

Gary T. Padussis

1) Specifically, why do you want to serve on the SAFE Board of Directors?

The future of general aviation will depend on organizations as SAFE. I am committed to future generations of pilots, whether it be for professional or recreational flying, be taught in a manner such that the system itself, advances the knowledge and talent required to hold a pilot's license. The final product will be safer pilots, and a system that also encourages future methods of safe flying.

I understand that a board member represents the members of the organization and is to be adhering to the policies and bylaws as established by the members. A board member although granted the opportunity to bring personal skills, new ideas and projects, to the organization, must never be self serving. A board member must be able to tolerate ambiguity, make the proper decisions for the advancement of the institution, and be held accountable to its members.

2) What pertinent experience, special talents, and/or leadership skills would you bring to the Board?

Having served on previous boards, I have learned to properly communicate with other members, and accept their particular view of a situation. In this manner, together we have defined the problem, resolved the conflict, and implemented an agreed-upon action. I would bring this same thought process to SAFE.

3) What do you see as the most pressing issues for SAFE as a fairly new organization to address in the next three years?

The future of SAFE is to provide value to its members, sponsors, and affiliates. As a new entity, the raising of funds is crucial the next three years. There must be fiscal responsibility and accountability from the staff members of SAFE and its board or directors, now and in the future to attract new revenue sources. The by-product will be a value added organization that its members, sponsors, and affiliates will continue to support.