment, and spirit of our industry will enable us to achieve this goal.

To our partners, sponsors, donors, and colleagues, thank you for your continued support. Your engagement enables us to make a meaningful impact for those who need our help.

Wishing you and your families a joyful and Merry Christmas and a peaceful holiday season. We look forward to doing good work with all of you throughout the new year!

With Gratitude,
-Jon Owens
AACF President

AACF RECIPIENT SPOTLIGHT



A Season of Helping Hands

As we enter the holiday season, we're reminded of what makes the aftermarket community unlike any other. When challenges strike, this industry doesn't turn away. Instead, you reach out, lift up, and give hope.

This year, AACF has walked alongside families facing unthinkable hardship. Because of your generosity, these families were not alone. They had an entire industry standing with them.

Here are a couple of the real lives changed because of your support:

A technician fighting for his life after a medical emergency.

When a sudden critical illness placed a well-respected technician in the hospital for weeks, his family was overwhelmed by medical expenses and the loss of income. AACF stepped in with financial assistance that covered vital bills, giving his family the breathing room they needed to stay afloat during the scariest season of their lives.

"AACF gave us peace during a time we had none. Knowing the industry cared enough to help gave us strength to keep going."

A family grieving the loss of a loved one.

This year we also supported several families navigating unthinkable loss, including a pregnant wife suddenly left to prepare for the birth of her child alone. Your compassion helped cover immediate expenses and allowed her to focus on her health and her baby's arrival.

This holiday season, as you gather with loved ones, know that your kindness made it possible for other families to sit around their tables with a sense of hope.

Your generosity isn't just financial, it's emotional. It tells each recipient, "You matter. We see you. We're here for you."

On behalf of every family you've helped this year:
Thank you for being the helping hands in their hardest moments.

[Learn How We Help >](#)
[Share Our Application with Your Team >](#)

Together, we can continue to be a safety net for those who give so much to our industry.

AACF BOARD NEWS

Board of Trustee Updates



AACF is proud to welcome two new trustees to our Board; Ben Brucato (MEMA) and Anthony Sarlanis (Advance Auto Parts).

We're deeply grateful to our [Board of Trustees](#) for generously giving their time, energy, and expertise to support AACF.

2ND ANNUAL CLASSIC CAR SWEEPSTAKES

WIN A 1969 FIREBIRD



Classic Car Sweepstakes: Year Two Is Live!

Following the success of our 1965 Mustang giveaway, we're thrilled to launch the [2nd Annual Classic Car Sweepstakes](#) featuring a 1969 Pontiac Firebird.

Special thanks to our partners and sponsors (Advance Auto Parts, Hunter Engineering, Lucas Oil and Yokohama) who make this national fundraiser possible.

Enter to Win!



AACF Expands Reach Through ASE Partnership

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 19-22

HDAW
Grapevine, TX
[More Info](#)

Feb. 17-19

WIAC Leadership Conference
Fort Worth, TX
[More Info](#)

Feb. 19-20

MEMA Global Summit
Miami, FL
[More Info](#)

Who is AACF?

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

Who We Help:

If you work in the 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](#)



COMING SOON!

The 2026 AACF Humanitarian Award by [NEXUS, North America](#) is getting ready to open for applications. This is your opportunity to honor someone who lifts others up and makes a meaningful impact in our aftermarket community.

ASE + AACF:
SUPPORT BEYOND CERTIFICATION



AACF is proud to partner with the [National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence \(ASE\)](#) to bring "Support Beyond Certification" to technicians and their families. This collaboration connects ASE's long-standing commitment to professional excellence with AACF's mission of providing emergency financial assistance during illness, injury, natural disasters, or other crises.

Together, ASE and AACF will share resources, coordinated communications, to ensure every ASE Certified professional knows they're supported both in their careers and when life takes an unexpected turn.

[More Info >](#)

INDUSTRY WEEK RECAP

What an incredible few days in Las Vegas! From friendly competition to meaningful connections and a beautiful day on the course, this year's Industry Week events brought our community together in the best way possible — all in support of families in the automotive aftermarket.

Saturday: "Boss of the Toss" Charity Cornhole Tournament & Tailgate Reception

We kicked off the weekend with our first-ever AACF Cornhole Tournament, and the energy was electric. With the help of an ACL Pro on-site showcasing incredible skill, attendees enjoyed great food, music, and competition — all while giving back.

Cornhole Champions:

🏆 **Petar Oklobdzija & Rodger Meyer** of [Stryten Energy](#). Their teamwork and consistency carried them all the way to the top!

Funds Raised:

Thanks to our players, sponsors, and supporters, the cornhole event raised over **\$80,000** for AACF families in need. We extend our sincere gratitude to our **Premier Sponsor, AWDA**, for their incredible support in bringing this event to life.



Sunday: Industry Cocktail Reception & Live Auction

Sunday evening brought together industry colleagues from across the country for conversation, networking, and an inspiring celebration of giving.

The room buzzed with excitement as attendees bid on three unforgettable auction items, presented by Vegas auctioneer Mike Kinney.

- **FIFA World Cup VIP Experience including private jet transportation** – Sponsored by [Valvoline Global Operations](#) & [Traxion Materials](#)
- **NHRA VIP Experience for Two** – Sponsored by [NAPA](#)

- **James Cook Signed Jersey** – Sponsored by [Castle Products](#)

Funds Raised:

The auction helped raise an additional **\$12,000** in support of AACF's mission.



