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## Aerospace Section

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## Aerospace Section

## Mary L. Crompton, Chair



The Aerospace Section of the Engineering Division encourages communication and cooperation among information professionals concerned with aerospace, aeronautical and related technologies. In addition, it fosters dialog with entities such as NASA, the AIAA and other important sources of technical data and bibliographical services.

Hi Aero colleagues! This is my final column as chair of the Aerospace Section, and I must say, I've thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it! It's been a marvelous learning experience for me, especially since I have had the privilege of working with some terrific people. Let me take just a moment to thank them individually: first, David Hook, the section chair-elect. Dave has been a great help to me—I would be sitting at work, and a cheerful e-mail would pop up from Dave in Canada, asking if he could do anything to help! Dave has also chaired the Mandel Award Committee, which has chosen an inspired winner for 2004 (see below for more details). Thanks also to the Mandel Award Committee members for their service: Dottie Moon, Ginny Jarvis, and Marcia Rodney. I would also like to single out past chair Eileen Dorschner for thanks. She's been a real help to me in "navigating" the planning of the Aero program and reception for Nashville, plus a myriad of details that NEVER would have occurred to me! Eileen was also in charge of finding a candidate for chair-elect. Last, I would like to thank Cheryl Hansen, chair of the Engineering Division. I've been fortunate that Cheryl and I live about twenty-five miles apart—she's always available for a quick consultation, by either phone or e-mail. I've learned a lot from her in the past year, and her calming influence has certainly soothed my ruffled feathers a time or two!

Our Aerospace program is totally set for Nashville, and I hope to see many of you there! As I mentioned as a "teaser" in the February 2004 issue of *STN*, our guest speaker will be Dr. Mary (Missy) Cummings, a retired F-18 Navy combat pilot. The program is set for Monday, June 7, in the late afternoon. The program title is "Into the wild blue yonder: Adventures of a female combat pilot." Missy received her B.S. in mathematics from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1988, her M.S. in space systems engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School in 1994, and her Ph.D. in systems engineering from the University of Virginia in 2003. A naval officer and military pilot from 1988 to 1999, she was one of the Navy's first female fighter pilots. She is currently the Boeing Assistant Professor in the Aeronautics and Astronautics Department at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Her previous teaching experience includes instructing for the U.S. Navy at Penn State and as an assistant professor for the Virginia Tech Engineering Fundamentals Division. Her research interests include human interaction with autonomous vehicle systems, humans and automation, decision support, human-computer interaction, and the ethical and social impact of technology. I have already seen her slides

for the presentation and they look great—I'm excited to hear her speak. There will be a reception after her presentation with a cash bar and munchies. Due to planning purposes, we will be charging \$5 for Missy's talk and it is a ticketed event (#480). Please check the room location as it may change from what is in the planner. I would like to thank in advance our sponsors, AIAA and Dialog, the information professional partner. I look forward to seeing many of you there!

The Aerospace breakfast and business meeting will be held Tuesday, June 8, at 7:30 a.m. Again, this is a ticketed event (#505) with a cost of \$21. We will present our 2004 Mandel Award winner with the customary \$1,000 check and a commemorative plaque. Then, I will hand over the reins of the section to the capable Dave Hook. Once again, many thanks in advance to our breakfast sponsors: AIAA and Thomson Scientific. We are always grateful for their generosity!

The winner of this year's George Mandel Award is Margaret (Peggy) Metcalf Carr. I am sure that many of you already know her; she has been active in the Engineering Division as well as the Aerospace Section for years. Previously, Peggy worked for Martin Marietta (now Lockheed Martin) for ten years as manager of the Business Information Center at corporate headquarters and as a technical information specialist for the research and development facility. From 1990 to 2003, she was principal of Carr Research Group, providing custom research, analysis, and consulting support to business professionals. She recently accepted a new position as intelligence analyst for the U.S. Department of Defense in Washington, D.C. Peggy received a master of library science degree in information retrieval from the School of Information Studies, Syracuse University, and a bachelor's degree in communication and history from Muskingum College. A longtime SLA member, Peggy joined the association while a Syracuse student in the late 1970s. Since then, she has held many offices and positions at the chapter, division, and section levels, including chapter president, bulletin editor, and professional development chair; DLMD section chair; and Engineering Division professional development chair. She also served on the SLA Consultation Service committee. Please join me in congratulating Peggy!

Thanks again to all of you who have made this past year so enjoyable for me—your help is sincerely appreciated. See you in Nashville!

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