

Change and Consolidation

AS I write this editorial, I realize that I am completing my first year as Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets*. The health of JSR is good, as indicated by the number of submissions—over 300 papers—and the increasing backlog. This is, in no small part, a reflection of the efforts of my predecessor as Editor-in-Chief, Paul Holloway. The changes in the masthead are many, in addition to the name of the Editor-in-Chief. First, I have left United Technologies to join the staff of Atlantic Research Corporation. I would like at this time to acknowledge the support given me by UTC during my years as an Associate Editor and the first few months as Editor-in-Chief. Especially due thanks is Nancy Trinks, Secretary of the Propulsion Applications Section, who typed the many forms and evaluations associated with the job of an AE. Fortunately, my new employer is an enthusiastic believer in the AIAA publications, and so support of my efforts is assured.

Other names on the masthead have changed. Larry Levy was followed as Managing Editor by Tom Murphy, who helped form a good working relationship almost immediately. Unfortunately, Tom left to pursue educational goals. On the brighter side, Camille Savino has joined the AIAA staff and is fitting in smoothly. In all these changes, the behind-the-scenes assistance of Elaine Camhi has been invaluable. In addition, Norma Brennan has lightened my load (and my spirits) and kept me on the straight path.

Two new Associate Editors are completing their first year. Mike Card has taken the new field of structural dynamics and large space structures and made it his own. His knowledge of the field and ideas for using experts to improve papers have been a very positive influence. Leon Strand has been everything I hoped when I asked this friend of many years to take over the field of chemical propulsion—hard working and knowledgeable.

Another change is to be noted in this masthead. Gerry Walberg has stepped aside after over two hectic years as substitute AE. Thanks are due to him for his effort. In addition, Gerry has located a well-qualified replacement, John T. Howe of NASA Ames. John is a member of the Thermophysics TC and is highly respected in the fields of theoretical aerodynamics and computational fluid mechanics. I look forward to working with him.

One name will remain on the masthead for one more year, that of George Hazelrigg. George agreed to continue his invaluable service as an Associate Editor although help will be furnished him prior to the next Electric Propulsion Conference, which has traditionally inundated the responsible AE. His expertise has been a great help in my first year and will be a major linchpin in the consolidation of the editorial group with the continuing service of Mike and Leon as AE's. Once again, the help of the AIAA editorial staff is deeply appreciated.

The future of the AIAA journals is promising with the help of the links which have been established between the Technical Committees and Publications. These links will help provide survey papers, etc., and serve as a source for qualified reviewers, thereby ensuring the continued technical excellence of the journals.

Through all the changes, two groups of people must be acknowledged for their contributions to JSR. First are the authors, who have labored hard to share their expertise and thoughts with us all. Second are the reviewers, who have contributed their time and knowledge to the publication process. Their names are listed on the following page, which is an inadequate means of acknowledging their assistance.

R.H. Woodward Waesche
Editor-in-Chief