

A Note from Your Chief Executive Officer

The articles produced in this year's *Journals* have, as usual, been interesting (read how creative leasing strategies for the MD-80 saved both American Airlines and McDonnell Douglas, by Charley Cleaver), thought-provoking (first hand views of how nuclear devices were tested over Christmas Island in the early 60s, by J. Rivard, for example) and have added to our store of knowledge about our shared aviation past. I eagerly look forward to the new *Journal* in my mailbox.

In looking further ahead, however, from my vantage point as CEO, I can see that costs to continue daily operations, new ventures (like our Scholarship program) and *Journal* publication in 2023 cannot not be covered by membership dues alone. We have a number of options available to us: We can continue as is and dip into our cash reserves; Eliminate all expenses and services to our members except vital *Journal* publication costs; Or, raise additional funds to cover needed expenses. A fourth option is what we plan to do – Reduce costs and seek to acquire more funding to continue our support to you, our valued members.

We are researching grants that can possibly provide funding to our organizational type, a 501.C.3, with a focus on history preservation, developing a sponsorship program with corporate partners that can help both with operations and scholarships, and reaching out to you to show support for our continued mission.

We all want these excellent slices of aviation history to arrive in the form of our *Journal*, to share member aviation images via the AAHS website, and support the next generation of aviation enthusiasts.

NOW is an excellent time to show that support in the form of a donation to your Society! For a contribution of \$250, members receive a limited edition, signed gift print of Dan Kelly's *AVG Spirit*. Members contributing \$150 will receive a gift of either the limited edition, signed print of *Strategic Air Command's B-47* by Nick Galloway, or Dan Kelly's limited edition signed print of *Short Flight-Long Walk Home*.

All three of these excellent prints (measuring 21x24" or 24x27") are signed not only by the artist but by pilots of the aircraft depicted.*

Your support is not only appreciated by readers of the *Journal*, but of the many volunteers at AAHS Headquarters and Huntington Beach, who put in countless hours to make this history preservation a reality. Make your appreciation a reality with a donation today!

Jerri Bergen



AVG Spirit by Dan Kelly



Short Flight - Long Walk Home
by Dan Kelly



Strategic Air Command's B-47
by Nick Galloway

**Short-Flight – Long Walk Home*, painted by famed aviation artist Dan Kelly, was commissioned by Larry Bledsoe of Bledsoe Aviation Art in the late 1980s to depict the flight of P-51 pilot Roland Sperry, (a well travelled speaker on his experiences during WWII) before he crashed in Germany during WWII, and walking to freedom. Following the completion of this painting in late 1990, Sperry's career as a WWII pilot was proven to be entirely fictionalized.



YOUR GIFT. YOUR IMPACT.

One of the most important sources of funds for us each year has been the contributions you make through your charitable donations. You have demonstrated the importance you find in the AAHS. Your membership and your donations have allowed us to continue providing benefits to you, as well as help others. We hope we can count on you again this year.

Receiving your unrestricted donations:

- Is an important part of our financial picture each year.
- Helps in the preservation, scanning and cataloging of our photo archives.
- Supports our programs such as helping young people with their aviation careers.
- Helps continue our scholarship programs and create new ones.
- Assures our presence at AirVenture in Oshkosh and other air shows, and so much more.

We hope you will continue your generosity in helping to support the AAHS, and don't forget you can set up your contribution as a monthly gift.

Simply scan the QR code or click the **DONATE** button at the top of the AAHS website and make your tax-deductible donation. You can also mail your donation to us: AAHS, P.O. Box 3023, Huntington Beach, CA 92605-3023. [Have questions about setting up an endowment or including the AAHS in your will? Contact the AAHS membership at: Phone: \(714\) 549-4818, or email: \[membership@aahs-online.org\]\(mailto:membership@aahs-online.org\)](#)



AAHS SCHOLARSHIP FUND



Aviation students, like Elena Miranda, a student at Spartan School of Aviation and Aeronautics and an AAHS volunteer, studying for a career in aviation management, maintenance or as a pilot are critically needed now to support the aviation industry. Education in these technical fields is expensive, and many students who would otherwise have productive careers in aviation struggle with living expenses and tuition. You can help support this next generation of aviation employees through donations to our newly developed **AAHS Scholarship Fund**. This fund, managed by a Scholarship Committee, will identify students that meet our Scholarship Fund requirements (these criteria are available on the AAHS website) and help support of their educational expenses.

Please consider supporting these students entering into careers that will be vital to the future of aviation in the U.S.

AAHS welcomes gifts to support scholarships or any of the charitable purposes of our organization. Unrestricted gifts are especially welcome. Unless a donor expresses a contrary intent, your gift will be considered "without donor restriction" and both the gift itself and any income from the gift may be used where needed to support the charitable purposes of AAHS.