



Southern Navion Air Group

Newsletter

January 2017



FROM THE PRESIDENT

With every else being new since the end of last year, SNAG is also starting new this year. Our first fly-in is at Shade Tree on March 3-5. We have 20 reservations at the Hampton Inn, phone 228 539 0601, talk to Breanne. If the past is any predictor of the future, the Shade Tree fly-in is going to be great. Shade Tree is almost family with SNAG. Friday night there will be a cold cut platter for the basic food needs, but please bring the snacks, sweets or whatever for all to enjoy.

The Cannon Creek crew also will hold a “weekend prior to Sun and Fun” fly-in for those going on the Sun&Fun on 3/32 – 4/2. Contact Art/Ann Hutchison, 386 755 1096 or Woody and Jean at 678 447 9144 for details. The rest of the year is slowly shaping up with a fly-in in Texas late in the season and potentially one in the Rome Ga area either in mid May or early September. More to come on this one. I know the changes in the Nationals date and the changes in the Oshkosh dates have raised Cain with scheduling SNAG fly-ins around our area. I will raise the question at Shade Tree regarding the number of fly-ins and hosting them considering the large geographic area and the population distribution of the members. Please give this some thought.

Last year was kind of rough on the flying Navion population and I truly hope that this year we will not see the same issues.

Fly safely, pay attention and have fun!

-Wayne Whitaker

ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY

October 19th, 2016, was my last Navion flight prior to having rotator cuff surgery on my left shoulder scheduled for October 20th. I flew to Cushing, OK to pick up my parents and fly them back to Little Rock, AR. They were planning to stay with us for a couple weeks to help me out post-surgery, so why not fly them in. My outpatient surgery was uneventful, although pretty painful. Fast forward to December 15th; with 6 weeks being in an arm sling, and then starting physical therapy to get the range of motion back, and I have returned to work with left arm restrictions of no lifting for another 3-6 months.

Since I was “directed” by my insurance company to return to work, I decided I should be able to fly my Navion and so I did. (Did I say that Short Term Disability Insurance Companies are a pain in the butt to receive earned benefits). First thing was a good pre-flight inspection ☺, then to attempt getting into the cockpit using the front step with only my right arm; step up onto the wing, knee first and then kneel, then stand up and step on in, no problem. Engine start and taxi out, no problem. Takeoff and fly some patterns

with three touch and goes, no problem. Land and refuel, no problem. Push the Navion back into the hangar being very careful not to use my left arm, not a big problem. So on December 22nd, Lita and I flew to Cushing, OK for an early Christmas with my parents and my sister's family. The visit lasted only 3 hours due to a rapidly changing forecast for rain with possible icing moving in from the Southwest, but we had a nice family lunch and gift exchange before we had to depart for Little Rock, and yes we had tail winds both ways ☺. We celebrated Christmas in Little Rock with my two sons, daughter-in-law, and grandson. I flew again on December 28th to refuel at a nearby airport and I think I was the only aircraft in the area, the winds were 310 variable to 360 at 15 gusts to 20Kts. The flight profile consisted of two "not-so-low" approaches and a full stop to refuel, then full stop returning to homebase.

Doctors Herrington, I will complete all of my physical therapy and some, but the torture chamber of stretching and bending hurts. God is good. We are blessed, and we look forward to the New Year and catching up with all SNAG members; Shade Tree or bust.

Happy New Year from Steve and Lita Ware, and God's Blessings to everyone.

ANNUAL DUES INFORMATION

Thanks to those who have paid their dues. ☺ Y'all are all my favorites this year.

For those of you who get your newsletter via snail mail/paper, you can always check your address label to see if you owe dues or have paid for several years out. A roster with dues information was sent out in late November and is also on the Facebook page. (*Note – you have to be on the web version not an app to correctly view "files".*)

If you are sending dues, please make sure you are using my new mailing address. It is 6918 Van Etten Street, Houston, TX 77021.

REMINDER: If you make the check out to Susan Holmes, it goes to the shoe fund. Make sure your check is payable to SNAG.

