

## COMANCHE FLYER FOUNDATION

### *CFF Working for You*

by Mike Foster, CFF President

**G**reetings to all from CFF. I hope this letter finds each one of you happy, healthy, and full of good memories of your Comanche flying from this summer and beyond. I can say we have been blessed with some great flying this past year and I'm hoping that is the same for each of you.

We have had a mild summer, and beautiful fall weather is upon us here in Texas. As I write this, I am looking forward to Tuesday (it is Sunday morning), when I will finally get the cast off my right arm (voluntary thumb overhaul, to new specs). I hope to capture what's left of the great flying weather, and consequently regain some of the muscle memory that has gone stagnant in the last six weeks. At least it won't be painful to use my thumb to push the throttle forward anymore.

Paula and I just attended (drove to) a fly-in put on by our tribe (SC), to Hot Springs, AR, where we had a phenomenal turnout of 20 Comanches, one Baron, and 51 high-quality individuals. There were at least two couples who were attending their first fly-in, and one new Comanche owner, who hopefully went away with a new outlook on what Comanche camaraderie is all about. As we walked from place to place in town, I found myself thinking about the interesting diversity of all the folks there. Retired government employees, business owners, engineers, consultants, techies, flight instructors, ex-military, air traffic controllers, APs/IAs, you name it.

Where am I going with this? It has become more apparent to me as I get older (more experienced), that each of us has something (a gift we are blessed with) to contribute to others, based on our life experience, occupation, flight experience, etc. In short, we all have knowledge we can and should share, even if it is to encourage further research or counsel about a subject in which we are weak. This is as relevant to Comanches as it is in any other aspect of life. The way I see it, this is one of the most valuable aspects of attending fly-ins, along with the more obvious benefit of meeting great new people to call friends.

So, what has CFF been up to? We are in the final stages of the development and implementation of our website. We are attempting to combine some of the best attributes of ICS website, and a few other sites by other type clubs, to make a useful, informative, and user-friendly site that will effectively disseminate the information relevant to CFF, CPPP, and the issues that surround our involvement with the Comanche aircraft as dictated by our mission statement. Stay tuned.

Another change we are making is the CFF Board of Directors has voted to realign some or all (depending on circumstances) of the scholarship money we have been distributing to aviation maintenance candidates. We have been getting feedback and suggestions about lowering the price point of the CPPP training events; we would have more

people attending them. Although I have reservations as to the accuracy of this information, we have decided to give it a try. The other end of the spectrum is that if it were free, there would still be those individuals, for whatever reason, who would not attend recurrent training. All that said, it is one of our goals to get as many owners/pilots into an informative, well presented, Comanche-specific training clinic as best we are able, and we are willing to think and do "outside the box" to that end.

We plan to implement this starting January 1, 2016. So, if you haven't attended a CPPP yet, or you enjoyed and appreciated the quality of the class, and would like to attend another, talk to your tribe chief to see if your tribe or even a neighboring tribe can combine to generate enough interest (six full-course students) to put one together in your area.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and the best of all things in Comanche land, and life in general.

Safe Flying, and stay tuned for future updates.

Safe Flying,

*Mike Foster*  
CFF President  
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