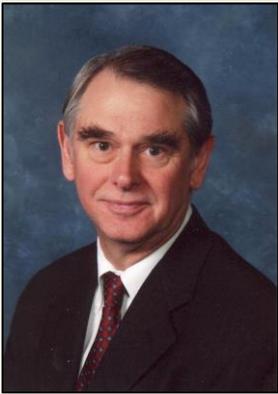


## Meet International Treasurer Richard Smith



International  
Treasurer  
Richard Smith

When my wife, Jimmie Ruth, of soon-to-be 50 years needs to find me, she only must walk out the back door of our house and go to my hanger/shop where I can be found working on my life long project, a  $\frac{3}{4}$  scale P-51 Mustang fighter plane from World War II. It has been a lifelong project that is approaching completion. Starting from just a set of plans, this project has been built from scratch, each piece requiring fabrication. We live on a private airport, so it will be easy to make that first flight. Over the years, Jimmie Ruth has been both an able helper on the project and very

understanding about my obsession with this quest to build my own airplane. We also share an interest in remodeling houses, our own and others. Additionally, we like to travel, cook, and collect wine and antiques.

Now, both our daughters Lee Anne and Leslie are grown, married and have given us five grandchildren. Both daughters, at one time or another, have helped with the project and have given the airplane a name: "The Other Woman". This name caused some concern with one of our oldest daughter's teacher, which took some serious explaining.

Throughout the years, the project has taken a back seat to my involvement in organized dentistry. Like all of us, I went through the various offices at the local level and then moved to the offices in the state dental association. I was honored to serve as Treasurer of the Texas Dental Association (TDA) for nine years and then as President. I have also served as Chair of an American Dental Association (ADA)

Council and several committees for the ADA. Afterwards, I was President of the TDA Smiles Foundation and later served as Treasurer, and I'm still on their Board of Directors and oversee most of our Texas Mission of Mercy dental events. I have served as Treasurer of the [USA Section](#) of the ICD since 2007, so I bring a very broad and long service in the financial matters of dental organizations to the job of Treasurer of the International College of Dentists.

Moreover, I have been in private practice in Amarillo, Texas, for 45 years and was fortunate to find a fine young man to join me as an associate. He became a full partner, then purchased my share of the practice in 2011, in which I started reducing my days at the office. This year marks a major turning point, as I go to one day a week of practice, which will translate to more time in the shop to finish the Mustang. While I work to finish the plane, I enjoy flying the older Cessna that I have restored, and Jimmie and I intend to travel more with our extra time.

Dr. Richard Smith

International Treasurer



Dr. Smith with his lifelong project, a  $\frac{3}{4}$  scale P-51 Mustang fighter plane from WWII.