



**GLOBAL
AUTOMOTIVE
AFTERMARKET
SYMPOSIUM**
WWW.GLOBALSYMPOSIUM.ORG

Global Perspectives

Connecting you to the industry's leading educational event.

July-September 2008

News From The Global Automotive Aftermarket Symposium

GAAS Scholarship Collaborations Results in 170 Scholarship Awards in 2008

Inside this issue:

GAAS Scholarship Collaborations Results in 170 Scholarship Awards in 2008	1
Work On The 2009 Symposium Well Underway	1
Applications Available for '09 Polk Inventory Efficiency Award	2

Everyone talks about collaboration in the automotive aftermarket. A closer look at the scholarship program through the Global Automotive Aftermarket Symposium (GAAS) proves that collaboration works.

In 2008, 170 scholarships were awarded to 150 students by GAAS, its contributors and other groups that collaborated with the Symposium Scholarship Committee. A total of 20 students were awarded multiple scholarships.

According to Pete Kornafel, chairman, GAAS Scholarship Committee, individual scholarships awards varied from \$250 to \$2,000. A total of \$165,000 was awarded.

(Continued on page 2)



*GAAS Scholarship
Chairman Pete Kornafel*

Work On The 2009 Symposium Well Underway

The program committee for the Global Automotive Aftermarket Symposium (GAAS) is already busy preparing the agenda for the 2009 event, scheduled for Wednesday, May 6 and Thursday, May 7 at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare in Chicago.

"We have carefully examined the feedback from this year's event and have already set out to make GAAS 2009 even better," commented Dave Caracci, GAAS chairman. "With record setting attendance and overwhelming positive feedback, it will be a challenge to top this year's event. But I can say without hesitation that we have an enthusiastic committee that is up to the challenge."

The theme for the 2009 Symposium is **"Winning Strategies For The Changing Aftermarket."**

Caracci says the challenging market that everyone faces right now calls for creative ideas to help move companies forward into the future.

"We recognize that everyone in the industry is dealing with escalating raw material and transportation costs, in addition to the usual business challenges," said Caracci. "We are tasked with finding speakers and issues that address the realities of our industry's changing business landscape. You will see some exciting announcements regarding speakers in the next few months."



GAAS 2009 Returns to the Hyatt Regency O'Hare

In addition to the planning committee, which meets once a month by conference call and in person during the AAPEX/ SEMA shows, GAAS has a committee of industry volunteers who meets regularly to look at attendance and promotion issues for the event. ♦

Applications Available for '09 Polk Inventory Efficiency Award

Applications are now available for the 2009 Polk Inventory Efficiency Award. The award recognizes and rewards outstanding automotive aftermarket companies for process improvements relative to inventory efficiency. The Award will be presented at the 2009 Symposium at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare in Chicago, Illinois on May 6-7, 2009.

Winners of these awards will have demonstrated a positive

impact on one of the largest problems in the aftermarket—inventory efficiency.

Past winners include:



2008

Retailer/Distributor—VIP Parts, Tires & Service
Manufacturer—Hastings Manufacturing Company, LLC

2007

Retailer/Distributor—NAPA Auto Parts
Manufacturer—Dayco Products

2006

Retailer/Distributor—Parts Depot Inc.
Manufacturer—Affinia Group Inc.

2005

Retailer—O'Reilly Auto Parts
Manufacturer—Federal-Mogul Corporation

For more information, and to obtain an application visit:
http://usa.polk.com/Industries/AfterMkt/ie_award_form.htm. ♦

GAAS Scholarship Collaborations Results in 170 Scholarship Awards (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

A total of 115 GAAS scholarships were awarded, including 10 scholarships awarded in Canada. In the history of the scholarship program, more than 1,400 students have received aid totaling approximately \$1.4 million. This year's scholarships were funded by the GAAS Symposium and donations from:

- AAIA's Leadership Development Network
- Art Fisher Memorial Scholarship Fund
- ASC Industries
- Automotive Communication Council
- Breslow Foundation
- Michael Busch Memorial Fund
- R. L. Polk Company
- Udell Family Foundation
- University of the Aftermarket Foundation
- Zurich

An additional 55 scholarships were awarded by:

- Association of Diesel Specialists
- Automotive Aftermarket Association of the Carolinas and Tennessee

- Automotive Aftermarket Association Southeast
- Automotive Parts and Service Association
- Automotive Parts and Service Association of Illinois
- California / Nevada / Arizona Automotive Wholesalers' Association
- Ohio Valley Automotive Aftermarket Association

"This is a great illustration of the collaboration among all these groups," commented Kornafel, "and a great way to help students prepare for aftermarket careers."

In addition, Kornafel announced the New York State Automotive Aftermarket Association (NYSAA), will also collaborate with GAAS in 2009.

To better serve students, parents, counselors and automotive instructors, the GAAS Scholarship website is currently being updated at www.automotivescholarships.com.

Applications for the 2009 scholarship program are now available at the website

and are due by March 31, 2009. Awards will be granted in the spring and summer of 2009.

Kornafel explained that each complete application that is submitted at www.automotivescholarships.com will be reviewed by all groups, as long as the student meets their eligibility requirements.

"We have a lot more students who are worthy of selection," pleaded Kornafel. "I ask the industry to come forth and provide us with donations so we can increase the number of awards next year."

The annual investment to help develop future aftermarket industry leaders is primarily funded through proceeds from the annual Symposium. Additional scholarship funding comes from industry contributions from individuals, companies and foundations.

Contributions can be made to the GAAS Scholarship Fund, c/o Susan Medick at AAIA, 7101 Wisconsin Ave., Suite 1300, Bethesda, MD 20814 or contact Kornafel by email at Pete.Kornafel@gpi.com. ♦

Global Automotive Aftermarket Symposium

7101 Wisconsin Ave., Suite 1300

Bethesda, MD 20814-3415

Phone: 301-654-6664 • Fax: 301-654-3299 • Web: www.globalsymposium.org

Global Perspectives is published by the Global Automotive Aftermarket Symposium © 2008. All rights reserved.