



AAHS Establishes Formal Link with the American Society of Aviation Artists

AAHS has been dedicated to documenting aviation history, personal stories, grand dramas, technical details, and more, since 1956. For the last 25 years, AAHS has pursued this mission alone, without sponsors, advertisements, or significant interaction with other like-minded organizations.

AAHS has run its publication successfully for its first 60 years, but changing times and technology are taxing our tried-and-true methods. We need to reach out to younger members, display our historical assets more effectively, and partner with other smart organizations. As Will Rogers once said “Even if you’re on the right track, you’ll get run over if you just sit there,” and we’re a sitting duck without developing good relations with like minded organizations – organization like the American Society of Aviation Artist (ASAA) – to partner with during these turbulent times.

AAHS has always looked to publish good historically-minded aviation artwork. In fact, the inside front and back outside cover of every *AAHS Journal* features an illustration, painting, pen-and-ink or technical drawing that brings to light some aviation element or activity. Members vote annually for ‘Best Artist’ based on these published pieces in the *Journal*, and the winner is awarded a plaque and an article about their artwork.

Being cloistered as AAHS has been, we can also be myopic in the types of aviation history we present to our readers or the public at large. We may get excited at yet another WWII 8th Air Force bomber crew mission log account, when an outsider would clearly want to hear more about the first use of drones in a combat environment, or the short history of the Populair biplane. Talented members of ASAA could very well bring some new aviation history to our pages, while we could provide historical data, photos and reference opportunities for ASAA artists doing serious historical research.

The AAHS Board of Directors has approved an *Affiliate Membership* annual rate (\$41 vs \$46) to be offered to members of ASAA (and potentially other groups in the future). We’ll be changing our registration form, website and other documentation to reflect this membership update. We will also work to join events put on by ASAA to increase our partnership opportunities. See the invitation letter from ASAA on the following page.

If you enjoy the aviation art currently printed in the *AAHS Journal*, do consider joining the ASAA and taking advantage of their educational opportunities and community forums. We look forward to seeing AAHS articles and photos used by the ASAA community to further our mutual historical interests! As well as their participation enhancing our own publications.



The American Society of Aviation Artists An Invitation to Join Our Organization

Don Malko, Aero Brush Editor

The American Society of Aviation Artists, incorporated in 1986, is dedicated to the pursuit of excellence and public appreciation of aerospace art. For thirty-one years, the ASAA has been recognized as a non-profit organization specializing in visual art of aerospace subjects while providing educational resources for its membership. Annually, an ASAA International Aerospace Art Exhibition and ASAA educational forums are coordinated to interact with the public and provide members with academic resources. Interim regional meetings are scheduled to provide member interaction between forums. Membership is categorized by Artist Fellow, Artist and Associate members. Both artist membership categories are attained through a review process of the artist artwork. Members receive a quarterly journal, the *Aero Brush* and access to a comprehensive website (www.asaa-avart.org). The ASAA website includes the *Aero Brief* newsletter, archived issues of *Aero Brush*, interaction with membership and organizational resources. A Facebook page is also available. ASAA maintains a scholarship program and provides mentoring for members. ASAA receives support from aerospace corporate sponsors and membership dues.

In the early 1980s, Keith and Peggy Ferris initiated the foundation to form a society of artists with common interest in aerospace art. In 1983, Luther Gore, a Humanities professor at the University of Virginia, sponsored an aviation art forum and exhibition. This successful event inspired further commitment to form a society. With additional national networking and planning, ASAA was formed three years later. Five very successful practicing visual artists, Keith Ferris, Jo Kotula, Bob McCall, R.G. Smith, and Ren Wicks joined together to establish ASAA as Founders. Their exemplary artwork and aerospace industry experience provided leadership and a knowledge base upon which to build a society equipped to educate and inspire other artists. Today, ASAA artist members and associates, reside in thirteen countries, thirty-eight of the United States, and the District of Columbia.

The ASAA endeavors to document historical and narrative artworks of aerospace subjects. The ASAA prides itself in representing an educational mission that provides the requisite learning for achieving works of art. Historical and technical accuracy are emphasized. These artworks are featured in *Aero Brush*, the ASAA website, and the ASAA annual juried exhibition. ASAA exhibitions are viewed by the public in venues ranging from aerospace museums and fine art galleries to an international airport, in the United States, Canada, and Great Britain.

In 2006, the ASAA was recognized by the National Aviation Hall of Fame with the Milton Caniff Spirit of Flight Award. The

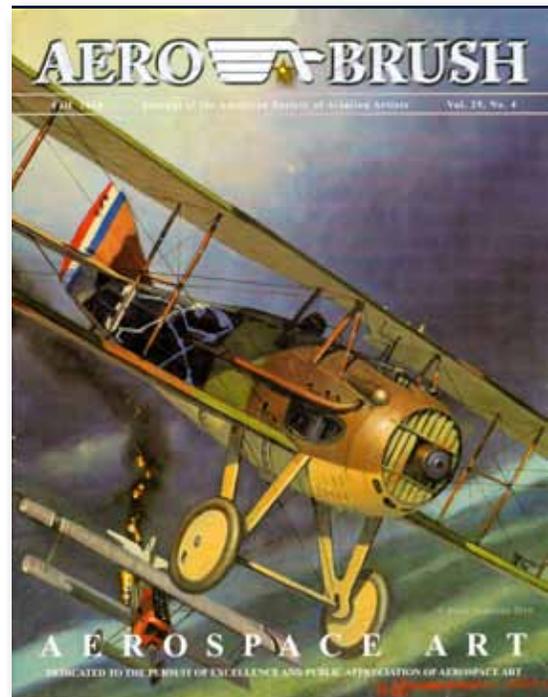
award was presented to ASAA for its achievements in contributing to America's aerospace heritage.

As stated in our by-laws, ASAA strives for the highest standard of artistic quality in aviation/aerospace art and authenticity in technical and historical fact. ASAA congratulates the American Aviation Historical Society on the huge body of historical fact it has accumulated and will welcome access to AAHS archives in pursuing ASAA's standard of excellence.

We invite AAHS members to consider ASAA membership to receive *Aero Brush* and membership access to our website. ASAA would offer a \$5 discount for Associate membership (normally \$55 for an annual ASAA Associate membership, \$50 for AAHS members). Membership inquiries can be emailed to Robert Keith at, airboy76@hotmail.com or by telephone, (508) 993-6776. Upon membership, ASAA encourages AAHS members to submit articles for *Aero Brush* for publication following ASAA editorial guidelines.

The ASAA membership will be honored to have the opportunity for our artwork to be considered for AAHS journal covers. We share mutual interests in aviation/aerospace history that would enhance both our organizations.

ASAA looks forward to partnering with AAHS.



Visit our website at: www.asaa-avart.org