Monday: 33rd Annual Bob Schoeberl Memorial Golf Tournament

Monday wrapped up the weekend with absolutely **beautiful weather**, 206 golfers, and a record-setting day on the course at Spanish Trail Country Club.

Players enjoyed friendly competition, amazing long-drive pros, generous giveaways, and over \$30,000 in drawing prizes — all capped off with a celebratory luncheon.

Funds raised for the Golf Tournament in total was over **\$665,000!**

Top 3 Teams:

- 🥇 **1st Place** API Team: Noah Schone, Jeff Kreitzman, Ben Shur, Dan Cohen
- 🥈 **2nd Place** AutoZone Team: Ken Jaycox, Tony Ueber, Tom Newbern, Duane Findley
- 🥉 **3rd Place** RelaDyne Team: Eric Royse, Charlie Cady, Mike Sinicropi, Bob Johnson

Thank you to every sponsor, attendee, donor, and volunteer who made this a fabulous weekend of giving!

SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT

We're proud to recognize the incredible generosity of our partners. Because of your support, AACF is able to step in for aftermarket families during their most difficult times. Your commitment truly makes a difference.

- **Gold Eagle Co.** – As a **Champion Donor** and dedicated supporter of AACF, Gold Eagle Co. has championed our mission for many years. Their continued generosity helps ensure aftermarket families have somewhere to turn in moments of crisis.
- **The Source Foundation** – The Source Foundation was created with one goal in mind: to connect business with community in meaningful ways. Their recent **\$10,000** gift does exactly that—making an immediate and meaningful impact by strengthening our ability to respond quickly when families face unexpected hardship.
- **Dorman Products** – As a **Champion Donor**, Dorman demonstrates remarkable commitment to caring for the people who keep our industry moving. Their partnership helps extend hope and stability to families in need.
- **Mighty Auto Parts** - Mighty Auto Parts engaged its employees in a **company wide giving campaign**, raising awareness and support for AACF's vital work within our aftermarket family.



To each of you—thank you. Your compassion and commitment are changing lives in our industry. Together, we're proving that the aftermarket takes care of its own.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT - RELADYNE



We're proud to welcome **RelaDyne** as a new AACF donor. In this brief Q&A, their team shares what inspired their partnership and how they hope to make a difference for aftermarket families.

[Photo: Mike Cooper, Chief Commercial Officer at RelaDyne]

Q: What inspired you or your company to get involved with AACF for the first time?

A: Over the years, RelaDyne has recognized that support and assistance is most needed within a community that been impacted by a hurricane, fire, or other natural event. We see the AACF's focus of this type of financial support down to the individual level of an event that impacts a person matches our mission to

provide relief during life-changing events out of a person's control.

Q: How does giving back fit into your company's values or culture?

A: RelaDyne has always had a sense of giving back to the community – whether locally or national – to support not only the principals of the company, but the values our employees have as well. We have done this through partnerships with various organizations such as Folds of Honor, Tunnel to Towers, Susan G. Komen, and March of Dimes. One of our largest partnerships is with Fuel Relief Fund, which provides assistance to beneficiaries and aid agencies in areas impacted by natural disasters.

Q: What impact do you hope your support will make for families facing hardship?

A: Whether it is an individual, personal hardship the AACF focuses on providing relief for or a natural disaster that a community is working to get through, ultimately, RelaDyne wants every person to be able to 'get back on their feet'. We believe, even in a small way with our support of AACF or our Emergency Services division's partnership with Fuel Relief Fund, we can get people and communities up and running again.

Q: Do you have a personal story of overcoming adversity as a company we have helped individuals and communities get back on their feet, but the most recent example is our work around the 2024 hurricanes of Helene and Milton. These two hurricanes hit the southeast less than two weeks apart causing millions of dollars in damages and hundreds of thousands of people without power, fuel, and water. RelaDyne, our emergency services team, and partnership with Fuel Relief Fund sent in more than 500 trucks into the seven states to provide fuel and portable water to these impacted communities.

A: The AACF does amazing work in the automotive community to help get impacted automotive employees and their families back on track. Whether personally or through your company, being a part of an organization that focuses in on the individual is truly amazing – with real-life examples where AACF's support has helped turn things around for those people. If you or your company are in the automotive industry in any capacity, supporting the AACF and all it does for our industry should be a part of your philanthropic efforts.

Q: If you could encourage other companies to get involved, what message would you share with them?

A: The AACF does amazing work in the automotive community to help get impacted automotive employees and their families back on track. Whether personally or through your company, being a part of an organization that focuses in on the individual is truly amazing – with real-life examples where AACF's support has helped turn things around for those people. If you or your company are in the automotive industry in any capacity, supporting the AACF and all it does for our industry should be a part of your philanthropic efforts.

[Contact us to get involved >](#)

AACF COLLATERAL

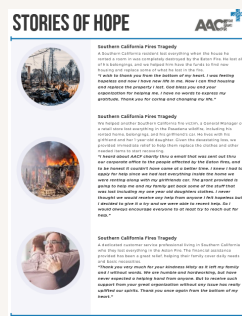
We're Here to Help Flyer



Create an Employee Fundraiser



Stories of Hope



**Happy Holidays and best wishes for a wonderful New Year!
- From the AACF Team**

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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 ACF is a not-for-profit organization.

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