

A Call to Service

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It is a distinct honor to serve as the Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA) President for the upcoming 2023–2024 year. I wish to thank Dr. Susan Northrup for her stewardship and leadership of AsMA this past year as President. Her professionalism, friendship, and wonderful demeanor has always been appreciated.

I joined AsMA in 1985 as a new Navy Flight Surgeon. The initial years of involvement were primarily attending Annual Scientific Meetings, balancing scheduling challenges during military deployments and subsequent residency training. A mentor during my early years with AsMA was Dr. Russell Rayman, COL, USAF (Ret.) and former AsMA Executive Director. Dr. Rayman shared with me that “the volunteer effort you put into the unique nature of AsMA will be paid back many-fold in personal satisfaction and integration with a truly wonderful community”. How true his words rang! By serving over the years in a host of roles on various committees and leadership positions within AsMA and Constituent groups, I have been privileged to develop tremendous friendships and a litany of professional colleagues within the United States and internationally. Compared to several other organizations in medicine to which I belong, AsMA is truly a home and family, and an organization that will hopefully always be part of the fabric of my life.

Thank you to the Past Presidents who have previously led AsMA. Serving with many of you directly on Council and EXCOM, I have observed your passion and efforts and have learned something from each of you that I hope can be incorporated into my current role. Your advice and counsel will continue to be appreciated.

The Home Office, led by our Executive Director Jeff Sventek, is truly the rudder which keeps AsMA on a steady course. Weathering

the challenges and impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic has been a collective endeavor of the Home Office and AsMA volunteer leadership in maintaining financial resilience and ongoing educational opportunities. How wonderful it has been to see our members returning to in-person meetings and professional exchange.

It is truly inspiring to see the enthusiasm and increased membership in AsMA through the Aerospace Medicine Student Resident Organization (AMSRO). AMSRO member participation in activities throughout AsMA continues to grow to higher levels and is a testament to the importance of mentoring and guiding these wonderful young colleagues.

With upcoming additions of the President's Page, I will be sharing initiatives and goals of our organization that many of you are actively engaged in supporting, and new areas that will be addressed. I urge each of you to consider potential service to AsMA as well as our numerous Constituent and Affiliate organizations. From being a member on various committees, to higher future leadership roles, each of you has a contribution to make, and a perspective to share, that will make AsMA stronger and enrich your sense of belonging to a truly wonderful international community of professionals.

All the best.

Keep 'em flying...and Full Steam Ahead!



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