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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JOHN "JACK" STEVENS EARNS NAFI MASTER INSTRUCTOR ACCREDITATION

KALAMAZOO, MI — 6/14/2016 The National Association of Flight Instructors is proud to announce that NAFI member John "Jack" Stevens has earned accreditation as a NAFI Master Flight Instructor.

Stevens is an ATP (airplane) & Commercial (helicopter), CFI-I, MEI, CSIP, FAASafety Representative and Chief Flight Instructor (Part 141 Instrument) with the Moore County Airport Flight Center in Pinehurst, NC (KSOP).

He started flying in 1969 at a small grass strip in Warrington, PA, getting his private pilot certificate in a Piper Colt (PA22-108). He recalls that the approach to



the 1300-foot runway was over a barn, uphill then downhill. The Colt had no flaps and all landings were short-field/soft-field. Sadly, he says, Warrington Airport has long since been gobbled up by residential development and a quarry expansion. In 1980 his growing family moved to Flemingsburg, KY where he shared non-aviation professional employment with his wife Ellen. He received his CFI certificate in 1981. Thereafter, as an avocation, he provided flight instruction at the Fleming-Mason Airport (KFGX), was an FAASafety Representative with the Louisville, KY FSDO, and served with the Civil Air Patrol, mentoring other pilots and conducting search and rescue missions in eastern Kentucky. In 1983 his family moved to Mt. Sterling, KY where he worked with Kentucky Airmotive at the Montgomery County Airport (KIOB), providing all levels of flight instruction, including aerobatic training in his Decathlon (8KCAB). Following a move to Pinehurst, North Carolina in 1992 he provided free-lance flight instruction at the Moore County Airport and upon retiring from his professional job in 2012 he joined the staff at the Moore County Airport Flight Center, and in 2015 assumed the Chief Flight Instructor position for the Part 141

instrument program. He is a Cirrus Standardized Instructor Pilot, serves as FAA Safety Representative for the Greensboro, NC FSDO and is serving on the advisory committee exploring the possibility of establishing an aviation degree program at Sandhill's Community College in Southern Pines, NC.

"I'm passionate about mentoring others and keep in close contact with past clients," he said "It is so rewarding when I receive a phone call, an email or text from a past student telling me about a new job, qualifying in a new aircraft, obtaining an additional rating or dealing with an untoward situation that they safely handled."

"Collegial interaction with fellow CFIs is also a satisfying perk, even if the salutation is to the grey beard in the group," he, added. "As instructor pilots we know about the published four levels of learning. Actually, the fifth and highest level of learning is Teaching. "

*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).*

*The **National Association of Flight Instructors' (NAFI)** purpose is to establish and promote a high level of professionalism among aviation educators and to provide recognition for their contributions to aviation safety, education and training. NAFI members teach in 17 countries in flight schools, universities, FBOs, corporate flight departments, the military and as independent flight instructors. Founded in 1967, NAFI works with industry and government to help shape the direction of flight training and to serve as a voice for flight instruction. For more information about NAFI or the NAFI Master Instructor program call **866-806-6156** or visit www.NAFINet.org.*