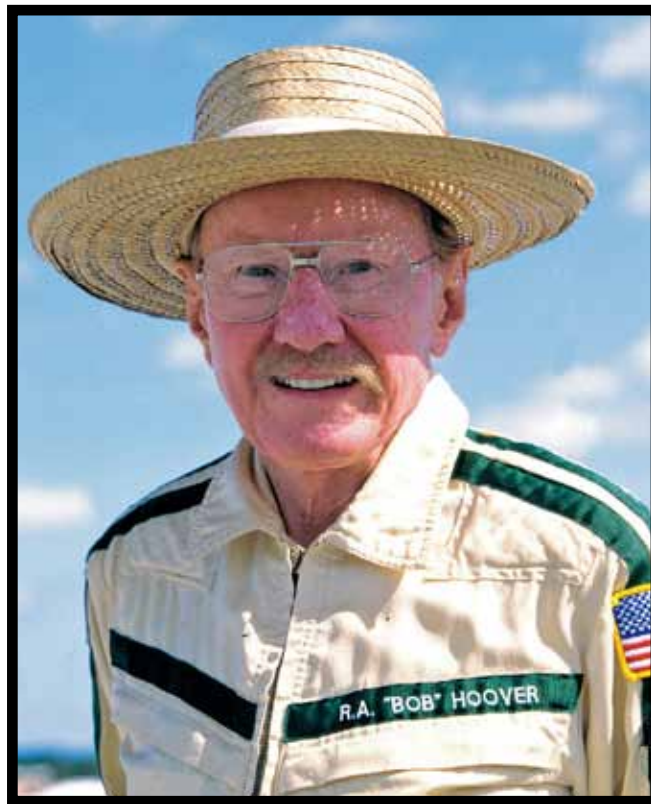


# President's Message

AAHS is all about looking back, preserving the photos, news and products created by aviation innovators, both famous and unknown, in the U.S. and the world over. 2016 saw the loss of one of those innovators who made an indelible mark on our aviation history, Bob Hoover.

Robert Anderson 'Bob' Hoover, considered "the greatest stick and rudder man who ever lived" (quote from Jimmy Doolittle, a famed pilot and record breaker himself), was a "pilot's pilot," a WWII combat pilot, a successful test pilot, an instructor, demonstrator, record setter and innovator (he's considered one of the founding fathers of modern aerobatics); who's life history personally touches many of the aviation accomplishments of the last 75 years.

Bob passed away on October 25, 2016, at the age of 94, leaving behind an enormous legacy of aviation accomplishments, too many to list here. But one of the most relevant of Bob's accomplishments, in my mind, was his interest in sharing and promoting aviation, both its past and future, to others.



*Robert A. "Bob" Hoover, 1922-2016*

How many of us remember attending an airshow with Bob, in his usual flat-brimmed Panama hat, strolling toward his Aero Commander, chatting with children and pilots alike, before taxiing out and performing amazing aerobatic maneuvers that made the audience gasp? Or, be one of the rapt attendees at the "Bob Hoover Birthday Party" events, held annually at EAA's Oshkosh airshow, where Bob, around a campfire, would relate true aviation stories that were the stuff of Hollywood movies.

But, amazing history is also made by those unknown aviators, whose life touches other people in the same way, albeit in a smaller scale (see the story on Dewey Cable, and Cable Airport in this issue, as an example).

It's AAHS' honor and privilege to document these histories and give a voice to aviation stories both big and small. We'd look forward to hearing your story in future pages of the AAHS Journal!

Jerri Bergen  
President