

AirWaves



October 2016

AirWaves is published monthly and contains information about activities and benefits of the Association of Airworthiness Professionals.

AAP Officer Logbook

A Message from the President



2016 has been an exciting year for the Association of Airworthiness Professionals. From our meager beginnings with 3 members at the Aircraft Airworthiness & Sustainment Conference in March, we've grown to 47 members at the time of this writing. The significant member growth has allowed us to move well into our 2016 goals and to lay the foundation for future years, which will be discussed further. Some key highlights of 2016:

- * Monthly virtual AAP meetings with presentations on AW from varying perspectives
- * 11 Board of Directors, representing the 3 Services, FAA, large and small industry interests; and they are helping to provide direction to our 2017 goals (more on our 11th member below)
- * 5 officers who are committed to executing the goals for 2016 and those of 2017
- * 7 committees which implement the goals within the scope of their committee.

All of this in 7 short months; and with the mindset that we can achieve more as a team rather than individuals.

We have a small enough organization and every member's participation is significant. We're so happy to have you. So take a look at your skill set and volunteer. Here are some thoughts: volunteer on a committee, write a paper, add to the newsletter, be a speaker... What is your niche?

- Don Roberts

Member Focus

CALL FOR OFFICERS

The AAP Elections Committee was accepting nominations for all officer positions until October 21, 2016. If you missed that deadline, but desperately want to put your name forward, contact

- Denna MacLeod: denna.macleod@awprofessionals.org
- Mike Fox: mike.fox@awprofessionals.org

The next milestones in the election process are:

November

- Meeting in which membership can hear from candidates.
- Voting Period Takes Place – ballots distributed to membership
- Date that the ballots will be certified by Nominations and Election Committee

December

- The Committee collectively certifies ballots
- The Committee Chairman notifies Board of Directors of new officers and BoD confirms election results
- The Committee notifies members of new officers

January

- Installation of the new officers is conducted at the first member meeting at the beginning of the New Year.
- The oath of office is delivered
- New President conducts the first member meeting of the year.

Aircraft Airworthiness and Sustainment Conference



The announcement for the 2017 AA&S conference is online.

Note they currently have a call for abstracts. We would love to show off the strength of our membership and play a more significant role in the conference. Maybe you have some ideas about a presentation which you could give. The deadline is 31 January 2017. Here is the link

[AA&S Conference & Abstract Call](#)

or

(http://www.utcd Dayton.com/email/aas2017/EMAIL_1.html)

AAP Membership Drive

The AAP Membership drive was released as a Special Edition Newsletter on 10 Oct 2016. If you know of any interested professionals, please feel free to pass along the newsletter. You can find it at the following link: [membership drive](http://www.awprofessionals.org/home.aspx) or (<http://www.awprofessionals.org/home.aspx>) .

Member Spotlight

Robert Fitz" FitzHarris

Technical Expert, USAF Airworthiness Office

WPAFB, OH



Robert A. FitzHarris ("Fitz") is the USAF Airworthiness Technical Expert leading the Non-DoD Military Aircraft (NDMA) Office located in the USAF Airworthiness Office at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. He supports Mr. Jorge Gonzalez, the USAF's Technical Airworthiness Authority, and is responsible for development of policy, processes, guidance, tools, and training for NDMA airworthiness assessments.

Building on his prior military service in the US Army, Fitz has served as Chief Systems Engineer for the USAF Tanker Systems Modernization Program, T-1, T-6, and supported many other USAF aircraft systems during his 30+ year USAF civilian career. Fitz was the principal author of the 2010 USAF airworthiness policy and

implementing instruction, and he received the 2002 DoD Standardization Award for development of MIL-HDBK-516, Airworthiness Certification Criteria. Most recently, he was responsible for the International Security Assistance and Cooperation aspects of the USAF Airworthiness Office. Fitz has spent the majority of his career working with civil and military aviation and airworthiness authorities, both domestic and international.

Fitz has a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Systems Engineering and a Master's degree in Statistics and Operations Management from Wright State University. He is a graduate of Defense Systems Management College and the USAF Air War College. He is married, a father of three, and an avid bicyclist.

