

Chief Executive Officer's Message

It has been an eventful few months here – assisting Flabob Airport in the celebration of their 100th anniversary (see FL 25-2 for more details), book sales at local air shows, meeting new volunteers at the Riverside Aviation Expo, and more recently planning on some additional space at AAHS (see Spring Journal CEO message).

Some of you may already have noted in our masthead that we have enlisted the assistance of Steve Johnston and Adam Estes, (both published authors who have contributed to the *Journal*) to support Hayden Hamilton. Adam is currently working through a Masters Degree in History, at Cal State Fullerton, and has assisted in collecting and researching article topics for the *Journal*. Steve Johnston, long time member of AAHS, and recently retired as an Airport Manager for many years, is assisting Hayden in the organization and quality review of *Journal* material. We greatly appreciate both these individuals, and how their efforts can help us stay on print schedule, and, give Hayden some much needed help.

Volunteers will become ever more important to AAHS as we juggle competing priorities and new unexpected demands, such as the movement of materials as our building gets needed repairs, and the cataloging of unexpected collections. We've made arrangements with other tenants here at Flabob to temporarily run AAHS business from another building, as our HQ is emptied, the roof repaired, and the structure reinforced to reverse years of 'foundation sink' as the building has settled into the sandy river-bottom soil of the area. Do please be patient with us if you find your phone message or email hasn't been answered as promptly as you expect. We'll be complete with this renovation later this year, and will have a much more organized facility with which to manage the Society's resources and commitments.

One such project that we're actually looking forward to plan and implement is AAHS' 70th Anniversary celebration! [See poster opposite page] It is humbling to realize that this small, dedicated organization has made aviation history available to the world for nearly three quarters of a century!

A small committee has been formed to outline possible event spaces, unique aviation excursions and notable speakers. We are currently shooting for our 70th Anniversary Annual Meeting to be held in mid October, in Southern California, to give members a chance to see the tremendous progress our volunteers and staff have made to make AAHS' HQ a real aviation research facility, as well as the several historic venues that exist right here at the Flabob campus.

Some excursions that are well within a day trip for our weekend event include the new (still under construction) Flying Leatherneck Museum, in Tustin, a bus tour of the reservations-required Edwards AFB Flight Test Museum, and a private tour of the prototype Space Shuttle, housed locally in LA. These and several other venues are up for consideration. If you have any suggestions, please let us know!

Jerri Bergen
AAHS CEO

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