



## **Southern Navion Air Group**

Newsletter

JANUARY 2012

### **FROM OUR VICE PRESIDENT**

Well, it's February, the 2012 SNAG flying season will soon be upon us and Susan asked me to write something for the newsletter. Be careful what you wish for because you might just get it.

Mostly I spend my time thinking about business, but from time to time I am required to look around inside my brain for other information and let me tell you it's scary. There is so much STUFF in there and it's not necessarily filed in any order. I think that's what causes me to ramble sometimes or it could be some sort of attention deficit disorder. When I was a youngster growing up there was no such thing as attention deficit disorder, so mom just said, "that boy has got a short attention span". In the old days it wasn't a problem because if concentration was required, mom would just throw one of those fuzzy rubber slippers at you and when it hit you behind the head, tah dah, everything instantly came in focus. I'm sure now days that would be considered child abuse, back then it was parenting 101.

Thinking about my youth reminds me of a story about our old milk cow Betsy. You see, I grew up on a farm and we didn't have a lot of money so Pop decided to buy a milk cow. Of course milking the cow quickly became my job and I wouldn't have minded getting up at 5 AM to milk the beast but it posed a couple of very unique problems. Old Betsy wasn't like the golden Guernsey cows that you see in TV commercials, like I said, we didn't have a lot of money. No, Old Betsy was a very mature (old) cow with some health issues. Let me just explain my dilemma as delicately as possible.

I had this little milking stool about ten inches tall. I would set my stool down and take care of the perfunctory bovine hygiene issues and then the milking would commence. Shortly after starting, old Betsy would inhale real big and when that happened I knew I had to grab the milk bucket and run. Old Betsy had a touch of emphysema and that combined with chronic loose bowel syndrome was a deadly combination. When she coughed the Sh@& would fly. Most mornings that corner of the barn was just not big enough for the two of us. To this day I just can't bring myself to drink milk. I'm not lactose intolerant, it just brings back to many bad memories.

Sorry, I forgot I was writing about Navions. I've been flying a good bit, but mostly for business. During a quick trip to Knoxville, TN I did have the opportunity to stop in and visit with Dick and Ann McSpadden for lunch. I always try to mix in a little fun with business, in fact I try to have a little fun every day. You see, if you're not careful you'll look back one day and realize that you are all out of time and you didn't have enough fun. Well just as I suspected, having lunch with Dick and Ann was super. Dick has more fun by accident that I do on purpose.

You know how Dick always says, "Go Fly Your Navion". Well, I flew mine up to David Heath's place the other day. Every time I go up there Davo, Josh and I laugh so hard tears come out of my eyes. I hope the rest of you guys are having as much fun as I am. Man, you should see some of the gadgets they have. Black boxes with touch screen entry, synthetic vision and auto pilots with altitude preselect and auto trim. It's a good thing I waited until after Christmas to visit.

Now that I think about it. Writing this makes me want to GO FLY MY NAVION so that's just what I am going to do. See you at Shade Tree.

CAVU, Paul Wright

## MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Check the enclosed membership roster for mistakes. The roster is only as accurate as we are about sending in our changes. You are encouraged to send any changes or updates via email to [susaneholmes@sbcglobal.net](mailto:susaneholmes@sbcglobal.net) or by calling me at 254-780-6039.

***How do you know if your dues are paid?*** Check your mailing label. At the bottom right there's a Membership line. If it says "Owe Dues", you can send me a check. For you email newsletter recipients...I sent an email out to those who owe dues.

Remember, dues are \$20.00 and your check should be made out to SNAG. You can send them to Susan Holmes at 151 Autumn Circle, Belton, TX 76513.

-- Susan Holmes

## MEMBER NEWS

Welcome to our newest members!

- Mike & Sybille Baker from Tampa, Florida
- Paul & Susan Deason in Belton, Texas

Paul is also the proud new owner of N765EK. Lee & I are thrilled to have fellow Navioneers to talk shop & fly with here in Belton. Especially me...that way he doesn't nag me to fly around on pretty days.

Jeff Davis is the proud owner if N5382K!

Wayne Whittaker just finished a project with his tip tanks and got the FAA sign off. (I think there may be an article in the next newsletter about that.)

Bob Swanzy is interested in the black control wheel that was auctioned off at DeFuniak. He would love to buy it off whoever bought it, unless you actually need it. If you are interested in selling to Bob, call him or bring the part to Shade Tree in March.

**One of the best parts about SNAG fly-ins are the stories we swap. Do you have an interesting story to share about a trip, a repair, rebuilding stories, or anything involving your Navion? Send it in to the secretary, [susaneholmes@sbcglobal.net](mailto:susaneholmes@sbcglobal.net) or via snail mail. We want to hear from you!**

## 2012 SNAG FLY-IN SCHEDULE

I haven't heard from the bosses about the places scheduled for fly-ins, but if you are interested in hosting a fly-in, PLEASE contact Rusty or Paul.

- Cannon Creek (Pre Sun-n-Fun) in late March. More details to follow.
- Memorial Day: currently open
- June 24th-29th: ANS Convention in Bardstown, KY
- Labor Day: currently open
- October/November: currently open



**SHADE TREE FLY-IN**  
**SHADE TREE AIRPORT (MS82)**  
**MARCH 9-11, 2012**

Shade Tree is located 2 miles west of Lyman, MS. Make those reservations now! Ramada Inn at 228-868-8200. Tell them you are with SNAG. 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! Check out Shade Tree's website, there are lots of Navion pictures and we are on their calendar of events... [www.shadetreeairport.com](http://www.shadetreeairport.com).

We have a hotel block reserved It's at the Ramada in Gulfport. Rate is \$65.00 plus tax. Make your reservations under SNAG at 228-868-8200.

I hope everyone is dieting *BEFORE* the Shade Tree Fly-in. Here is an update on the Friday night menu from Barbara:

So far I have 40 shrimp stuffed bell peppers, and I have 30 pounds of jumbo shrimp in my freezer to boil..... In addition I am planning to fix potato salad, macaroni salad, Deviled Eggs, Red Beans, and rice and 2 beef tenderloins.

As always, we need to bring desserts to complement dinner & snacks to have for the rest of the weekend.

Dinner Saturday night is at Steve's Marina. They are finally back open and on the Gulf as they were before Katrina!!!

Fun for the non-flyers...

We have several options available on Saturday. There is a Prime Outlet Mall in Gulfport. I am sure a few ladies may choose to golf. I discovered a darling little town called Ocean Springs that has lots of great little shops and eateries. It's about 30 minutes east of Gulfport. Lee & I drove there Sunday afternoon last year & loved it! Of course, there's always a trip to the French Quarter available if enough folks want to go.

Flying Activities...

I am confident that Rusty has the full complement of fun planned for the flyers. Shade Tree tends to attract quite a crowd of spectators which adds to the fun.

If you have any questions contact the Butlers...

**home: 601-798-5755, Barbara cell: 228-342-2489, Al cell: 228-342-5573.**

**WE'RE GONNA HAVE SO MUCH FUN, MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!**

***KEEP THOSE NAVIONS FLYING!***

**SNAG NEWSLETTER/JANUARY 2012**

**Susan Holmes  
151 Autumn Circle  
Belton, TX 76513**

