

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



AACF Raises \$97,750 for Automotive Aftermarket Families Through Classic Car Sweepstakes; Winner Takes Cash Prize Over 1969 Firebird



Sacramento, Calif. – June 9, 2026 – The Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation (AACF) today announced that Joshua Sparks of Grand Rapids, MI has won the Second Annual AACF Classic Car Sweepstakes, choosing the \$15,000 cash in lieu of a fully restored 1969 Pontiac Firebird.

The sweepstakes generated more than \$97,000 in critical funding to support automotive aftermarket professionals and their families facing financial hardship due to illness, natural disasters, accidents, and other unexpected crises.

Community Impact Through Classic Cars

"My family and I are incredibly grateful to have been selected as the winner," said Joshua Sparks of Grand Rapids, Michigan, winner of the AACF 2026 Classic Car Sweepstakes. "A prize like this is exciting, but it means even more knowing the sweepstakes supports such a meaningful cause. I appreciate everyone who helped make this possible. Winning is a blessing, and I don't take it for granted. I hope this brings more attention to the important work AACF does to help automotive aftermarket families when they need it most."

Featuring a restored 1969 Pontiac Firebird as the grand prize, the sweepstakes drew thousands of participants nationwide, all rallying behind AACF's mission while competing for the chance to drive home this classic car.

"This campaign perfectly captures the spirit of our industry—people coming together to support one another," said John Kairys, Executive Director of AACF. "Every dollar raised directly supports aftermarket families during their most challenging moments. The overwhelming response shows how much this community cares about taking care of its own, and we couldn't do this without the support of our participants, sponsors, and industry partners."

Industry Partnership Powering Success

AACF extends its sincere thanks to everyone who entered the sweepstakes, as well as the many partners and sponsors who helped bring the campaign to life. AACF thanks its generous sponsors, including [Advance Auto Parts](#), [Hunter Engineering Company](#), [Lucas Oil](#), and [Yokohama Tire](#), along with flash prize and giveaway sponsors [Gold Eagle](#), [National Parts Depot](#), and [Advance Auto Parts](#). Special recognition goes to [SALT Marketing](#) for campaign management and digital marketing support, and to [PJ's Auto World](#) for sourcing and preparing the vehicle. Custom wheels provided by [Tire Rack](#).

Since 1959, AACF has provided emergency financial assistance to aftermarket professionals and their families during times of crisis, ensuring that no one in the industry has

to face hardship alone.

For more information about AACF, contact Misty Walker at Misty@AftermarketCharity.org.

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About the Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation (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 when it seems like there's nowhere else to turn. As a nonprofit, this is accomplished through the support of generous donors, awareness partners and dedicated volunteers. To learn more, visit <https://www.aftermarketcharity.org>.