



# Greater St Louis Flight Instructors Association Newsletter

December 2011

Issue 1112

---

## Gratitude

Giving thanks is an individual matter.... On Thanksgiving Day, I thought about those who have given so much to this organization. Rick Albrecht was always on call to keep the spirit in the group. He has worked tirelessly to inspire young instructors, solicit Directors and charm those around him with great ideas. In short, everyone loves him. Fred Harms , a sturdy individual, has educated nearly everyone in Saint Louis aviation. He has given the GSLFIA a master gift - his time. We have had a series of exceptional Directors and Presidents.

Moving forward, the newly elected Board has been blessed with more talented professionals. Craig OMara, Boeing 747 Captain and Check Airman at United Air Lines, has joined as a Director. Craig is an exceptionally gifted professional who will serve as Chairman of the MACTS "Learn to Fly" program. Dick Horowitz , another brilliant aviator, has willingly consented to fill the Vice President position. This Board has been selected to move the organization into the future. They are true forward thinkers.....

The GSLFIA has survived for over 40 years, this year we have compiled historical data that will be presented at the MACTS. Try not to miss this one! Dick, Dave and Rick have worked tirelessly on the project and John is composing the film for presentation.

Past President, John Teipen, will continue to serve the group in an advisory capacity. We are fortunate indeed to have his input. We wish John the very best in his new role. He has served the GSLFIA well. Please visit [www.MACTS.org](http://www.MACTS.org) or, [www.gslfia.com](http://www.gslfia.com) for the latest on our 2012 event.

Happy Holidays. See you at the MACTS !  
Gloria Bahn ATP/DPE  
President GSLFIA

---

## 2012 Election of Officers and Board Members

By Don Hoffmann

The 2012 election of the GSLFIA Board Members is complete. The results for the four officers and eight directors are listed below. We thank the members that participated in the voting process. We welcome the new 2012 board members and we thank the exiting board members for volunteering their time and energy to the association. *Thank You All!*

<u>Position</u>	<u>Person</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Person</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Person</u>
President:	Gloria Bahn	Director:	Erich Albrecht	Director:	John Ladley
Vice-Pres:	Dick Horowitz	Director:	Beverly Clear	Director:	Craig O'Mara
Secretary:	Dave Pressy	Director:	Don Hoffmann	Director:	Dan Reed
Treasurer:	Don Cahill	Director:	Steve Hofmann	Director:	Joe St. Clair

---

### **Future Dates to Remember:**

January 21 & 22, 2012—Midwest Aviation Conference & GSLFIA FIRC

---

**\*\*Check the website for news updates at [www.MACTS.org](http://www.MACTS.org) or [www.GSLFIA.com](http://www.GSLFIA.com) \*\***

---

---

## ***FIRC Registration and Membership Renewal***

by Don Hoffmann

The registration process for the Flight Instructor Revalidation Clinic, January 21st and 22nd and the membership renewal process is now underway. ***Again, we offer CFIs the opportunity to attend and revalidate free at the January FIRC if they have not attended the GSLFIA FIRC in 2010 or 2011.*** This is a great opportunity for CFIs that have never attended a GSLFIA FIRC or are now “out of sync” with the January FIRC possibly because they obtained an additional rating. These Instructors can experience the excellent St Louis GSLFIA FIRC and get into the January revalidation cycle ***free!*** The FIRC fee for CFIs that attended the 2010 or 2011 FIRC is \$200 early registration-before January 16th, 2012 or \$225 at the door. Those CFIs that are not validating this year and people that are not flight instructors may attend for \$50 per day.

Your attendance at the FIRC and/or your continued membership is important. It provides revenue for additional CFI scholarships and it is a direct investment in your aviation community. **Members that have not registered for the FIRC or renewed their 2012 membership will receive another FIRC Registration/ Membership Renewal letter and form in the mail. Please fill out the form and return it in the envelope supplied.** For more information visit [www.gslfia.com](http://www.gslfia.com).

---

## ***Continuing Ed: 2012 FIRC and GSLFIA CFI Educational Programs***

by Dave Pressy

Recent discussions with Director and former President Rick Albrecht regarding the history of the GSLFIA have brought to mind the original mission of our group: Flight Instructor education, most importantly, our annual Flight Instructor Revalidation Clinic was the original impetus for the organization’s formation back in 1971. The 2012 FIRC will be held on January 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Maryland Heights Centre. This year marks the 42<sup>nd</sup> time we’ve provided local CFI’s the opportunity to revalidate their hard-earned certificates at a uniquely “St. Louis Style” clinic. With the proliferation of online and “boxed” FIRC’s, our organization has continued to believe that the benefits of a live clinic with local experts presenting relevant subjects far outweighs the perceived benefit of more generic, convenience-oriented, “get it over with” FIRC’s that seem to raise more questions than they answer. In keeping with tradition, this year’s GSLFIA FIRC brings you subjects and presenters that we hope you’ll find informative and compelling.

