

President's Message

The 2019 Annual Meeting provided a weekend immersed in aviation history for attendees, held this year in Tucson, Arizona. I know I certainly came away a little dazed at the expanse and diversity of the aviation venues we were able to experience in just three days! (For an overview of our events and excursions keep an eye out for *FlightLine* 199).

We have to thank the members of the Phoenix Wing, led by President Ryan Reeves, for their direction and assistance in setting up tours at the Pima Air and Space Museum, and contracting with Maj. Gen. Shepperd as our program speaker. It was a pleasure to meet a few more Arizona AAHS members, as well as new members from around the U.S. and Canada.

Socializing with our diverse membership is as always, the very best of AAHS Meetings. Member Chris Hansen (from Ariz.) said it best, "AAHS members are the most interesting aviation people!" And our members have aviation interests that we encourage share with others both at meetings and in the *Journal*. This year's Annual Meeting recognized the members in attendance that have contributed articles to the *Journal*; they are: Barbara Schultz, Tom Hilt, Hayden Hamilton, Dr. Gary Hyatt, John Hazlet and Ed Martin. Attendee Tom Imrich, retired chief research pilot for Boeing, was also recognized as he is in the process of submitting an article he's updated by Clive Irving on the 50th Anniversary of the Boeing 747 (look for this article in the Spring 2019 *Journal*).

It was also a real pleasure to recognize the supersized contribution our *Journal* Editor and Webmaster, Hayden Hamilton, makes to the success of AAHS. Our Lunch program ended with a recognition to Hayden as the 'Ace of AAHS' – complete with a presentation of an oversized *Journal* cover, featuring Hayden decked out in flight suit and helmet, ready to do battle, the side of his warbird decorated with *Journal* 'mission marks'.

We've had some excellent suggestions for the location of our next annual meeting. We look for opportunities to engage more of our membership and venues that help us do that, including venues on the east coast and the Midwest.

We've got much on our plate between now and then, however, and we're getting to work. Thanks to all our members who've stepped up to help with photo archiving, authoring articles, providing photos and the many details it takes to keep AAHS moving forward. Thanks all!

Jerri Bergen
AAHS President



LEFT: Hayden Hamilton, AAHS Managing Editor, depicted launching on another AAHS Journal mission. **RIGHT:** The AAHS Pinal County Airport tour participants pose in front of a TWA 747-100 that has been there since the late 1990s)