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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DOMENIC LAFAUCI EARNS NAFI ASSOCIATE MASTER INSTRUCTOR ACCREDITATION

KALAMAZOO, MI — 03/23/2017 The National Association of Flight Instructors is proud to announce that NAFI member Domenic LaFauci has earned accreditation as a NAFI Associate Master Flight Instructor.

On his 20th birthday, LaFauci took to the skies for the first time. He was immediately hooked, he said. Shortly thereafter, he drove an over-packed Jeep from Massachusetts to Daytona Beach, Florida, home of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. That's where he earned a commercial ASEL certificate as well as his AGI and IGI ratings.



While at ERAU, LaFauci purchased an unfinished Bede BD-5 from a local EAA chapter. He housed it in his living room, which he says was not easy to explain to his wife. With her help, he somehow succeeded in convincing the school's legal board to take the aircraft on as an educational endeavor for the benefit of students. This project eventually lead him to rub elbows with NASA Astronaut Nicole Stott, as well as some of the top mechanics in the country.

LaFauci developed an affinity for teaching while working in the College of Aviation's tutor lab at Embry-Riddle. He was also named Training Director and Manager of the college's radio station. Upon graduation in 2015, Domenic returned to Massachusetts and obtained his CFI certificate.

He is now at Bridgewater State University's 141 Aviation Science Program, where he is employed as a staff member and is awaiting his 141 assistant chief checkride. You may also find him at the East Coast Aero Club (ECAC) where he instructs in vintage tailwheel and high-performance airplanes.

In 2016, LaFauci was nominated as an Outstanding Flight Instructor in the AOPA's 2016 Flight Training Excellence Awards. He is training to instruct primary and sportsman aerobatics in ECAC's Super Decathlon, under the supervision of local DPE & aerobatics Instructor Marc Nathanson. LaFauci is also a FAASTeam representative and a Gold Seal Flight Instructor.

LaFauci says his goals are to obtain his A&P certificates and instruct in warbirds, as well as move up to the chief instructor position at BSU. He adds that one of his dreams is to be an instructor pilot for the U.S. Air Force-Air National Guard.

*The **NAFI Master Flight Instructor program** is the longest running and most prestigious FAA accredited master flight instructor program in the industry. The NAFI Master 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 30 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.*