

Forward to the Past—Part I

THE *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets* was started in 1964, with the late Gordon Dugger as Editor-in-Chief. He was followed by Ralph Ragan, Don Fraser, Paul Holloway, Woody Waesche, and Frank Redd. My earliest personal subscription of *JSR* seems to be Volume 2, November–December 1965. In that issue there was one Survey Paper, 20 contributed papers, 27 Engineering Notes, three Technical Comments with replies, and the annual author/subject index. All of this in 192 journal pages—and Gordon had only four Associate Editors to perform the technical evaluation of the papers. I know they did a thorough job, since Gordon Dugger essentially rewrote the first paper I submitted to *JSR* for publication.

I stand in awe of these early pioneers of *JSR*. The quality of the journal was high, the number of pages was large, and the service to the aerospace community was important. If one compares the original Scope of *JSR* with the current Scope, many similarities and some differences will be found. Of course, over the years AIAA has started other journals covering some topics of the original *JSR* Scope, specifically, the *Journal of Guidance, Control, and Dynamics*, the *Journal of Propulsion and Power*, and the *Journal of Thermophysics and Heat Transfer*. Some of the papers published in the early years of *JSR* would now be published in other AIAA journals; but there is still a significant role in AIAA publications for *JSR*.

To cover better the current intent of this journal, with broader coverage of aerospace topics, the AIAA Publications Committee has approved a revised Scope of *JSR*. The revised Scope returns to cover all areas included in *JSR* prior to 1989. The older Scope wording has been revised for clarity. The new Scope is published on the inside front cover of this and future issues of this journal.

As the new Editor-in-Chief of *JSR*, I am committed to improving the quality of the journal, establishing a goal for publishing papers within a year of submittal, and expanding our service to the journal authors and readers and to members of AIAA and the aerospace community. Based on my service as a *JSR* Associate Editor, I am convinced that we can do it.

Without a plan my ideas are simply a motherhood-type of statement. I have a plan, and with the help of authors, Associate Editors, and the AIAA Editorial Department in Washington, it will succeed. I have sent 230 letters to authors of papers

at the 28th Aerospace Sciences Meeting, held in Reno in January, inviting them to submit their papers to *JSR* for evaluation for publication. Of course, I do not know how many papers we will receive, but the authors will know of our interest in their work.

I am working with the *JSR* Editorial Advisory Board to cover technical areas such as applied aerodynamics and atmospheric flight mechanics in addition to the classical space-related technical committee topics. We will actively seek papers from tactical and strategic missiles as well as spacecraft, space sciences, and space systems. In other words, we will try to serve a broader rather than a narrower community. Also, I will ask the Advisory Board to take a more active role in soliciting papers for *JSR* in all of the areas covered by the journal, and I will seek help from our corporate friends.

Special issues of *JSR* are planned to cover important space and atmospheric missions, technology, and applications. The last word—applications—is the key, I believe, since *JSR* is an applications journal. There are more engineers in AIAA than basic scientists, and most of the work done in the aerospace community is applications and applied research. Through special issues we hope to focus the interest of authors and readers on specific timely topics. This idea will begin with the upcoming March–April issue.

I look forward to working with a group of experienced Associate Editors; namely, David Allen, Hank Garrett, Jim Martin, Paul Mizera, Kerry Nock, and Walt Sturek. I am sure all will continue to serve *JSR* well, as they have in the past. I also look forward to working with Norma Brennan and her Editorial and Production Departments at AIAA in Washington. Norma's advice and assistance are necessary for a successful journal, and AIAA is indeed fortunate to have her in this key position.

I will miss the opportunity I have had as an Associate Editor to work closely with reviewers of papers for this journal. The peer review process is vital to all archive journals, and the service our reviewers perform is sincerely appreciated. A list of 1989 reviewers follows. Thanks to all of them.

Clark H. Lewis
Editor-in-Chief

The *JSR* Legacy

AS it begins its 27th year of publication, the *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets* welcomes its seventh Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Clark H. Lewis. Dr. Lewis follows a distinguished list of predecessors: Gordon L. Dugger, Ralph R. Ragan, Donald C. Fraser, Paul F. Holloway, R. H. Woodward Waesche, and Frank J. Redd. Dr. Redd, retiring after a three-year term, brought *JSR* through a difficult transitional period.

The name of Dr. Lewis is not new to the *JSR* masthead. He has served as an Associate Editor for the past seven years with exceptional dedication. The AIAA Publications Committee, AIAA Board of Directors, and I enthusiastically support his appointment to this higher position. His photograph and biographical sketch follow.

Billy M. McCormac
AIAA Vice President—Publications