Also in keeping with the GSLFIA’s educational mission, and in an effort provide forums for Flight Instructors to address and discuss issues of growing concern within the aviation and flight training industry, the GSLFIA has held two CFI Roundtables in previous months. Those in attendance have been very forthcoming with new ideas and possible solutions for such perennial issues as increasing instructor skills, dealing with the “time-building” model in the face of renewed airline hiring, teaching professionalism, etc. Mr. Fred Harms from the St. Louis FSDO joined us for our November Roundtable, leading an informative discussion on Professionalism in Flight Instruction. Quite a bit of information has come out of these Roundtables. To that end, please check for out-briefings and future dates of periodic Roundtables and other CFI Educational Programs in our newsletter and website. We have plenty of great educational programs in the works for 2012.

In order to secure the future of our industry and our trade, we should never discount the lessons of the past. Your organization was formed out of a desire to provide quality education to our instructor community. We’re very proud to continue this tradition. Please consider joining us.

---

## ***Safety Tip from Rick Albrecht***

You should always set safety standards for yourself. For instance, an instrument approach may have a minimum of 200 ft AGL but you should add a safety cushion especially if flying a single engine airplane. My own standard is 1,000 ft and 2 miles visibility. The reason is that if the engine stops it will allow you to find a landing place and survive the disaster. There are many areas that you should set safety standards for yourself- to name just two others would be crosswind components and fuel on board. ***Determine the safety standards that are safe for you and then use them.***

FLY SAFE Rick

## 2012 Certified Flight Instructor of the Year Award Central Region

The FAA Safety Team (FAASTeam) Central Region is proud to announce the winner of the 2012 Certified Flight Instructor of the Year Award for the Central Region is Dave W. Pressy of St. Louis, Missouri. He is now a finalist for the national award for 2012 CFI of the Year to be selected in January. The winner of the national award is introduced at EAA Airventure in Oshkosh, Wisconsin later next year.

To say that Dave has been active in local flight instruction and safety events is an overwhelming understatement. While performing his duties as chief flight instructor at St. Charles Flying Service, he has been a FAASTeam representative and serves on the board of directors for the Greater St. Louis Flight Instructors Association.

His duties as chief flight instructor have included teaching dozens of airmen how to fly in a variety of curriculums. That role also has had him managing certain duties such as training assignments, flight checking, and coordinating maintenance of the aircraft.

When not working at the flight school, Dave developed and presented several courses on topics ranging from winter flight operations to light sport aircraft for presentation to FAASTeam audiences. Many times, Dave is the presenter of the courses he develops. Dave is often the voice or the face of FAASTeam productions. Most recently he can be seen and heard in the Approaches and Landings video released past this fall nationwide for the FAASTeam.

He believes in airman education and proficiency and is an advocate for the FAA Pilot Proficiency Program known as "Wings." He also is involved in encouraging school age kids to look at aviation as a potential career choice.

As a board member of the GSLFIA, he has taken on various roles such as organizing CFI round table discussions and managing the group's website. He has been this year's director of the Midwest Aviation Conference and Trade Show's flight instructor revalidation clinic (FIRC). In the past, he's organized events on the main stage and coordinated the simulator training during the youth education portion of the conference. He has also been responsible for marketing the event and coordinating the vendors for the trade show.

Dave began his dream of flight instructing at thirty something. A later age than most flight instructors these days, but because of that he brings a teaching style that is intuitive of the learning needs of his students. He finds a way to get the message across to every one of them. He adapts to them to enhance their learning experience. His record as a flight instructor speaks to the success of his methods.

Good luck to Dave as his awards package is moved on to national competition!

Phil Dixon  
FAASTeam Program Manager  
(314) 890-4818

## GSLFIA CONTACTS

### 2012 Board Members

#### President

Gloria Bahn

#### Vice-president

Dick Horowitz

#### Secretary

Dave Pressy

#### Treasurer

Donn Cahill

#### Directors:

Rick Albrecht

Beverly Clear

Don Hoffmann

Steve Hofmann

John Ladley

Craig O'Mara

Dan Reed

Joe St. Clair

#### Newsletter Editor:

Beverly Clear

#### Webmaster:

Dave Pressy

#### Website:

[www.GSLFIA.com](http://www.GSLFIA.com)

#### email:

[members@gslfia.com](mailto:members@gslfia.com)

### Greater St. Louis Flight Instructors Association

P.O. Box 2196

St. Peters, MO 63376

314-286-9905



# Happy Holidays

