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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MATT SPEARE EARNS NAFI MASTER INSTRUCTOR ACCREDITATION

KALAMAZOO, MI — 1/6/2024 The National Association of Flight Instructors is proud to announce that NAFI member Matt Speare has earned accreditation as a NAFI Master Flight Instructor.

Speare has been flying airplanes and helicopters for more than 30 years, including 23 years flying attack helicopters for the United States Army. He has earned his private, instrument, commercial, and CFI/CFII ratings in both airplanes and rotary wing aircraft.

Originally from Silver Lake, Ohio, Speare is the chief operating officer of Carter Bank. He serves as the director of training for the Lancair Owners and Builders Organization (LOBO) and specializes in instructing in the Lancair 200/300 series, Legacy, ES, and IV/IVP models



and regularly conducts transition training for new owners of these airframe types. He also currently serves as president of the Western Flying Club in Burlington, North Carolina — one of the oldest flying clubs in the United States.

Speare currently resides in Greensboro, North Carolina, with his wife, Martha.

The NAFI Master Flight Instructor Accreditation is earned by aviation educators based upon a system of advanced professional standards and peer review. The accreditation identifies and publicly recognizes those teachers of flight who demonstrate an ongoing commitment to excellence, professional growth, and service to the aviation community. The NAFI Master Instructor accreditation is for two years and may be used to renew an FAA flight instructor certificate. Applicants must have been a CFI for two years and have given 1,000 hours of flight instruction. In addition, candidates must meet and document activity in four NAFI Master Instructor categories (Instructor, Educator, Service to the Aviation Community, and Professional Activity).

Members of the **National Association of Flight Instructors** work as independent instructors, at flight schools, universities, FBOs, corporate flight departments and in the military. Since 1967, NAFI and its members, who teach in thirty countries, are dedicated to increasing and maintaining the professionalism of flight instruction. NAFI members influence active pilots daily: students working to become pilots, current pilots training to advance their skills with new ratings or certificates and pilots who seek to improve their skills with recurrent training. NAFI also serves as an advocate with industry and government as a voice for flight instruction. NAFI helps shape the current and future direction of flight training. For more information about NAFI or the NAFI Master Instructor program call **866-806-6156** or visit www.NAFINet.org.