- Susan Holmes

SHADE TREE FLY-IN

SHADE TREE AIRPORT (MS82) MARCH 3-5, 2017

Shade Tree is located 2 miles west of Lyman, MS. If you have not been to a Shade Tree fly-in you are in for a treat. Danny Miller sure knows how to roll out the red carpet for our Navions! Shade Tree has a neat website if you are curious... www.shadetreeairport.com. Our hosts, the Butlers are planning all the usual fun events.

We have 20 reservations at the Hampton Inn, phone 228 539 0601, talk to Breanne. Friday night there will be a cold cut platter for the basic food needs, but please bring the snacks, sweets or whatever for all to enjoy. As always, there will be lots of story telling-some of which may border on gross exaggeration.

Saturday, the ladies will go shopping. There are several different options if we want to go farther afield (about 60 minutes). We will also enjoy a lovely dinner out on Saturday along with our event awards.

Get your reservations now!

CANNON CREEK Pre-Sun N' Fun Fly-in

**MARCH 31ST, APRIL 1 & 2, 2017
CANNON CREEK AIRPARK**

The SNAG and Midwest Navioneer Pre-Sun n'Fun Fly-in is scheduled for March 31, April 1 and 2 at Cannon Creek in Lake City, Florida. The weekend will be hosted by Art Hutchison and Ann Bormolini, Jack Wells, Shirley Gordon and Woody Woodfin and Jean Norton. Registration will be on Friday the 31st on the Hutchison's front porch followed by the 9th annual "Jack Gordon Surprise Cocktail Party" that night at Hutch and Ann's home. Participants whose last name begins with A-H are asked to bring fruit or nuts, I-P brings appetizers, and P-Z should bring desserts (or you just bring something filling and delicious!). Usually we have enough to make a meal out of this party!

If you want to fly in early, the golfers will probably hit the links on Friday so let Ann know if this is an interest of yours and she will make tee times.

On Saturday, registration will continue on the porch. There will be coffee and donuts and then a fly-around in the area before heading on to a brunch/lunch destination—leaving at 10:30 am. This is the Cannon Creek version of a laid back and late "dawn patrol"! Upon the return there will be a tech session at 2:00 followed by a casual dinner at 6:00 for the Navion family that night in Woody and Jean's hangar.

Also on Saturday, spouses, or anyone else who wishes, will be taken to lunch and then on to afternoon activities, which are now being planned.

Sunday morning after more coffee and donuts on the Hutchison front porch this time, we will have a civilized departure time at 10:00 for Sun N' Fun.

Recommended hotel rooms are at the Holiday Inn (with a Ruby Tuesdays) and the Quality Inn. They are recommended because they are right next to one another and across the street from the Cracker Barrel. This makes transportation coordination and any additional meals you might want easily accessible. The contact info is as follows:

- Quality Inn 386-758-8440
- Holiday Inn 386-754-1411

We will not leave anyone stranded but if you wish to rent a car for convenience, they are available from Hertz, 386-754-3774 or Enterprise 386-755-4005.

Registration costs will be \$10.00 per person, which will cover the water, soft drinks, snacks and the cocktail party. The party Saturday night will be charged separately. RSVP's would be greatly appreciated so we have some indication of those intending to come—we understand the uncertainty of flying!

You do not have to go on to Sun 'n Fun to come to the fly-in! Just join us for the weekend! If you are planning on Lakeland, this is a great way to beat the crowds. We hope to welcome you to Lake City!

For information, contact: Art and Ann Hutchison, 386-755-1096, Jack Wells, 386-719-2411, Shirley Gordon, 386-758-1745 or Woody Woodfin and Jean Norton 678-447-9144

NATIONAL CONVENTION

The ANS Nationals are right in our back yard this year. We had a pretty amazing turnout in Ruidoso last summer and that was a hike for some folks! No excuses this year! Check out your latest Navioneer to register.



FLY-IN CALENDAR 2017

- March 3-5: Shadetree, MS
- March 31-April 2: Cannon Creek/Pre Sun n Fun, FL
- Mid May: undecided
- June 18-23: ANS National Convention, NC
- July 24-30: Oshkosh, WI
- September: undecided
- October/November: undecided



SNAG NEWSLETTER/JANUARY 2017

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SNAG