

To all JLFC Members:

Much quicker than I would have imagined, my tenure as JLFC Chairman is over. While I feel there isn't much to pat myself on the back for, I'd like to point out some of the significant accomplishments of others that just happened to have occurred on my watch. One is the outstanding work of member Chuck Green in establishing a JLFC website. The site is professional in appearance and quite functional. Chuck basically taught himself web design to be able to create this website for us all. Well done Chuck!

Steve Stires took our basic ground school and converted it to a Powerpoint presentation. It took him many hours but now we have a computer-based presentation that is easy to update and distribute. The ground school written exam is being uploaded to the website as I write this and will shortly become accessible to all instructors (who teach ground school) from a password-protected corner of the website. While the actual ground school presentation is currently distributed on CD, it too may appear on the website in the near future. More to follow.

Our representatives to the FAST Board, David Burroughs, John Rettick, and Tom Gordon have done an outstanding job of representing our interests. As you may or may not know, there is a movement afoot to develop an FAA national formation manual that all signatories would ascribe to as part of their FAST affiliation. As you can imagine, it is vitally important that the requirements of JLFC be incorporated into the process and we should thank these gentlemen for their diligence on our behalf.

Speaking of Tom Gordon, I doubt JLFC would currently exist without him. An original "founding father" of the organization, Tom is the only readily accessible link we have with the original concept of the JLFC. He busies himself with keeping the organization records, a job as essential as it is thankless. Tom is the glue that holds our program together as other JLFC officers come and go. Thanks Tom, on behalf of us all.

A tip of the hat to Brian Flax who answered my every request for help with a "Sure, no problem". It means a great deal.

My thanks also goes out to the entire membership who consistently manage to fly and train formation flight while keeping it safe first and fun second.

On a different subject, I'd like to explain the changes that have occurred among your JLFC officers. As previously mentioned, my time was up. Under normal circumstances, our bylaws stipulate that the current, serving Vice-Chairman will ascend to the position of Chairman and after a nomination period, the membership will elect a new Vice-Chairman. The current Vice-Chairman is Mike Weinfurter who many of you know. Mike unfortunately is in the process of recovering from an illness and the timing is not the best for him. As a result, the JLFC Officers present recommended (and the membership approved) a variation on JLFC policy and an interim Chairman was nominated and elected to serve in that position until such time as Mike is ready to become the Chairman and serve his uninterrupted two-year term. Thankfully, ex-JLFC

Chairman Tom Burlace accepted the nomination as interim-Chairman. Tom is steady, wise, and experienced. We are lucky to have him. Tom Gordon was elected to another term as Secretary/Treasurer.

Well that's about it. It's been an honor for me. I have greatly enjoyed the opportunity to meet many of you and I look forward to supporting JLFC in a different capacity during the coming years.

Fly safe, have fun.

Mark